

Col. Grenville
Margate Dec. 31st 1780.

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Sir

I have the satisfaction to acquaint Your Majesty, that His Royal Highness arrived at this place last night at a Quarter before eight o'clock, as Captain Fielding thought it unadvisable, if not impracticable to get the baggage on board in the dark; His Royal Highness will not sail before two o'clock tomorrow morning, as the tide will not serve, & Capt Fielding wishes to have the day before him to make the opposite coast, before it begins to be dark. Captain Fielding has persuaded me to take one of the Packet boats to carry the coach, as the Frigate will not be able to go up with the Yatch to Ostend, but must lay off at a considerable distance.

and if the weather sh^d turn out bad,
it w^d be very difficult, & hazardous to move
the carriage at sea; I have accordingly
taken one of the Packet boats, which will
sail with the convoy - I am happy to
acquaint Your Majesty that the Prince
is in tolerable spirits, & bears his parting
with a becoming manliness, & fortitude, at
the same time feeling very properly upon
the occasion - Gen^l Freytag will have
the honour of delivering this to Your Majesty
& I hope I shall soon be able to send
Your Majesty an account of His Royal
Highness's safe arrival on the other side
the water.

I have the honour
to be, Your Majesty's,
most dutiful subject, &
servant, R. Pennington