

No. 4 16541 Colonel Notham's Letter to His Royal Highness The
 Copy. Prince of Wales, dated Manbye Street 1st Jan^y 1787.

Sir,

It was an heavy Aggravation to the Uneasiness I have long suffer'd, to find, by the Account of Your Royal Highness's Letter of Yesterday, that You could think me guilty of using any Terms or Insinuations of Disrespect; which not only to Yourself, Sir, but to every Branch of the Royal Family, I utterly disclaim. It is in vain I have endeavour'd to recollect what Passages in mine could have called for Your Royal Highness's Reproach; & can only offer my humble Assurances, that no Impropriety can ever be intended by me, in any Letter I can have the Honour of addressing to Your Royal Highness.

I can with Truth declare, that till Your Royal Highness's Letter reach'd me Yesterday I had no Imagination whatever, that I have not had the Honour of being Your Treasurer since the 7th of July last. My believing that Office so many Months after it was Your Pleasure it should cease, (which, for want of a proper Explanation of Your Orders, I most certainly have done) has proceeded from Ignorance alone. I am to ask Your Royal Highness's Pardon on this Occasion; flattering myself Your Justice will not attribute to any Arrogance or Presumption, what was clearly owing to a Misunderstanding only.

I esteem myself much oblig'd to Your Royal Highness for Your Indulgence in allowing me to suggest any thing that can remove the present Difficulties. I can't think it a Degradation to me, that three Gentlemen inferior to me in Your Household, should be rais'd, with Equal Powers to myself, to the Execution of an Office jointly with me, which I had long executed alone, without Impeachment of Blame; particularly as that Office was a Trust & Direction of Money. I apprehend a great Part of the World may think so too, & may be more severe in undeserv'd Censure of me, than I might chuse they should be, in consequence.

My differing so totally as I do in Opinion, Sentiments, & Conduct with Mr. Hammesley, is my other Unhappiness; the Matter between that Gentleman

No. 4.
 Colonel Notham
 to
 A. R. H. The Prince of Wales.

& myself appears to be briefly this. He is pleased to insist on having the whole of about £62 or £63000, which was in my possession, in His Majesty's possession; - I beg leave to retain only about £14000 of it, & hope He may be contented with the Remainder. Adieu, &c. He will have the whole. The World may judge who is the most reasonable Man of the Two.

This is the exact State of the Case; but, encouraged by the Kindness of the Express, contained in Your Royal Highness's Letter of Yesterday, I beg leave most humbly to repeat My Suggestions transmitted by Lord Bathurst. They seem to me to obviate every Difficulty whatsoever, & to give into Mr. Hammerley's Instant Request the whole of Your Royal Highness's Revenue, except the sum allotted for Your Salaries, Wages, & Pensions; the Collection & Disposition of which I entreat as a Favour, to have under My own Care, alone, as formerly; a Circumstance I am the more urgent about, as, after what has passed, it is absolutely impossible for me, on His Majesty's account as well as My own, to have the very smallest Intercourse of Business with Mr. Hammerley.

I have the Honour to be, with the utmost Respect,

Yr^o &c