

Berlin 3 April 1779

Sire

I had the honor to inform your Majesty the 5<sup>th</sup> Inst by that  
 prince Augustus then enjoyed good health; since that period  
 His Royal Highness has had two very slight attacks of  
 Asthma, which the Doctor says were occasioned by the prince  
 overheating himself by dancing, and not paying proper  
 attention to his diet &c. on the whole His Royal High-  
 ness is so much recovered; It will be very fortunate if the  
 present circumstances permit your Majesty employing the  
 prince in any of your armies, If he was placed under  
 the direction of a sensible and steady General, where  
 His Royal Highness would have some sort of responsibility  
 it might wear him by degrees from that very indolent  
 life, he has led for many years, which is hurtful to his health  
 and attended with many other inconveniencies: Portugal  
 and Minorca are both excellent climates, and I suppose  
 both are favorable for the prince's Complaint. His Royal  
 Highness declared openly, his dislike to go to any part of  
 Russia: The very critical Situation these Countries  
 are in at present, and the disappointed politics which  
 prevail over all Germany, puts it out of my power to  
 recommend to your Majesty any place in preference to  
 a Mother, where his Royal Highness may live with safety

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If it is your Majesty's pleasure, The prince is to remain on the Continent: "For the present," I know no place where he can be better than at Bressin, His Prussian Majesty The Queen, and all the Royal Family continue to treat His Royal Highness with flattering kindness: The prince has got a kind invitation from the Duke of Brunswick, and Landgrave of Hesse, to meet the King and Queen of Prussia lately in June, I believe the prince has accepted these invitations, if agreeable to your Majesty.

I have the honor to inform your Majesty that I have laid the accounts of the prince's Household from 5<sup>th</sup> April 1798: To 5<sup>th</sup> of April 1799. after paying the Doctors Salary, Servants wages, traveling expences and <sup>very</sup> articles connected with that Establishment, I have saved out of the 5500: allowed for the support of the Household, about 1000: I have informed Mr King of the Treasury that my accounts and vouchers are ready to be sent him as I found the prince had neither plate, Bed, or Table linen, and wanted very necessary articles to begin housekeeping, I resolved to lay down for the first year, a steady plan of Economy, and I further considered if your Majesty is pleased that His Royal Highness makes a Campaign or two, that a considerable sum will be wanted to provide Horser Camp Equipage &c I now flatter myself what ever plan your Majesty may determine for the prince, that the 1000 not yet drawn for, may prove sufficient to provide His Royal Highness in what may be necessary

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without putting your Majesty to any additional Expence.  
 I have been confined long room for a considerable time with  
 very violent Rheumatism, and flying Joint, which has tormented  
 me more or less, since my three Weeks Voyage in an open  
 boat on the Adriatic, at present I am unfit to do my duty,  
 and not the least appearance of my getting better, In case I  
 do not soon recover, I must move with infinite regret  
 Implore your Majesty to be graciously pleased to allow me  
 to return, to try the Bath Water, which I am assured is the  
 only remedy that has a chance to set me on my legs again.  
 I have the honor to assure your Majesty that my absence  
 will be no loss to the Prince, or to your Majesty's Interest.  
 Captain Arbuthnot, is a very sensible and honorable  
 Man, and in every sense of the word, very fit to conduct  
 and manage the Prince's business, He is well known,  
 and much esteem'd, on the Continent, and Her Royal  
 Highness is fond of him.

I hope your Majesty may be graciously pleased  
 to honor me with your Commands, or to order instruct-  
 ions to be sent me concerning your Royal pleasure  
 about the Prince, and to authorize me if I do not  
 soon recover my health, to deliver up my Charge  
 to Captain Arbuthnot. I have the honor to be with  
 the most profound Respect

Sire  
 your Majesty's most Dutyful and  
 Faithful Subject  
 J. Livingstone

Mr. Morrison  
Nov 3. 1799