

Duke of Northumberland

22. July 1811.

of date below

18253

Albion Castle 20th July 1811.

My dear Colonel

I feel infinitely obliged to you for your letter of the 16th, & the Communication on a Subject so highly interesting to every body. You may rest most assured, that whatever is entrusted to me never will proceed further; and H. K. H. may be satisfied, that every thing which he does me the honour to communicate confidentially to me will ever ~~be~~ continue as great a secret, as far as I am concerned, as if no such Communication had ~~ever~~ been made.

I begin to be impatient for Accounts from Portugal. Surely We shall not hear of our Army in the Lines of Torres Vedras again. Should this really be the case, the History of the Campaign may be comprised in these few Words - Much ground traversed backwards, & forwards, in Pursuits, & Retreats - Some millions of Money flung away - Some thousands of lives uselessly expended - Portugal laid waste, & ruined - Two Victories - *mais pes um pied d-gogre* - But I cannot bring myself to believe that Colonel Mac. Donnell -

with the Force of which the allied Army now consists, & in a
Country of such actual Strength as Portugal, the present
Campaign can possibly end in this manner. At any rate, from what
I know of that Country, I am certain it ought not.

I trust you are now completely recovered from the Illness
of which you complained, & that Mrs. Mac-Nator is in perfect
Health? to both of whom, the Duchess, my Family, & myself, desire
to offer our Compliments, & best Wishes.

Sincere Regards

I have the pleasure to be with the most
My Dear Colonel

Your ever faithful Friend
Northumberland

I must desire you to present my Duty to H. R. H. & assure him of my most
inviolable Attachment.