

Capt. A. Cuthbert to Maj. Gen. Turner.

^{A Copy}
Sir, His Majesty's Ship Swiftsure St. Helena 8th
November 1811

18825

I have to acknowledge the honor conferred upon me by your letter of the 5th instant, a copy of which I transmit by this days post, to the Lords of Treasury, accompanied by another, similar to the transcript I now presume to place under your eye.

While I write these hurried lines, the ship is unmooring, and we shall doubtless proceed this day upon our destination.

I have frankly unbosomed my present circumstances, and my future prospects to Colonel M^cMahon, whose Benevolent Soul, I trust, participates in them. It would have been to me a most consolatory intimation to have ascertained, before bidding an adieu to my Country, that my family, now at Leeds, had realized those comforts which I sincerely wish them; an aim that has been with me the leading inducement for a perseverance in my claims. A group of females

narrowed in their means, and left half
unprotected, or but ill calculated to struggle
with the world, and the times, and bold as
I can truly assert, I have often, and ever been in
presence of the foe, firm under all the adverse
contingencies of human life, I must now that,
at the present moment, I feel myself to waver
a little under the existing crisis.

With the same breath that interprets to you my
most cordial wishes for your happiness and welfare
I crave your protection of my cause, when I shall
be placed beyond the reach of advocating it.

I have the honor, at the same time, to identify
these sentiments of respect, and devotion with
which I am, Sir, your much obliged,

Major Gen. Turner. and faithful humble servant,
Alex. Gillespie.
Ye Ye Ye Captain Royal Marines