

Lady
Honey-
wood
to
A.R.H.

Westbourne Terrace 8. Feb. 1812

Sir

There was a period in my life in which I frequently had the honour of seeing Your Royal Highness and when I could have addressed you without embarrassment. — The case is now widely different! I now look up to you as my Sovereign! The Father of your people and the particular Protector of the Orphan and the Widow, in which latter character I now present myself before Your Royal Highness.

The person Your Royal Highness has more than once honoured with the name of Friend now addresses you from the confines of a prison! Feeling and grieved as is the Heart of Your Royal Highness you will be shocked to hear that it is the sword of an unnatural and unprincipled Son (who by breaking the most solemn promises and engagements made to his dying Father

and not by any extravagance or misconduct of mine, to it
 obliges me to submit to this decree. From particular circumstances and
 in the late Sir John Aungwood's affairs my provision was
 obliged to depend, and not in a great measure on the honor
 of my son; and my husband not being able to make
 me independent of him (I can safely affirm) shortened
 his days. — Next week by the orders of my son I am
 to be submitted to confinement! In this wretched
 situation Sir allow me to interest your Royal Highness in
 favor of my unfortunate Girl, my Ophelia Louisa.
 She has no friend to look up to but myself; and my Impri-
 sonment will most probably soon terminate my miserable
 existence! I have applied to my own Family for
 redress but in vain. —

One gleam of Hope presents itself to me which is
 to obtain the Patronage of your Royal Highness to
 support my claim to the Barony of Redvers to which
 there is a small income attached and which had my
 Father lived six months longer would have been mine.
 If through your Royal Highness's intercession I
 should be permitted to obtain this peerage (which I only
 ask for my natural life) the Emolument which appertains
 to it will be a great blessing to me and my
 eldest Son.
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to it would enable me to overcome my present calamity
and peacefully to end those days which distress of mind
will otherwise speedily destroy. —

Redvers is a female Heron attached to the
eldest daughter of the House of Courtenay by the
King of England, but which was attained by Queen
Mary with the other Honour of my noble House
in the person of Henry Marquis of Exeter.
I must also further take the liberty of requesting
to be allowed to present a Memorial I have written
which will explain to your Royal Highness my
precise situation. This is a duty I owe to the memory
of Sir John Arnywood my Husband and the
zealous and attached friend of your Royal Highness.
I went to London yesterday to have
the honour of an interview with Sir Royal Highness
the Duke of York, my motive for which was
to solicit his good offices in procuring for me if
possible an Audience from your Royal Highness
which would be of the most essential service to me in
my present situation. After seeing Sir Royal
Highness yesterday I had an intimation from the

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Lady Henrywood

under Sheriff that I must be at Braintree on
Monday. Under such circumstances might I
implore your Royal Highness to give me an
Audience of a few minutes at any hour tomorrow
but should your present situation be such that
request impossible may I beg and beseech that
you will bear this my petition in your mind
and before it is too late grant me the redress
I have presumed to solicit. —

I have the Honor to remain
with the Highest sense of Duty
Gratitude and Attachment
Your Royal Highness's
most Devoted Humble Servant
Francis Henrywood. —