

Col^l Thornton

11. Nov. 1812

A.A. No 189

20179-85.

*most private
& confidential*

India House
late Wedn. Evng
11 Nov. 1812

Dear Sir

Lord Buckinghamshire has made no communication to the Chairman in contradiction to the arrangement before settled with his Lordship that Lord Moira was to be proposed to succeed Lord Minto as Governor General, & likewise to be appointed Commander in chief, but without a salary for the latter appointment.

Thus the Chairman on giving notice to the Court that he should take their sense by ballot next Wednesday had no power

to do any thing, but lay before them these propositions exactly as stipulated with Lord Buckinghamshire — Finding this to be the case, & that we, the Chairs, could only proceed in the course predetermined, I persuaded Sir J. Metcalfe to state in his place to the Court, what was a fact, viz. ^t that he heard out of doors that Lord Moira was expecting the salary of both appointments, & that we had probably some misconception on the subject — The Chairman was obliged to say, he hoped not, but that it would be cleared up by the next Wednesday —

I own it will be very hard & difficult,

Robt. Thronton

11. Nov. 1812

A.A. No 189

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tho' perhaps not impossible, to get the
Court to vote the two salaries —
It can only be done by the strongest
interference of Government thro' the
regular channel, L^d Buckinghamshire,
& we must be forced to state it as their
requisition, not as our own opinion
or we certainly should be foiled —

If I were to take the liberty of advising
it would be that Sir Hugh Inglis should
only be addressed about this thro' Lord
Buckinghamshire, or Lord Liverpool. Sir Hugh
may make some objections, but I think
he might be brought to put his shoulder

to the proposition, & then it would be carried

He is to wait upon Lord Buckingham-
shire tomorrow morning at ten O'clock
to report what passed in the Court, & he
will not forget to communicate Sir J.
Pretcalfe's remarks — Sir Hugh said to
me, I am very glad that Pretcalfe made
it, & that will take the load from us.

Lord Buckinghamshire would be very
jealous, if he knew how far I interested
myself in this matter, but gratitude,
& a feeling that high & most respectable
characters deserve a liberal reward for
very important services, must plead my
excuse — I know you will keep all

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this secret, & as every thing passed
in a secret Court, tho' hereafter it
may be known, I rely that you will
not allude to my having prompted Sir
J Metcalfe to remark as he did —

I am going out of town
this night to a public meeting at
my Borough where I am a steward
but shall return on Sunday — Sir
Hugh Duglis leaves town on Friday
evening & will return Tuesday Evening
— On Wednesday next we shall ^{both} be
likely to see Lord Buckinghamshire
about Ten O'clock before we proceed

to the Court to settle the Governments
of Bengal & Madras — with sincere
regards I am ever Dr Sir

Your very faithful &
obedient Serv^t
Rob^t Th —