

Copy

~~My Dear Friend~~
My Dear Friend

The Incapable state of my Hand, and
Tongue, still unhappily continuing to prevent the
Use of my Pen without considerable pain and
difficulty, must be the best assurance I can give,
that Your Grace should never otherwise receive
a Letter from me in the Writing of any Hand but
my own: But being so circumstanced, I have
particularly selected the Person of my Family,
who besides being my Private Secretary, I conceived
would be the most agreeable Amanuensis to Your
Grace, on this occasion; that Person (with whose
Hand you are familiar, ~~and~~ always
bearing the most affectionate Attachment towards
Your Grace.

Your Letter of the 28th Ult^o to Mr. Mahon
has given me, My Dearest Duke, the most
imappreciable concern, for able and comprehensive
as I know Your Grace to be on all Subjects, and
particularly on both the great and detailed Scale
of Military Proceedings, I cannot but entertain
the

H.R.H.
6
Duke
of
Aland
Rec. 4
1812

the belief, that had You and I fortunately had the
means of discussing those lamented points which
seem unluckily to now partake of Controversy,
no essential difference of Opinion at least, would
have long subsisted between Us, for whatever
might (if any should) be the distinction of Our
View, as to the peculiar Privileges of the Horse
Guards Blue, it could never be my intention,
by either any Official Usage, or Tradition, to
establish a Point against Your Grace's Position,
by any Conquest of Argument. No, My Dear
Duke, In the Series of our long and uninterrupted
Friendship and Affection, before I had the Exercise
of Power, and since, in whatever shape it has
reached me, it has been a leading impulse of my
Mind, never to oppose, but always, if within
my means, to forestall and promote every wish
I conceived to be dear to You, and with the most
ardent Desire, to offer a Tribute of spontaneous
Personal Compliment and Respect to Your Grace,
The Acts of augmenting Your Regiment, the
Brigading

ad the Brigading them with The Life Guards of the
 King, and the sending Them on the most distinguished
 Service to The Peninsula, were assuredly and entirely
 mine. The Duties of The Commander in Chief
 renders it indispensably necessary in Him, to
 justify His Proceedings by the Precedents of the practice
 which His own Knowledge of the Service, and the
 Military Archives of His Office afford Him,
 but while they have been submitted to Your Grace
 with the best Motives, and ^{with} the earnest Hope of
 reconciling your apprehensions on the subject,
 they have never in the most distant manner
 been intended by The Duke of York (and I am
 sure not by me) as an Opposition to Your
 Desire on any occasion whatever, or to take
 from the High and Important Dignity, which
 Your Grace has ever, and must ever so justly
 hold in The State, and ^{The} Army of this Country.

Believe me, My Dear ~~Friend~~ Sir,
 Your ever sincere & affectionate Friend
 Carlton House
 Dec 4th 1782
 Signed) G. P. R.

His Grace
 The Duke of Northumberland

The Prince Regent

to

The Duke of Northumberland

Dec. 24th 1812.

Home Guards 13th Regt