

Draft
of
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The Incapable state of my Hand & Fingers,
^{unhappily} still continuing to prevent ~~the~~ ^{the} use of my pen,
 without considerable pain & difficulty, must be the
~~best~~ ^{I can give,} assurance that Your Grace should never
 otherwise receive a Letter ^{from me} in the Writing of any
 Hand but my own. But being so circumstanced,
 who besides being my Nearest Country & my Family,
 I have particularly selected the Person whom I
 conceived would be the most agreeable Assurance
~~to be possible~~ ^{to your Grace,} in ~~declaring~~ ^{declaring} my Sentiments,
~~to~~ on this Occasion ~~by~~ ^{that} a Person
 (with whom ~~you are acquainted~~ ^{you are acquainted})
 unqualifiedly bearing the most affectionate Attachment
 towards Your Grace. Your Letter of the ^{11th}
 to Mr. Norton has given me inexpressible Comfort,
 for able & comprehensive as I know Your Grace to
 be on all Subjects, & particularly on ^{with} the great &
 detailed

Seal of Military Proceeding, I cannot but entertain
 the belief that had you & I fortunately had the
 means of discussing those lamentable points which
 seem ^{unluckily} ~~unavoidably~~ ^{now} to 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 Records or Tradition to establish a point
 against Your Grace's ^{possession} ~~possession~~ ^{possession} by any Conquest ^{of}
 Argument. At My Lord Duke's ^{intercession of} ~~intercession of~~ ^{intercession of} ~~intercession of~~
 & uninterrupted Friendship & Affection, before I
 had the exercise of Power, & since, in
 whatever shape it has reach'd me, it has
 been a leading impulse of my mind never to
 oppose but always, ^{within my power} ~~in my power~~ to forestall
 & promptly ^{with} I conceived to be due to you, and
 every way with the most ardent desire to offer a
 tribute

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^{of Personal} Compliment ^{to your grace} ^{I respect}
 the Acts of augmenting your Regiment, the
~~augmenting~~ ^{augmenting} ~~them~~ ^{into} the Life Guards of the King, &
 the sending them on the most distinguished service,
^{with the Privileges & entire} ~~with the Privileges~~ ^{rights} ~~of~~ ^{of} the Army: The Duties of the
 Comm^r in Chief renders it indispensably necessary
 in him, to justify his Proceedings by the Precedents
^{his own Knowledge of the} ~~of~~ ^{of} the Usage which ~~the~~ ^{the} Military Archives
 of his Office afford him; but where they have
 been submitted to your Grace with the ^{best} ~~most~~ ^{advantage} ~~of~~ ^{of} the
 hope of reconciling your ^{on the Subject,} ~~apprehensions~~ ^{they}
 have never ~~been~~ ⁱⁿ the most distant manner
 intended by the ^{of York} ~~Comm^r in Chief~~, & I am sure
 not by me, as an opposition to your Service on any
^{whatsoever} ~~occasions~~ ^{or} to take from the High & Important
 Dignity, which your Grace has ever & must ever
 hold in the State & Army of this Country.

The Prince Regent

to

The Duke of Northumberland
(Ireland)

Home Guards, 13th.

March 1811