

Apr. 7 1820

Sir.

The Earl of Macclesfield has honoured me with a letter, intimating that he has his Majesty's positive command, to nominate a gentleman named by the King, to fill the office in the possession of my unfortunate Brother.

Unwilling, Sir, as you must be of course to prevent his Majesty from acting in any way contrary to his own dignity, and the principles of Justice & Clemency, I should hope you will eagerly seize upon an opportunity, of representing to his Majesty that, by so doing, he prejudges the case in the most absolute manner, and presumes my Brother to be guilty, before he is proved to be so, contrary to the spirit of the law of England, not to insist upon the cruelty, of depriving his already oppressed family of the money vested by them in the appointment, which has from time immemorial been recognized as disposable by sale and purchase.

If such should really be the case his Majesty's intention, it will become an imperious point of Duty with me, to lay the whole before the Public, that they who have embarked their Property in similar situations

may understand, upon how capricious & uncertain a tenure they are held, and that the advisers of his Majesty may know, that they cannot abuse their powers with impunity: I cannot long myself to believe, the true nature of the situation has been brought under his Majesty's consideration, otherwise there would be a flat contradiction to the assertion, that we live in a land, where justice is equally dispensed.

I have it, Sir, in express terms from L^d Macclesfield, that it is in consequence of his Majesty's appointment of another person, who I know to be Mr Coleman, that he has refused the official nomination of Mr Rattenburg, and that my application has proved ineffectual; may I entreat you therefore to suggest to his Majesty, that my Brother and I will conclude an arrangement with any gentleman his Majesty may think proper to appoint, upon the compensation being made of the five thousand Guineas, originally given by our family for the appointment.

I have by yesterday's post apprised L^d Macclesfield, that if his Majesty should be advised to persevere in wresting the situation from my Brother, it is my fixed purpose to apply to my legal advisers, to know what redress the law can give upon such an occasion, and if, contrary to my own impression, I am destitute of any legal remedy, my cause will be brought before a higher Tribunal - I have always understood, that where a Party has the means of redress in the ordinary

35825
course of the Law, the Parliament will not interfere, but when all proceedings of that sort would prove fruitless, we know by a memorable instance of a few years date, and not very dissimilar to the present, that the House of Commons is ready to give such redress as the case may require: That the advisers of his Majesty have induced him to prejudge the case there can be no sort of doubt, and Parliament & the World at large will not fail to form their own estimate, of the kind of Interest which has been excited in the intended appointment.

You, Sir, have most kindly & feelingly offered me your services upon the present distressing, yet absolutely necessary, occasion, and as you must have the honour of his Majesty deeply at heart, & would feel hurt at the bare intimation of an act of injustice, from a source which ought to be far above the influence of improper motives, I feel confident you will represent the true nature of the transaction to his Majesty, & disappoint the machinations of his advisers.

I have the honour to remain
with sentiments of great gratitude
Your most obedient humble Serv^t

9th Albemarle St.
April 7th 1820.

Horatio Davis.

[Faint, illegible cursive handwriting on aged paper, possibly a letter or document fragment.]

