

34 Albemarle St.
Tuesday May 9th 1820.

Sir.

Although you have not condescended to return me any answer to my last letter, which might perhaps have arisen from the pressure of much official business, yet as in one of the letters you did me the honour of addressing to me, you expressed a desire to "place your services at my disposal" I shall venture to make another trial.

Within this hour it has been intimated to me by Viscount Sidmouth, that his Majesty has at length been advised finally to resist my just claims upon the situation of Lieutenant of the Yeomen of the Guard, founded on the transferred interest of my unfortunate Brother, and as you, Sir, have frequent opportunities, & in your official and Ministerial capacity, of submitting circumstances for the consideration of his Majesty, I imagine you will be induced to lay my forced determination before the King.

I have been, Sir, so extremely ill-used in this agitating transaction, that I am obliged to a necessity, which, unpleasant as it may be, has

become inevitable: In this Land of Freedom
where the Laws are too plain to be misunderstood,
his Majesty has been advised to prejudge my
unfortunate Brother's case, from motives of
private friendship, and from the application of an
illustrious Relative: This has been done without any
the least reference to the claims of myself and
family, and without any consideration for the
miserable situation to which we have been reduced.
I therefore feel it my Duty, immediately on the appearance
of the threatened appointment in the Gazette, to set
forth a Letter to his Majesty through the medium
of the Public daily prints, explanatory of every
circumstance relative to this extraordinary act, and
to give the whole the greatest publicity: I am also
making arrangements for bringing my cause with all
possible dispatch before Parliament, which I doubt not
will, as in the case of Mrs Clarke, take cognizance of
the affair, and which, I feel confident, will provide
a remedy not only in my own case, but also against a
repetition of so great a stretch of Royal Prerogative
in future - I understand there has been already some
alarm excited in Offices somewhat similar about
the Court, and it is an important duty with me, to
point out this danger most clearly to those, who may
upon the misfortune of any charge being brought against
them however uncertain, be divested arbitrarily of their
fancied property

You will know, Sir, that upon my own application
for holding the situation being refused, I humbly bowed

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to the determination of his Majesty, & forbore to
press any more my claims, though I could not see
the justice of visiting the supposed sins of my Brother
upon myself; an arrangement was then made for
Mr Kattenburg, a Gentleman every way qualified for
the office, and he was put off by an Evasion, which
Lord Macclesfield has since termed "an Attention to
Form", and is indeed a melancholy proof, that words
which admit of a very plain and easy construction
in common English, should be tortured by the usage
of a Court into quite a contrary signification - I then
entreated you to suggest for his Majesty's consideration,
that my Brother and I would make an arrangement
with any Gentleman his Majesty thought fit to
appoint, upon the compensation of the five thousand
guineas originally vested by our family in the office:
In my Letter containing this last alternative, for what
reason I am at a loss to guess, you have not deigned
to return any answer, and I have in consequence been
obliged to make a similar application thro' Lord Sidmouth.

From the above circumstances, it must be
evident to every impartial mind, that I have endeavoured
as much as it was in my power, to meet the wishes
of his Majesty relative to the disposal of the Office,
I have only advanced my claims to a fair compensation
for a loss, which trifling as it may appear to the
King of this great Country, would be a very serious
one to any family in our distressed situation, nor can
either my numerous friends or myself conceive, upon what
principle of Justice, or Equity they can be refused

I have the honor to be
your most obedient Servant
Arthur Davis

