Lord Grey to Sir H. Taylor

36115-6

Downing St.
Oct. 8. 1833

Private

My dear Sir Herbert

I received both your letters yesterday evening with the accompanying documents; & it gave me the greatest satisfaction to learn that his Majesty had approved the sentiments expressed both by Lord Althorp & myself on the subject of Corporate Reform.

Faithfully yours
Sir Herbert Taylor G.C.H.

Parishioners in

In the main
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indeed to believe
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Written Communications

Lord Grey to Sir H. Taylor

Parisbrack in the army.

In the main there is no difference between us. We agree that this power is obnoxious to the discipline of the army. The only question is how we may be most effectually on our guard against attempts that may be made to take it away. I have been indeed to believe that some measures might be devised which would produce this effect, without at all impairing the authority of commanding officers in enforcing the military obedience of the troops.

The introduction of the number of lashes was one of the expedients that occurred to me for this purpose. 300 was adhered to, I am informed, as much as a man can bear. If this be so, there can be no risk in adhering the limit. The large number of 500 strikes a strong taking as to the severity which is practised, & the advocates of this punishment always argue as if its infliction

Parliamentary Remembrancer

in Politics to this extent was
of ordinary occurrence —

I am authorised, I repeat,
at the time of the D. of Wellin-
ton's letter. It was thus a
real rebuke for his authority
that I suggested to Lord
Hill the expediency of con-
ulting him: & if the Letter
vindicated the case for pre-
his grace ought to have unde-
stood me not as casually
obtrusive conciliation, but
as desirous of hiding the
means

means of meeting the attacks which may be expected on the continuance of a Power, which I am as strongly convinced as his grace can be of the necessity of maintaining. He takes, for con. almost as if I were of the same opinion as Ds. Grace, & not according to with all the consequences to the obedience & discipline of the army, which the abrogation of the formal system would produce —

Now, I should be glad to

in relation to this extract was
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or hesitating conclusion, but
as desirous of hiding the
means

to know, are his Majesty's
Ministers to calculate
public opinion, except
by forging a quasi & trinity
with forbearals, as that made
the Mer might by Mr. Hume.
This they have done & will
do again. But doubting whether,
in the forecast state of
feeling in the House of Commons,
this assistance will be sufficiently
full, without something to
show that every care has been
taken to induce the
Country

to know, are his Majesty's Ministers to calculate on full his decision, except by arguing against existing such precedents, as that made the other night by Mr. Hume. This they have done with decorum. But doubtless, in the present state of feeling in the House of Commons, this assistance will be sufficient, without something to show that wrong case has been taken to induce the practice of corporal punishment, either in the narrowest limits which the paramount consideration of the discipline of the army will admit, I do not think I ought to have been met with something like heart-approach, as if I were pursuing a gratuitous innovation, when my only wish is to find the best means of insuring a result, in which the D. of Wellington concurred.

Forgive this in these words, libertas ad insania mean – I have thought to

Lord

Lord Hill the view that I have taken of the matter, & it is for them to act as they see the Reading bill. I am as ready as the D. of Wellington can be to state my opinion honestly & publicly: my colleagues will do the same in the House of Commons; & if for want of some further regulation, which might be adopted with safety, & hardly ought to be called a concession, a vote is carried

against

against all our efforts to resist, the fault will not be ours —

I am ever Dear Sir &c &c

Yours most faithfully

Grey.

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against

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Lord Grey
April 8. 1833

On Corporal Punishment
returning the Duke of
Wellington's letter of 6th