

Private Windsor Castle April 8-
1833

My dear Lord Fitzroy,

The King has ordered me to send Lord Pitt Extracts of a Letter from His Majesty to Lord Althorp and of one from me to Lord Grey as well as the Copy of another on the Subject of Military Punishments, His Majesty conceiving that they may, with the Letter to the Duke of Richmond, be useful additions to any Document which may be placed in the hands of the Military Authorities or any Board whose Opinions may be called for, as suggested by Lord Grey -

They embrace nearly all that the King has to say on the Subject as it is unnecessary to repeat what has been so ably stated by the Duke of Wellington, and indeed there is unavoidably much repetition in these Documents

General
Lord Fitzroy Somerset. H. C. B.
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Documents, and their principal merit, as
far as I am concerned in drawing them up,
is that they convey the Opinions of ^{Officers &} judgement
and experience which the ^{Officers &} Regulations I held
gave me the means of collecting & recording.
You and Lord Pitt are aware that I spared
neither time or labour to collect information
on the general subject of Regimental
Discipline and interior economy, and the
general conclusion I came to was that it
would be idle to attempt to frame any Code
of Regulations founded on the Principles
and practice by which other Services
are governed - Ours is, from the nature
of it, from its materials, from the
variety of its character and the various
and varying influence of Climate upon
the Physical and moral Qualities of the
Individual, quite distinct, and it requires
that

That a discretion should be given to
 Commanding Officers of Corps with regard
 to the application of general Rules and
 Regulations, and the time and circumstances
 at and under which the Princes of Discipline
 should be registered ~~and~~ ^{or} retained which
 may be withheld from them in other
 Services, where they can be placed under
 the close and constant surveillance of the
 superintending authorities -

Do not know that I can exemplify this
 better than by the failure or the abandonment
 of my attempt to frame a Code of Regulations
 Standing Orders for the Army - I collected
 materials made Notes and Extracts without
 end, consulted Officers of experience and
 practical judgment, and all this
 preparatory labour satisfied me that the
 result would do more harm than good,
 that no Standing Orders could be so framed

as

as to apply to the various situations in which
the Officer and Soldier are or might be
placed in our Service, and that any Measure
tending to cramp or to limit the discretion
which the Commanding Officer now
exercises, beyond the existing general
Regulations, would be injurious - The
Inquiry however led to the cognizance
of certain abuses and irregularities and
this and the desire of introducing uniformity,
as far as might be practicable, produced
the general Circular of 24 June 1830 which
was, with Lord Pitt's sanction, submitted
to the Duke of Wellington before it was
issued -

Having stated this and above all shown
that this conclusion is derived from the
advice and opinions of others, whose
experience and mature judgement claim
attention, it is not extraordinary that I
should

Should dread and deprecate the idea of
certain Members of the House of Commons,
Candidates for popular favour, taking upon
themselves to lay down Rules and Directions
to the Government of the Army, and devoutly
pray that God will send the means
with the Lords Assistance to relieve the
Army and the Country from so dreadful
a visitation —

Ever Yours Affly
(Signed) M. Taylor

Richard G. Somerset

April 8. 1833

On Building Brompton

Thomas Milnes Esq

of Chelsea & down

Green & down Milton

General
Lord