

Horace Mann to Capt. J. Payne

38087

Dear Sir

Most highly am I flattered by the gracious Expressions which the Prince of Wales has condescended to use, in respect to my Interests & most sensible of the very obliging manner in which you have conveyed to me His Royal Highness's Sentiments. My Devotion & dutiful Obedience to His Royal Highness makes me regret that upon the present occasion there should be any Obstacle to my exerting my Interests at Canterbury in favor of Mr Beckford: but when His Royal Highness is informed that upon my declining to offer my Services to that City, I promised to observe the strictest Neutrality at the next Election, the high Sense of Honor that animates his Breast, will make His Royal Highness coincide with me in Opinion

that mine is deeply concerned in adhering to  
a promise of so sacred a Nature. I take the  
Liberty of soliciting you to mention this fact  
to the Prince of Wales, with my sentiments  
of profoundest Duty to His Royal Highness  
& devoted adherence to those principles which  
have entitled me to the honor of a promotion  
where only I am solicitous to obtain it.

My particular thanks are due to  
you for your polite attention to me, & I beg  
leave to assure you that I am with the  
greatest truth

Y<sup>r</sup> Sir,

Your most faithful  
& obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>  
Egerton farm  
near W. Widstone  
19<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> -  
Horace Mann