

From the Duke  
of Portland dated  
8<sup>th</sup> June 1792.

38712

Dear Sir

I have been in the <sup>his mind</sup> ~~the~~ ~~office~~ ever since 11 o'clock & only found your note  
at the same hour this evening when I came into my room from dinner. If His Royal Highness  
thinks fit to take a serious interest in the way, out the New Forest Bill, I should submit to His  
the propriety of having letters address'd to those whom I have marked with a X; I ~~should~~ <sup>have</sup> drawn  
a line except the names of those, to whom it is unnecessary, for His Royal Name to be used,  
however they may be flattered by it. & those whose names are left without any mark, I can say  
nothing respecting the <sup>use</sup> propriety of their being applied to -

I wish you would take an opportunity of mentioning the business to His Royal Highness's  
recollection the name of William John Speed a Lieutenant of Marines (whom I know to be  
a very good & deserving young man & whose misfortune has reduced to any situation W. R. H.  
would be pleas'd to give him in His own Family or Household). Mr Speed tells me he has been  
strongly recommended to the Prince by the D<sup>ch</sup> of Devonshire & Lady Duncannon & encouraged by  
them to hope for an early instance of H. R. H.'s patronage & protection. He now observes that there  
is a Vacancy in the establishment of Pages to H. R. H. & has accordingly solicited me to get his name  
presented to the Prince. I should be much oblig'd to you if you would state to His <sup>Royal Highness's</sup> ~~Highness~~ these circumstances  
& let me know the result as I know Mr Speed will wait for it with the utmost anxiety.

Friday night 8 June 1792  
past 11 o'clock.

Dear Sir  
Yours sincerely  
L. Mordaunt



The Duke of Portland

to

Capt<sup>n</sup> Payne

10<sup>th</sup> June 1792

New Forest Bill—

Recommending a  
Person to be a Page  
to H. R. H.