

Prince Ernest (aft. Duke of Cumberland's King  
of Hanover) 6th R. H.

7.38824

Head Quarters  
Estrée 18<sup>th</sup> June 1795

Dear Brother,

Forgive me for not having  
wrote to You since the beginning of the  
Campaign, but being Colonel of a  
regiment of Light Troops, and generally  
in an advanced Post it has been impos-  
sible for me. I have led till now a  
very hard Life without ever having a  
Bed, and generally passing the Nights as  
well as Days on Birch. It being im-  
possible for me to see the progress of  
the Siege of Valenciennes being so far  
from Head Quarters I begged Frederic  
to permit me to remain in his suite  
till we were in possession of the Town.

This morning some our batteries began  
to fire, and it seems several Barks of the  
Town have been on fire. How happy  
should we be if it was possible for you  
Dear Brother to join us.

Yesterday Evening the Enemy tried  
to make a sortie on us, but was instantly

repairs, they have had several killed and  
wounded, an Officer and three men have  
we taken Prisoners all severely wounded,  
we had absolutely no loss in this little  
Affair. To night with the same Barrade  
let be opened, so that we have all possi-  
ble hopes that we shall be masters  
of the Town in some Days, as they have  
no bomb-proofs. I wish I could be the bearer  
of the Good news of the taking of Valenciennes  
and by this means gave it in my power  
to see you it only for a few Days, & my family  
Colonels Lisle and Lee have begged me  
to present their best respects to you. Do  
give the Goodness and remember me  
to Hillier and believe me ever

P.S. With respect to  
the Prisoners, it seems  
we have been misinfor-  
med, they were taken  
not at the Siege, but  
by some Haspards.

Your affectionate  
Brother  
Const. Mordaunt  
Colonel of the 1st  
Dragoons.