

H.R.H. Notes for following letter.

39443-4

A Compliment to H.
H. for the part H. has
H. knows how to have
taken - H. H. A feeling
showing could not be
The Kings son.

Every Effort H. H.
H. has used.

Separate of Rank has
achieved the B. -

incentives
no ~~honour~~ of Party
has influenced him, but
the regard of his Family

Without violating modesty.
He flatters himself that
his Example could do
but

to excite animation

to excite animation
of the King's son

H.R.

H.R.H. Notes for following letter.

The Prince of Wales

39444

Memorandum -
His Royal Highness
Rank in the Army

When the P. of W. solicited
Foreign Service. His
Majesty's words "He did not
then see the opportunity ^{or but}
income of any Convent
at home. He ought to be
"first & foremost".

The necessity of abandoning
former prejudices

Under circumstances
in the Reign of his ^[M.]
Grandfather. at the
17th years of life & age

No danger of the Line
of Succession - but if there
were ^{now} 50 Princes, they ought
all to go forward.

39445 - 6

July 25th 1798

Sir,

I have from various Considerations of Duty & Respect, delay'd to the latest hour obtruding myself by a direct Application to Your Majesty; And, it is now with an earnestness that I never before ventured to Approach you, Sir, that I presume to throw myself at your Feet, & to implore Your Gracious attention to the humble Sentiments that I offer in this Letter.

The serious & awful Crisis in which this Country now stands, calls for the united Efforts of every British Arm in the Defence of All that can be dear to Englishmen; and it is with glowing Pride that I behold the prevalence of this Sentiment through every part of Your Majesty's Kingdom.

Whatever may some time back have been Your Majesty's objections to my being in the way of Actual Service; Yet, at a Crisis like this Unexampled

in

our History, when every Subject in the Realm is eagerly
seeking for, & has his Post assigned him, those Objections
I humbly trust will yield to the pressure of the Times,
& that your Majesty will be graciously pleased
to call me forth to a Station wherein I may
prove myself worthy of the Confidence of my
Country, & of the High Rank I hold in it, by
staking my Life in its Defence. Death would
be preferable to being mark'd ^{as} the only Man that was
not suffer'd to come forth on such an occasion.

Should it be my Fate to Fall in so Glorious
a Contest, no Injury could arise to the Line
of Succession, on account of the Number happily
remaining of your Majesty's Children: At the
same time, that were there Fifty Princes, ^{were} or I
the single one, it would in my Humble Judgement,
be

39446

Equally incumbent on them or me, to stand in the Foremost Ranks of Danger at so Decisive A Period as the Present.

I am the more induced to Confide that your Majesty's Goodness will Comply with my Humble Petition, from the Conviction I feel that had similar Circumstances prevail'd in the Reign of the Late King, when your Majesty was Prince of Wales, you would have granted, Sir, for the Opportunity I now so earnestly Covet! I know your Majesty, & am fixed in this Belief And, I should hold myself unworthy of my Descent & Station if a tamer Impulse could now possess me. Still more to justify this Confidence, Allow me to recall to your Majesty's recollection the Expressions you were Graciously pleased to use when I solicited
Foreign

Service upon my first coming into the Army, they
were, Sir, "That your Majesty did not then see the
opportunity for it, but, that if any thing was to arise at
Home I ought to be one of the First & Foremost ~~in service~~

My Character with the Nation, My Honour, My
Future Fame, & Prospects of Life, are now ^{at} all ^{the} Stake. I therefore supplicate your Majesty to
Afford me those means ^{for} their preservation which
my Affection for my Country, & Devotion to my
Sovereign would have prompted me to solicit, even
though my Birth & Station had ^{not} rendered it
my Duty to Claim them.

I presume in no Respect to prescribe
to your Majesty the Mode of my being Employed
What I humbly but most earnestly solicit
is the Certainty of Active Service, in such a
Character as your Majesty shall see fit.

L^r, L^r, L^r.