

Ld. Moura to Col. McKahow

39469-70

Springton April 16th
1794

My dear Charles

I have never been much
more perplexed than I have felt myself with
regard to Lord Clive's letter. Were it my own case
alone, I could not have a doubt, and I should in
the first instance have sent to his Lordship
the letter which I enclose under another cover.
As His Royal Highness's interest is involved in
it, I cannot at once give way to an indignation
which I believe to be just & honest. The letter
which I send is the third I have written on the

subject. The first was short & stiff; only desiring
his Ladyship in general terms to obtain from
appeal to me, & desiring not to imagine that
a compliment could be received by me from
a character such as I now consider him.

The reflection that the Prince might be supposed
to concern indirectly in the sentiment made
me burn that letter. Then I drew up a new
one, in which I said rather equivocally
that the Chancellor himself was the only
person who could explain what his meaning was

Ld. Moore to Col. McKee

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in letting the statement respecting the Prince
appear so ambiguously in the two pamphlets.
This afterwards seemed so mean & such a
winnable half-measure, that I destroyed
that draft also. Then I made out what
I now send, tho' I cannot satisfy myself
as to the expediency of transmitting it
to Lord Clare. If the Prince thinks the case
of such a nature as to require his manifesting
a decided hostility to Lord Clare, then there
is no other way than to let us knock the

follow down with such a letter. I can not, how-
-ever, suffer by our position to bind us to the
Royal Highness' interest. I know, tho' detest-
-ed by the bulk of the Irish Nation & personal-
-ly disliked by most of those who act with
him, has at this moment implicated all
the principal families of Ireland in the
system of coercion with him: so that there
is just now a community of interest which
affords him the means of managing them. The
Prince cannot declare war against Lord Clare
without incurring the discontent of a Party that

be right find it important to alternate in
the troublesome days which are approaching.
I am therefore disposed to think that it would
be best policy for His Royal Highness to
get rid of the subject by requesting in some
terms that the matter should be no more
thought of: and, when I give such counsel,
you know how contrary it is to the personal
feeling which Lord Clare's artifice awakened
in me. If the Prince shall so decide, do
you bear the letter to Lord Clare: otherwise, send
it by the Post. I am quite certain

that Mr. Clare's aim has been to make a point in
 with the King of the bank which he gave it
 to the Prince when the latter was put in to
 competition with His Majesty: and he hoped like
 that to put a mention of his royal Highness
 -ness would ensure him the further support
 of the Ministers. You remember also that
 I told you of Lady Clare's misrepresenta-
 -tion with regard to the permission for
 seeing Carlton House. Still, it is policy &
 not pride which should guide the Prince

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in his high & delicate station. Therefore
it will be better that he should not seem
to see all this dirty management. I wish
likewise restrain myself, in that case, but
my tone should indicate the Prince's real
sentiment. At the same time, the Prince
would naturally be upon his guard in
any letter not to say any thing which
could show about as being a
testimony of approbation or esteem. For
any thing of that nature would injure his

royal Highness exclusively with the wish
to offer by her the duty to His royal High-
ness with every accompaniment of the
most grateful affection. The storm is
thickening around us; - it is in such
days that attachment will be
proved.

Faithfully yours
M.

April 16. 1790.
L. C. C. C.

17th My letters having been too late for the Post yester-
-day were brought back to me; and I open this to by the
you will find to be wrong. But, altho' I should evidently
want any real service, a home & inaction appointment would
not be desirable for me. This is, because of the offer which I have made

ld. Maura to ld. Clare -

Enclosure

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to
Strington, April 15. 1790.

My Lord

The Prince of Wales has had the
condescension to send to me the Copy of a Letter from
your Lordship, in which I am mentioned. When I
arrived for Ireland, His Royal Highness desired to
write to me & to enquire if it were true that you
had used his name rather flipantly in the Debate,
as he had received information of that kind. I
took the liberty of replying to His Royal Highness
that the Letter in question had been printed at
me wholly; that it had been an attempt to
throw odium upon me for having praised His

Royal Highness which I was silent about His Majesty; for
and, that as I had at the time sufficiently checked the
the misrepresentation so remembrance of it should be that
pursued. In a debate, the want of time for consider-
-ation affords an excuse if any ambiguous argument to
escape the speaker: but I was so far from imagining
it possible for several of the incidental Decora-
-tions of your Lordship's speech to find their way to
an authenticated record that when a gentleman
brought to me a draft of my reply from minutes
which he had made in the House, I required him
to strike out the passages that were in answer to
such collateral observations, as thinking that they
sounded too much of petty altercation to be proper

ld. Maura to ld. Clare -

Enclosure

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for the Public. It was not until my arrival in London
that I saw the first speech which your Lordship
thought fit to circulate as published by authority. It
contained the whole of those flowers of rhetoric
to which I have alluded: but it especially exas-
perated to the world the unbecoming endeavor to repre-
sent me as having passed over His Majesty &
to only recommended the King's opponent to the admi-
ration of my neighbors. I ~~heard~~ at that very time
happened to send to me a copy of the debate which
he had received from Ireland; requesting that I
would correct some passages in which it was
obvious the Printer had made blunders: of which op-
portunity I availed myself to give him the answers

that I had made to those particular statements of
yours. Unluckily, I had not at that time seen the
second speech which your Lordship has thought proper
to publish by authority; materially differing from
the first in many respects, but in none more than
in affecting a tone of bitterness towards me which you
well know you did not venture really to use & re-
-own words done to me in my presence. This is not
all. In Page 45 of the second speech you say "The noble
"Lord has thought good on this night to retract the charge
"originally advanced by him against the Army of Ireland
This insinuation you know you did not hazard in the
Debate; nor does it appear in your first Publication.
It is an attempt, stamped with all the turpitude of malicious
Purposeness, to fix indirectly upon me the charge of having
thrown the imputation upon the Army; and the hope which

you sincerely built upon it, is, that you shall influence
 my professional conduct against me. It is a disguised
 lie, of mean and impudently & uncommon meaness. Of
 course, I reject with the utmost contempt the Com-
 -pliments which you offer to me in your Letter to
 His Royal Highness. I have expressed myself thus
 freely, in order that His Royal Highness may be aware
 of all the prejudice with ^{which} I may be supposed to re-
 -gard the subject of your appeal to me. It appears
 to me, however, that on the score of your allusions
 to the Prince of Wales the Documents ought to speak
 for themselves. Both of your Speeches by Authority,
 deliberately published, make use of His Royal High-
 -ness's name with an ambiguity of statement which

may well lead the reader to infer a surmised opposi-
-tion of interest between the King & the said Appa-
-rent. This is not softened in the Pamphlets of
any of those professions of respect for the Prince
with which you say you concluded your mention
of him: but, assuredly, there is not on any account
any trace that such reverential expressions
were used by you with regard to the Prince in
the House. In my judgement, there is the appear-
-ance of great slight to His Royal Highness
on the face of the transaction: In, the wilfully & per-
-sistently placing him in a light that is liable
to be ascertained not even under that description.

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As I have said that by opinion probably cannot
be impartial on the subject, I should not have
given it had your Lordship not appeared to me.
Did I not now give it, I must be supposed to ad-
mit your Lordship's explanation, and your expla-
nation is evidently false, as your argument
would have been no less applicable to my men-
tion of the King than you suppose it to have
been with regard to the Prince.

I am My Lord,

Your obed^t Serv^t
John

The Earl of Clarendon.

*The Earl of Arundel
to
The Earl of Blau
April 15. 1790.*