

# Correspondence

*From 15<sup>th</sup> August 1801 to 3<sup>d</sup> March 1802.*

## Index.

		<u>Pages</u>
N <sup>o</sup> 1.	Mr Otto to Sir John Macpherson, 15 <sup>th</sup> August 1801 . . . . .	1.
2.	Mr Addington to Sir John Macpherson 18 <sup>th</sup> August 1801 . . . . .	3.
3.	Sir John Macpherson to Mr Addington 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept. 1801 . . . . .	4.
4.	Sir John Macpherson to the Prince 28 <sup>th</sup> September 1801 . . . . .	5.
5.	Mr Otto to Sir John Macpherson 4 <sup>th</sup> October 1801 . . . . .	6.
6.	Mr Otto to Sir John Macpherson 11 <sup>th</sup> January 1802 . . . . .	7.
7.	The Prince to Mr Addington 22 <sup>d</sup> January 1802 . . . . .	9.
8.	Mr Addington to the Prince 23 <sup>d</sup> January 1802 . . . . .	10.
9.	The Prince to Sir John Macpherson 15 <sup>th</sup> February 1802 . . . . .	11.
10.	Sir John Macpherson to the Prince 16 <sup>th</sup> February 1802 . . . . .	12.
11.	Mr Otto to Sir John Macpherson 19 <sup>th</sup> February 1802 . . . . .	13.
12.	Sir John Macpherson to the Prince 23 <sup>d</sup> February 1802 . . . . .	15.
13.	Sir John Macpherson to J. Hely Addington Esq. <sup>re</sup> } 3 <sup>d</sup> March 1802. }	16.

*Handwritten text, possibly a title or heading, in a cursive script.*

*Handwritten text, possibly a date or reference number.*

*Handwritten text, possibly a name or location.*

*Main body of handwritten text, consisting of several lines of cursive script, likely a list or account.*

## Introduction.

---

In February 1801, just before the Change in the British Administration M<sup>r</sup> Otto had received an Order of Recall from his Government: Sir John Macpherson who was then in Parliament and no stranger to the Political Opinions of the New Minister M<sup>r</sup> Addington, urged M<sup>r</sup> Otto to defer his return to France; Sir John had received from the Duke of Sussex, who had known M<sup>r</sup> Otto at Berlin, the most favourable Opinion of him: An Opinion confirmed by Conversation and Correspondence. —

Occasions soon offered for shewing the Notes of M<sup>r</sup> Otto to M<sup>r</sup> Addington, and M<sup>r</sup> Addington's, in return, to M<sup>r</sup> Otto. — The following Correspondence Ensued. — The Importance of the Subject; The Issue of the Discussion: — The exalted situation of the principal parties, and, above all, that Harmony of Political Opinions, on points of the deepest National Concern, must ever attach to three Letters in this Correspondence the most satisfactory Consideration. —

The

The Letter of the *Heir Apparent* to *M<sup>r</sup>. Addington*,  
as *First Minister*: That *Minister's Reply*; - and *M<sup>r</sup>.  
Otto's Letter* of the 4<sup>th</sup> of *October 1801*, written after the  
*Signature of the Preliminaries of Peace*, are the *Letters in  
Question*. - They embrace a *System* that will in time -  
enforce its own adoption if the order of *Civilisation* is -  
fairly preserved in *Europe*. - It is by bringing, the *New  
Government of France* continually to the *Test of that  
System*, in the *Eyes of the People of France*; and before  
the *Public Opinion of Mankind* that it may be forced  
to respect the *Rights of others*, or rendered eventually,  
the object of *general Attack*. - And if the same good  
understanding, which proved so fortunate in -  
*January 1802*, between the *Heir - Apparent* and the -  
*First Minister* were continued steadily in the support  
of the *Public Good* - *England* may hereafter *Glory*,  
not only in having fought so long, but in having  
finally triumphed in the *Cause of Nations*. -!

The *Designs and Hopes of the Enemy* render  
the continuance of such a good understanding

indispensable to the Public Safety. — It would consolidate  
 all our necessary Interior and Continental Arrangements.  
 — The old Government of France fell from the Disunions  
 between its Ministers, and certain Branches of the Royal  
 Family. — Hannibal was able to conquer all Italy. —  
 — Yet Rome resisted him, because Rome remained  
united. — Hannibal, the same Hannibal, could  
 not, with a superior Army defend Carthage — because  
 Carthage was not united. — Disunion lost America;  
 but Union saved India. — United Councils, with the  
 Arms and resources, which are now at the Command  
 of Great Britain ensure success. — In March the  
 Enemy will begin his deep laid and widely extended  
 General Attacks: They are to be aimed at our  
Public Credit, which, if thereby deranged, would at  
 once, in his Opinion, strike at our Throne and  
 Constitution. — No period of our National Existence  
 ever required more vigorous or more united Councils,  
 with the zealous efforts of every Individual to do  
 the best in his power for the General Good. —

A

It is, in the Spirit of that necessary Zeal, that  
the accompanying work is presented, as a connected  
Memorandum for the Consideration of the King  
Apparent and our principal Ministers. —

Brompton  
14<sup>th</sup> January 1805. —

---

Copy.

N<sup>o</sup> 1.From M<sup>r</sup> Otto.Londres le 15<sup>th</sup> Aout 1801.

Je me préparois, Mon respectable Ami, à répondre longuement à Votre Charmante lettre d'hier, quand j'ai reçu la nouvelle de la mort de ma fille aînée, enfant de 13 ans, dont les talents, la figure et le caractère faisoient l'admiration de toutes mes connoissances: Dans tout autre moment, j'aurais été inconsolable; mais le long spectacle de tant d'horreurs, de tant de massacres dans les quatre parties du monde semble avoir endurci mon Ame. — Je me reproche les larmes qui coulent malgré moi; c'est sur la Tombe de tant de malheureux moissonnés par la guerre, par la famine, et par la peste — que la source de nos pleurs devoit déjà être épuisée! Cependant la tendresse du Père l'emporte — je suis profondément blessé; j'aurais pu être sauvé mon enfant, si une mission, jusqu'ici inutile, ne m'eût retenu ici. — Il m'est impossible de Vous parler d'affaires: Je me rappelle seulement que mon intention étoit de vous prier instamment de rester encore —

quelques jours à Londres: Dans ce moment de crise —  
 les épanchemens de l'amitié! pourroit être plus —  
 utile que les entretiens officiels. Lorsque il en sera —  
 tenu — je vous ouvrirai mon ame toute entiere.

Adieu Plaignés moi, quoique vous n'ayés pas  
 connue celle que je pleurerai toute ma Vie. —

Otto.

To Sir John Macpherson Bar!

Copy

No. 2.

From the Right Honorable Henry Addington.

Wimbledon  
August 4.<sup>th</sup> 1801.

Dear Sir,

It is impossible to read the inclosed Letter, without sharing the Sorrow, under which it was written; and let me add, without admiring the Mind, which so supports itself under one of the severest dispensations of Heav'n. Nothing, I am convinced, would so much contribute to heal the wound of your Friend, as the Event, which he is striving to accomplish, and which can alone heal the Wounds of Europe, and the World. — May he experience that, and every other Consolation!

I am, Dear Sir,

Your Faithful,  
and Obed.<sup>t</sup> Serv.<sup>t</sup>

Henry Addington.

To S<sup>r</sup>. John Macpherson Bar.<sup>t</sup>

Copy.

N<sup>o</sup> 3.Farm near Tunbridge Wells  
24<sup>th</sup> September 1801.

Dear Sir

I have the following words from a Friend in Town,  
 "Vous m'avez dit que, dans un cas urgent, vous reviendrez  
 " ici; L'urgence est très grande et, Je pense, qu'il est de mon devoir  
 " de vous en prévenir." — It is impossible for me to leave this  
 place to morrow; but I have written to my Friend that, on  
 the Evening of the day after to morrow, I shall endeavour to  
 be at his Command; to know if any thing in my power can be of  
 the least use. — My first Visit shall be at Downing Street; —  
 probably at Eight o'Clock the day after to morrow in the Evening,  
 to learn if you are in Town; or have left for me any  
 Commands. — No one is more attached to you, or has better hopes  
 from your Administration than

(Signed)

John Macpherson.

To the Right Honble Henry Addington.  
 &c.

Copy.

N<sup>o</sup> 4.

To the Prince.

(Private  
from S<sup>r</sup> J. M<sup>r</sup> P)Carlton House  
28<sup>th</sup> September 1801.  
½ past 12. A.M.

I felt it a first Duty to come here and enquire after the  
 health of the True Prince; and to mention to him, and him only—  
 -that the Negotiation was on the point of breaking off decidedly;  
 That M<sup>r</sup> Otto wrote to me for that purpose; requesting me to  
 come to Town; That I have been at work for two days - and  
 that I have just left M<sup>r</sup> Otto's hand in that of M<sup>r</sup> Addington  
 at a very private and first Meeting; All will, I trust in  
 God, end well. —

N<sup>o</sup> 5.

Copy.

Hereford Street  
4<sup>th</sup> October 1801.

Dear Sir

Expecting to see you every day I neglected to answer your friendly Congratulations: - At last we are drawing near that System, by which the repose of the World and the Happiness of Millions is secured. - What amongst the Vulgar is called the Animosity of Nations, is nothing else but the animosity of Governments. - Let these be wise, moderate, and just, and their Subjects will be so. - The horror of contending Nations is unknown to modern times; and, if we have seen Continents and Seas stained with Blood, let us freely acknowledge the Guilty passions of Rulers; without impeaching the harmless multitude. - May the blessings of the present Reconciliation extend to our Posterity; - may our Governments feel like Individuals; and Individuals like Men, belonging to the same extensive and interesting Family; may Governments recollect that they are the Servants of the People!

Believe me, with the deepest gratitude, esteem and  
Affection. - for ever

Yours

Otto.

To S<sup>r</sup>. John Macpherson  
Esq.

N<sup>o</sup> 6.

Copie

d'une lettre adressée par M. Otto à M. le Chevalier Macpherson.

11<sup>th</sup> Janvier 1802.

Mon cher Chevalier.

Nous étions trop entourés hier au soir, pour parler d'affaires: J'aurais dû vous dire que le récit de l'entrevue, dont vous avez été témoin, a été accueilli avec une satisfaction tout particulière: Cette coincidence d'idées et d'opinions, parmi les hommes les plus marquans et les plus respectables des deux nations, est du meilleur augure pour l'avenir. — On conçoit, et on apprécie les Talens de celui, qui nous a si bien développé l'airai Systeme, des deux pays, et de L'Europe entière: La paix, fondée sur une pareille case, n'est plus une Trêve de dix ans, un simple échange de Tabatières, mais un pacte solennel, garanti par tout ce que L'humanité a de plus d'ér. " Tout est nouveau dans ce siècle " nous a dit le P. . . ; Tout sans doute, et surtout le langage que nous avons entendu, et qui ne s'effacera ja mais de ma mémoire: Votre vertueuse Administration partage ce sentiment; la nôtre y applaudit; le Bonheur du Globe est mur. Hâtons nous de cueillir les fruits. Le souffle de la jalousie, et du crime.

pourra les flétrir. — L'Europe a opposé la fausse politique à la fausse Philosophie. — L'Expérience et la raison les ont terrassées toutes deux: Que la politique ne soit plus la Science de l'Ensic et des chichanes; qu'elle devienne, enfin, l'art, non de conduire adroitement les procès diplomatiques, mais de les éviter; — non de rendre les peuples puissans, mais heureux. — malheureusement, les deux nations renferment encore beaucoup d'Elèves des anciennes Ecoles; et il faut un grand effort pour leur fermer la bouche.

Nous causerons de tout cela, mon cher Chevalier, — quand j'aurai le plaisir de vous voir. — Veuillez m'informer, en attendant l'illustre Ami des hommes — que j'espère obtenir pour son protégé, la permission qu'il desvie; — et que mon plus grand bonheur sera de lui donner quelque fois des preuves de mon respect et de mon dévouement.

Je vous salue cordialement

Otto.

+ Calonne

No. 7.

Copy from the Prince to the Right Honorable Henry Addington.

22<sup>d</sup> January 1802.

When the Letter of M<sup>r</sup>. Otto which I have now the pleasure to enclose to you was communicated to me I desired Admiral Payne to lay it before you: He called twice in Downing Street but missed you. —

It is neither from the Compliment that M<sup>r</sup>. Otto has been pleased to pay me; nor even from the Justice which he renders to your Administration, that I am anxious to draw your Attention to the Contents of his Letter. — It is the Wisdom, the Temper and the pleasing Harmony of the Political Order, which it embraces that have won my Admiration. —

Fortunate shall I reckon my own destiny in life, if I can in any way be useful to favour a Political System of such extensive good! — I know what you will naturally feel on the Subject; and no one can wish you more success in the arduous and noble Duty you are discharging for your Country. —

N<sup>o</sup> 8.

Copy

to the Prince

Sir,

Downing Street  
January 23<sup>d</sup> 1802.

My warmest acknowledgements are due to your Royal Highness for the great satisfaction afforded me by the Letters, which I had the honour of receiving Yesterday Evening from Carlton House. - I have the best reasons to believe that Mr. Otto's Account of the impression made on the French Government is correct; and I am sanguine in the hope that a System may be adopted, which by keeping clear of the Extreme of distrust on the one Hand, and of credulity and weaknes on the other, will be suited to the Temper Character and Interests of both Countries. -

I may be permitted to add that I feel very strongly the Value and importance of the approbation, with which your Royal Highness has been pleased to distinguish my humble but sincere endeavours in the Public Service; and of the good wishes which you have condescended to express for their Success. -

With the utmost Deference and Respect

I have the Honor to be

Sir

Your Royal Highness's most  
humble and devoted Servant

Henry Addington.

Copy

No. 9.

Dear Sir John

I am much obliged to you for your Letter; -  
and all I can say upon the Subject is, that you do but Justice to  
those Sentiments, which ever must be uppermost in my Heart. In  
principle the lively Interest I ever must take in whatever concerns  
the Welfare of my own Country, and my Family; and, secondly, in  
the restoration of Order in Society and the Tranquility and Peace  
not only of Europe - but of the whole Globe.

Accept of the Assurances of my best regard and

I am Dear Sir John in great haste

Very sincerely Yours

George Pr.

Carlton House

February 15<sup>th</sup>

1802.

P.S. - Many thanks to M<sup>r</sup>. Otte for his obliging Communication.

N<sup>o</sup> 10.

Copy

To the Prince.

Brompton

16<sup>th</sup> February 1802.

Sir,

The Letter, with which your Royal Highness has been pleased to honour me is the best that could be written; and it will produce the best Effects.

N<sup>o</sup> 11.

Copie  
de'une Lettre de M. Otto à M. le Chevalier Macpherson en date du  
19<sup>th</sup> February 1802.

Monsieur le Chevalier

Je n'ai reçu que ce matin votre lettre — infiniment intéressante de samedi — Croyez que toutes les choses obligeantes, que vous me chargez de transmettre, seront profondément senties par celui à qui elles sont destinées.

Cette bienveillance mutuelle, qui doit desormais faire la base de la tranquillité de l'Europe, ressemble encore à plaint très-déliée, qu'il faut arroser avec beaucoup de précaution, et abriter également des foudres et d'un soleil brûlant. L'Auguste personnage que vous venez de consulter, approuve cette précaution, il ne veut avoir qu'un seul Interprete de ses sentimens; — Il ne sera point trompé et l'Interprete de son choix a pour lui une trop profonde vénération, pour ne pas remplir fidèlement un rôle, qui d'ailleurs lui est imposé par le patriotisme le plus pur, et par les ordres directs de son propre chef.

Votre lettre mon cher Chevalier, servira efficacement la cause commune de l'humanité. — Elle achèvera la conclusion d'un pacte moral, qui vaut encore mieux que les traités politiques, puis — qu'il doit être plus durable. — Je regarde comme

le plus beau moment de ma vie celui où j'ai été jugé digne  
d'être un des Instrumens de ce glorieux accord entre ceux  
dont l'opinion influera si puissamment sur le bonheur  
général ? Je n'ai pas la vanité de croire que j'y ai  
contribué, mais je me fais la douce illusion d'en y avoir  
rien gâté —

Puisse celui, dont vous voulez bien me transmettre les  
sentimens, ne plus trouver que des admirateurs parmi  
ceux, qui l'ont attaqué avec autant de fureur que d'injustice.  
— Il est assez grand pour leur avoir pardonné. — mais lui  
pardonneront ils de l'avoir offensé ? — Le Temps éclaircira  
tout ceci; il ne démentira jamais les professions de respect  
et de vénération que je vous prie de faire agréer en mon nom

Je vous embrasse tendrement.

Otto.

N<sup>o</sup> 12.

Copy.

To the Prince

23<sup>d</sup> February 1802.

I take the liberty to enclose a Copy of my Letter to M<sup>r</sup>. Hely Addington. — I have had access to see the Original Letters from the French Court, on the Subject of your Royal Highness's Communication with M<sup>r</sup>. Otto. — Nothing can be stronger, more creditable to your Royal Highness or more useful to your Country. —

N<sup>o</sup> 13.

Copy

S<sup>r</sup> John Macpherson to J. Hely Addington Esq<sup>re</sup>

Dear Sir

3<sup>d</sup> March 1802.

In case I may not find you at home I write this Note, and have much pleasure in informing you that I have authority to say that a Paragraph in your Letter to me of the 24<sup>th</sup> of last Month<sup>x</sup> had the best effect.

I was most anxious to pay my respects, for a few Minutes, to your Brother on Saturday last. -

Most sensibly do I lament, on every ground, his Domestic Distress: and I sincerely hope it will pass soon away; and that his return to Health and the Helm will carry every thing through for the Public Good. -

He was the Soul of the Commencement of the Peace; He, with the Heir Apparent will conclude it, and on the most solid the most advantageous Grounds. - !! -

I do not make this Assertion lightly. - I would pledge, all that is interesting to me on the Event. † -

Do you remember my early wish that a Relation had gone to Paris? -

Not till the French Government feels that the Original Vital Principle of the Pacification is embraced and confirmed

x Relative to Peltiers Journal

† Peace of Amiens signed the 27<sup>th</sup> March 1802.

by those, who are to conclude it, can it be, effectually, sealed. — Even then, our Peace at Amiens, is but the definitive Step to the general Systematic Pacification of Europe and of the Western and Eastern World. !!! —

Pray read the enclosed printed Paper<sup>x</sup> it is the whole the necessary System of the French Government. — It must equally become that of ours. —

<sup>x</sup>  
The celebrated of the French Government to the Legislative Body on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 1801.  
— The very paper which the Prince read to M<sup>r</sup>. Otto, and of which his Royal Highness approved so much. — In it are the following concluding words —

" Le jour est enfin venu où tous les peuples de l'Europe, & ceux de  
" l'Amérique, que leurs affections lient à cette première partie  
" du monde, plus éclairés sur leurs vrais intérêts, & réunis dans  
" un même sentiment, ont la volonté que la paix soit solide &  
" durable. La guerre la plus heureuse, la plus brillante par les  
" succès, coûte bien cher, coûte bien des larmes au vainqueur; elle  
" coûte aux peuples ce qu'ils ont de plus précieux, de plus rare:  
" la fortune de leurs familles, le sang de leurs enfans. Non il  
" n'existe pas en France un seul individu, s'il est sensé & s'il  
" reconnoit la souveraineté & la volonté du peuple, qui, pour de  
" vaines abstractions veuille encore compromettre, troubler les nations,  
" & inonder la terre de sang. S'il en est quelqu'un il n'a pas  
" d'enfans." —

