

H. R. A. to Duke of York - Draft (See also
39971 etc

AA

Enclosure,

Copy in 40006

39968 - 9

An extensive Promotion has
taken Place in the Army, wherein
my Pretensions are not noticed;
a Circumstance, which it is
impossible for Me to pass by ~~it~~
without observation. ~~it~~

at this momentous
crisis.

Promotion had it been
followed up would have
placed me either at the
bottom of the List of Genls.
or at the head of the List
of Lt Genls.

My Standing in the Army,
~~intitled Me~~ according to the
most ordinary Routine, ~~intitled~~
Me to the Rank of
When the younger Branches
of ~~My~~ Family are promoted to
the highest Military Offices,
My Birth, according to the
Distinctions usually conferred
on it, should have placed
Me First on that List.

I hope, you know Me too well,
to imagine, that idly, inactive
Ack is in my View. Much less
is the Direction and Patronage
of the Military Department
an object, which suits either
my Place in the State, or
my Inclinations. But in a
Moment,

Moment, when the Danger of the
Country is thought by Government
so urgent, as to call forth the
Energy of every Arm in its
Defense, I must needs feel
myself degraded, both as a
Prince, and a Soldier, if I
am not allowed to take a
^{and distinguished} forward Post in Defense of
that Empire, and Crown, of
the Glory, Prosperity, and even
Existence of that People
in all which mine is the
greatest Stake.

To be told, I may display
this Zeal at the Head of
my Regiment, is a degrading
Mockery. If that be the only
situation allotted me, I shall
^{certainly} probably do my Duty, as others
will. But the Considerations,
to which I have already
alluded,

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alluded, intitle Me to expect,
and bind Me withal to
require a situation, where in
I may ~~rather~~ ^{my} correspond ^{only} to
the Dignity of My own
Character, and to the Publick
Expectations.

It is for the sake of
tendering My services in a
way more formal and
official, than I have before
pursued, that I address This
to the Commander in Chief;
by whose Councils the
Constitution presumes, that
the Military Department
is administered.

If Those, who have the
Honour to advise His
Majesty on this occasion,
shall deem my Pretensions,
among

Lord Thurlow

Paper respecting the
question of His R.H.
rank in the Army

among all the Royal Family,
to be the only ones fit to
be rejected, and disdained,
I may at least hope, as a
Debt of Justice and Honour,
to have it explained, that
I am laid by, in Virtue of
that Judgement, and not
in Consequence of ~~my~~
Inactivity, any omission or
want of energy in my part.