

Nr 1) 39971

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By the last night's Gazette which I have this moment received, I perceive that

Whatever may have passed upon other occasions

My dear Mother  
I 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 at this momentous Crisis, without observation -

Situations

My standing in the Army, according to the most ordinary Routine of Promotion, had it been follow'd up, would have plac'd me either, at the bottom of the list of Generals, or at the head of the list of Lt Generals. When the younger Branches of my Family are promoted to the highest Military Offices, my Birth, according to the Distinctions usually confer'd on it, should have plac'd me First on that list.

I hope, you know me too well, to imagine, that idle, inactive Rank is in my view; much less is the direction & Stationage of the Military Department an Object, which suits ~~it~~ my Place in the State, or my Inclinations; but in a 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 ~~cannot~~ <sup>cannot</sup> feel myself degraded, both as a Prince and a Soldier; if I am not allow'd to take a forward and distinguish'd Part, in the defense of that Empire, & 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 Regiments is a degrading mockery. If that be

the only situation allotted me, I shall certainly do my Duty, as others will but the Considerations, to which, I have already alluded, entitle me to expect and bind me, <sup>in every way</sup> ~~to~~ to require a situation, more correspondent, ~~and~~ correspondent to the Dignity of my own Character, and to the Public Expectations.

It is, for the sake of tendering my Services, in a way, more formal & official, than I have, before pursued, that I address this <sup>to my dear Brother in</sup> ~~to~~ the Commander in Chief, by whose Councils, the Constitution presumes, that the Military Department is administered of those who have the honor to advise His Majesty, on this Occasion, shall deem my Pretensions among <sup>a part of</sup> all the Royal Family, to be the only ones fit to be rejected, & disdained, I may at least hope, as a Debt of Justice & Honor, to have it explain'd, that I am laid by, in Vertue of that Judgment, & not in consequence of any Objection or want of Energy ~~or~~ <sup>on my part</sup>.

To the R. H. H.

The Duke of York.

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Letter from A. R. W. to  
The Duke of York dated  
October 2. 1803

The Prince of Wales  
to  
The Duke of York  
Oct: 2. 1803.