

H. R. H. to the Queen

Jan. 16 1804

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16 Jan 1804

My dearest Mother,

The eighteenth of January can not pass without my endeavouring to express, and lay ^{to} ~~my~~ at your feet, those good wishes, which a truly attach'd, and much devoted son, must ever, in the most lively sense, feel, for a rever'd and belov'd Parent: All your Children who are blest with seeing you on that Day can not help feeling the same, but none can with more truth or fervency ^{than myself} (may) that you may enjoy many happy returns of it, through a long series of Years: Though I shall unfortunately be absent, you will do me the justice to believe, that none of them can look up to you with a greater degree of veneration & tenderness, than I do.

Repeated Attempts have been most unjustly and cruelly made, not only to wound

my

my feelings & honor as a Man, but to degrade &
ruin me, both as a Prince and an Officer, in the
Eyes of my own Country as well as of Europe. At
this awful Crisis to our Nation, a Military Command
suitable to my Birth, has been refus'd me; the
10th Dragoons is also, at this moment, remov'd
from the advanc'd Post of the Army, only because
The Prince of Wales is its Colonel; so circumstan-
I must recollect, that I am the Heir of these
Kingdoms, and that it is therefore impossible
for me to appear in a Place, where my presence
can not but be disagreeable to those, who, not-
withstanding their conduct to me, it is still my
Duty to respect; I can not help expressing an
anxious wish to You, as a Mother, that those,
with whom, I stand so nearly connected, had
treated me with the same degree of fraternal
affection.

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affection, which I will defy, even the malice of my
greatest ^{stiffest?} Enemies, not to acknowledge, I have ever
wished to testify to all the younger Branches of my
Family: ^{I, in return, have experienced} This is a treatment which my proud
soul can neither ^{nor} brook nor ^{begeth} forgive.

I am sorry to give ^{any} complaint with
my congratulations to you, ^{on Friday,} but my heart is so full
and so sincere, that neither feeling nor candour
permit me to be entirely silent on a subject which
has given me more pain than any ~~other~~ event of
my life: to require an opinion upon ^{this} question
of, to you, so delicate a nature, would excite too
keen a sensation in your Breast, & therefore,
I hope ^{my dear Mother} you will not trouble yourself farther, than
to acknowledge, through The Duke of Kent, the
safe receipt of this Letter -

Brighton.
Jan. 16th.
1804 -

I am ever my dear Mother,
Your most dutiful & affectionate
Son, *R.*

57005

The Prince of Wales

to

The Queen

Jan 7 16 1804

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