Duke of Kent to Duke of York 1772

45275

Mon cher frere

Votre lettre m'a fait beaucoup de plaisir mais j'aimerois bien mieux vous voir que de vous ecrire. Je suis

Mon cher frere

votre tres affectionne frere

Edouard

Duke

Duke of Kent to Duke of York 1772

4

1189 KENT (His Royal Highness the late Duke of) Autograph Letter, in French, to his Royal Brother, the late Duke of York, *2l. 2s.* - - - 1772

*** *Probably the most juvenile and irresistible specimen known. It is an affectionate acknowledgment of the receipt of His Royal Highness's Letter, &c., and subscribed* VOTRE TRES AFFECTIONNE EDOUARD.

Duke of Kent to Baroness de Tully

(2)

Duke of Kent

Guadeloupe a 24 Avril 1794.

Madame,

Nous voila enfin pour cette campagne a la fin de nos Travaux, La Guadeloupe est soumise aux armes de Sa Majesté Britannique, et la conquête ne nous a coute que quinze hommes tués et autant de blessés. Le General Collot doit passer d'ici en droiture a la nouvelle Angleterre, mais on lui a accordé quelques jours pour ranger ses comptes. Quanta moi je pars après demain pour Halifax, d'ou je pense que je serai rendu a Quebec environ au commencement de Juillet: ce que sera ma Destination ulterieure il n'est point en mon pouvoir de la décider, puisque cela dépend entierement des ordres du Roy, les quels l'on ne peut guere prevoir. —

J'ai écrit un billet aujourdhuy a Mademoiselle Solange en lui envoyant le petit Mestef, qui a été si traité et si malade, que, voyant que je l'emmenerois contre cœur, j'ai cru qu'il étoit de mon devoir, de le renvoyer chez lui. ——

Je ne sçais par quelle occasion celle ci pourra vous parvenir, mais je l'envois sous enveloppe du General Whyte, afin si par quelque changement dans vos intentions vous avés resté au Fort Royal vous puissés la recevoir là: mais en même tems, si vous êtes partis il la mettra sous enveloppe de Monsieur l'Ambassadeur Anglois Hammond a la Philadelphie, ou vous sçavés que nous avons convenu que nous addresserions réciproquement nos lettres. —— Il ne reste a vous assurer de toute la reconnoissance que je conserverai toujours pour vos bontés envers moi: et j'espire qu'avant qu'il soit longtems j'aurai l'occasion de vous reitérer tous mes remerciemens de vive voix. Permettés moi, Madame, de vous dire Adieu

Duke of Kent to Baroness de Tuyll

(2)

45277

pour le present, et de me souvenir avec les sentimens les plus sincères de l'attachement le plus respectueux,

Votre plus devoué et zélé Serviteur

Edouard. Maréchal de Camp au service de S. M. Britannique.

Madame

Madame de Tulley

Castle Hill Lodge Middlesex
September 17th 1861.

My dear Major

I do myself the pleasure of answering your letter of the 19th of August, which I received ten days ago, in English, from the knowledge I have, that you understand that language, and, as I can do that more readily than in German, which though I speak it, as easily & fluently as I used to do, I am not as equal to write. Yet I perfectly understand every word of what is either spoken or written, and indeed read the letter

with as much facility, as either French or English, provided the Latin letters are used, in the manner you have done. If therefore you will continue to write to me in German, and will accept of my letters in English, we can always correspond with each other whenever you may wish it.

With respect to yourself, no one of your warmest friends can regret the unpleasantness of your situation, more than I do, but I fear it is impossible for me to remedy it, having no influence whatever in the Hanoverian councils. But, as to my godson, it will only be necessary for you to address a short memorial to His Royal Highness The Duke of

York Field marshal, and Commander in Chief of the British forces, in which you will request an ensigncy for him, either in the 60th Regiment, the Minorca Regiment, or the new corps of Lowenstein; you may add, that you was induced to take that liberty as the young man was my Godson, and particularly anxious to enter into the British Service. If you will send this, under cover to me, I will take care to forward it; but you must be-serve, to accompany it, with a few lines to me, which I may be able to shew to my brother, & in which you will therefore be careful to avoid mentioning, that I have given you any advice in the matter.

I have not a doubt in consequence of his obtaining a commission, & the moment this is granted I will endeavour to get him six months leave of absence, or a twelvemonth, under the idea of his completing his education, during which time he will be able to save the greater part of his pay, & to have enough for his equipment, & voyage to England, at the expiration of that time.

I hope this will be a satisfactory answer to your letter, I shall therefore add nothing more at present than my kindest remembrance to your wife being, with friendship & esteem, My dear Major

Your's most truly

Edward Duke of Kent, Genl. & Commander in Chief in his Brittanic Majesty's forces in North America, & Colonel of the first or Royal Regiment of Foot.

Schloß zu Edgerington
den 16.ten Febr: 1802.

Mein lieber Herr Hauptman.

Ich hatte das Vergnügen Ihren Brief vom 7ten Janr: zu erhalten, und daraus mit wahrer Freude ersehen, wie sehr die Nachricht die Ich von dem erhaltenen Versprechen des Herzogs von York Ihrem Sohne eine Fähnrichs-Stelle in dem 60sten Regiment sobald eine Vacanz sich ereignen würde, habe geben können, Ihnen und Ihrer würdigen Frau Gemahlin so viele Freude gemacht hat.

Ich bin in der Hofnung, daß es nicht lange anstehen soll, Ihnen von der Erfüllung dieses Versprechens gute Nachrichten mitzutheilen: jedoch wünschte Ich daß Sie sich nicht so sehr auf die schleunigste Ausführung Ihrer Hoffnung verlassen wollten, denn es mögte vielleicht noch etwas längere Zeit dauern

ehe

ehe er beförderet werden könne, besonders da der Friedens Etat von der Englischen Armee noch nicht völlig fest gesezt ist mithin alle Beförderungen gegenwärtig, hauptsächlich aber bis auf den völlig endlich geschlossenen Friedens Tractat gänzlich stehen bleiben.

Indessen gefällt mir die Art sehr mit welcher Sie Ihren Sohn zu seinem künftigen Fache vorbereiten; denn nichts kann ihm vor seine Profession mehr nüzlicher sein als der Unterricht den er von Herrn Obrist Lieutenant von der Decken erhält, von dessen grossen militärischen Kenntnissen sowohl als philantropischen und wahren verehrungswürdigen Character während meiner Residenz in Hannover Ich öfters Gelegenheit hatte besonders bemerken zu können. Sie werden sich meiner ihm bestens erinnern, und daß Ich ihm wegen der Vorsorge und Freundschaft die er meinem

Taufpathen bezeigt, sehr verbunden sein.

Dem Herrn General Lieutenant von Dupenbroch wollen Sie also auch versichern, daß Ich seine sehr verbindliche Anerbietung mich in seinem eigenen Hause zu logiren, sollte es in meiner Gewalt sein noch einmal einen Besuch nach Luneburg machen zu können, mit dem größten Dank annehmen werde.

Es ist gewißlich meine völlige Intention sollte Ich bewerckstelligen können, daß Ich eine Reise nach dem Churfürstenthum Hannover zu machen gedenche, um meine alte Freunden wieder zu sehen, wie bald aber dieses geschehen kann, ist unmöglich vorjetzt zu bestimmen.

Mit besten Empfehlungen an Ihre Frau Gemahlin und der Versicherung von meiner unveränderlichen Hochachtung und Freundschaft vor Sie selbsten, verbleibe Ich

Mein lieber Herr Hauptman

Ihr
aufrichtig ergebenster

Eduard Herzog
von Kent

Mein lieber Herr Hauptman!

Nach dem Versprechen, das Ich Ihnen schon vor einiger Zeit gegeben, habe Ich nun das Vergnügen Ihnen zu melden, daß Ihr Sohn zuletzt zu einer Fähnrichs Stelle in einem von den Regimentern das Ich Ihnen bemerkt habe, angestellt worden ist. In der Ungewißheit ob Sie meinen Brief ungeöfnet erhalten werden oder nicht, habe jetzt Ihnen nur noch zu bitten meine beste Complimente an Ihre würdige Frau Gemahlin zu machen, mit der Versicherung, daß Ich wahren Antheil an den Begebenheiten nehme, die kürzlich in Ihrem Lande vorgefallen sind.

Es ist wohl sehr wahrscheinlich daß Ihr Sohn unter gegenwärtigen Umständen

und

und an dem Ort wo er jezt ist, nicht mehr so vielen Vortheil in seinen Studien zu erwarten hat. Ich wolte Ihnen daher anrathen, daß er so bald wie möglich zu seinem Regiment abgienge. Sie schicken Ihn nur an mich hier, und alles was zu seinem Equipement nöthig sein wird, soll ohne alle Kosten und Auslagen von Ihrer Seite völlig eingerichtet werden

Mit Versicherung meiner Hochachtung und Freundschaft verbleibe Ich

Mein lieber Herr Hauptman

Ihr

ergebenster

E

Der in diesen Briefen erwähnte Louis meiner seligen Großmutter ist jung verstorben.

(6)

Duke of Kent to Mrs Fitz Herbert

45284-5

Castle Hill Lodge
Monday December 18th 1809

Ten thousand thanks, my dearest Mrs Fitzherbert for your most kind and affectionate letter of Friday last, which, believe me, I appreciate as I ought, having had so many proofs of your goodness (may I add) of your attachment. Indeed you have judged most right in considering Monday last, as a most painful day of Trial for me, for tho', as to the point of having we encouraged, or promoted in the most distant Degree, the attack upon my brother, I could not, from the consciousness how foul and false the charge was, but feel perfectly easy

(6)

Duke of Kent to Mrs Fitz Herbert

45285

I had to experience the heart rending pain of witnessing the man both whom, for 18 years I had lived in habits of great intimacy, dragged forward, on account of his own imprudence (I admit highly culpable) and placed in a situation, where, from the unjustifiable manner, in which he was questioned, he must have appeared to the world what I avow he is not, the blackest of men: In short, complete as is my triumph over those vile Incendiaries, who chose to circulate the false and calumnious reports to my prejudice that have so long induced me in the opinion of those that did not know me, I swear upon you, I had almost rather be without it, than have witnessed the pain I did, as far as it regarded the unfortunate individual I allude to. But I am carried away to annoy you with what must to you be very tiresome, and I beg a thousand pardons for it, only I know to you I could express my feelings safely without reserve, and God knows, I can scarcely to any one else. I hope I need not tell you how distressed I am at not having seen you while you were at Parson's Green, but I give you my honor, I never knew of your being there, and relied on your promise to write to me, that I might be apprized of your return, from Hampshire and Gloucestershire. Having said this, I shall take my leave, assuring you

from the bottom of my heart, that my warmest good wishes will ever be with you, and that it will ever be my pride to prove myself with the truest friendship and attachment,

My dearest Mrs Fitzherbert,

Yours most affectionate and devoted Edward

(7)

Duke of Kent to Mrs Fitz Herbert

45286-7

Castle Hill Lodge
Monday June 18th 1810.

My dearest Mrs Fitzherbert,

Having passed all Friday at Windsor, and on my return here on Saturday, found a summons that obliged me to go up to Town, it was only yesterday that I could have written to you to apprize you of the result of our endeavors to procure for you Sir John, and Lady Wentworth as tenants for your house at Parsons Green: and then I was so interrupted by different people calling in upon me, all to talk of that Scandalous Book, that I really could not find a moment to sit composedly down the whole day. However it is now very early, and to be sure

(7)

Duke of Kent to Mrs Fitz Herbert

45287

against interruption I now take up my pen, setting aside, (altho' it is Monday morning) just the notorious Mrs C— in her book is pleased to turn my Pepper and Salt account, and shall commence by telling you, now that I have seen the whole of your house in all its parts, I pronounce it to be on much too large a scale for my friends, even if there were not now another obstacle to their taking it, which is no less a one than their having closed with the landlord of their present house in Nottingham place for the hire of it for a twelvemonth certain, and the first refusal of it for a further term, at their present rent, if they should chuse to renew it, at the expiration of the twelvemonth. As such, they cannot now think of yours any more, and I am only vexed that we should have given you any trouble about it. — I trust, ere this reaches you, you will have seen what I felt it incumbent upon me to put into the public prints, in consequence of that vile book, which I had the courage to read thro' at Windsor on Sunday, and I hope you will approve, for I am told, that, as all that is quoted of me is not true by hear say, I cannot prosecute for the Libel. All I have gone thro on my account from this wanton, and unmerited attack, no words can describe, and I believe, were I to live to the age of Methuselem, that it would never be obliterated from my mind.

Permit me now, before I conclude, to desire my best remembrance to your brother, and to Mrs Seymour, and to assure you of

the unalterable sentiments of Friendship and attachment, with which I shall ever be proud to prove, and profess, myself

My dearest Mr Fitzhubert,

Yours ever most faithful, devoted, and affectionate

Edward

If our hunt Wednesday, my time will be so taken up, as to preclude the possibility of my calling on Tuesday Steel —

Duke of Kent to Mrs Fitz Herbert

(8)

The Lodge. Castle Hill, near Great Ealing

January 23: 1812.

My ever dearest Mrs Fitzherbert,

I have a million of thanks to return you for your most kind and affectionate Letter of Friday last, which I found on my Return home from Windsor on Sunday Evening, and would have immediately acknowledged, had business left me one half hours leisure to have done so, but I really have been so unavoidably engaged for the last 3 days, that, in the whole of them, I have not had a single moment I could call my own. To day however I am

(8)

Duke of Kent to Mrs Fitz Herbert

determined shall not pass without my endeavouring to prove, by my punctuality in answering you, how much I value your friendship and how highly I appreciate your kindness in writing to me. You make me quite wretched at the little prospect you hold out of my seeing you soon, tho' I cannot but applaud your resing==nation to come near to the Metropolis at present, which God knows is the focus of every thing that is odious: You enquire with so much interest about my health and happiness, that I feel I may without incurring with you the reproach of Egotism speak of both: the former thank God remains as unimpaired as I have a right to expect from the life I have led, but much alas! is wanting to the latter from many causes, but from none so much as from the disap=pointment I experience at no intimation being given me of an intention to consider me, when the Restrictions are over, a circumstance to which, as you know, I have the best founded pretensions; and after all I have suffered, to feel that I am neglected at that moment, which I was always taught to look upto, for the com=pensation of my long unmerited disappointments, is heart breaking in the extreme. However I

may be premature in thus entering myself and therefore I am unwilling to say more on the subject; were you at this time so situated as to be able to remind my brother of those promises which you yourself witnessed in 1814, I am sure I should not want an advocate in you to urge him to fulfill them, but alas! I fear I dare not hope that you can now feel yourself warranted in interfering, and therefore I cannot think of being so indiscreet as to beg you to write to him, even if you are still in the habit of so doing. The P___, health has certainly been very much shaken, since the accident

which confined him so long at Cattlands, but I do really hope that he is now beginning to rally again, for I was far better pleased with his appearance yesterday, than I had been for a very long time preceding: I believe when the tendons snapped, he suffered such acute torture, that he was compelled, for fear of the worst consequences to take a most immoderate quantity of Laudanum, and that that so affected his nervous system, that it will be some time before the debility, produced by it, is removed, but that is, I apprehend, the whole extent of the Evil, and if other reports have got any credit, we will

know him, from what quarter they come, I mean one, to which neither you, nor I are particularly partial. But thanks God, that trait, and a couple of others have operated, a great unprodejement, at which a very universal joy is expressed. Could but the P— see as clearly the character of the other individual, then indeed would there be grounds for rejoicing; as yet however there is no appearance of so fortunate an Event taking place. All this I say to you in the fullness of my heart, well knowing that you won't betray me, and that we have but one object in our way of viewing this matter, my brother's happiness, and honor, and the salvation of the Country. The poor Duke of Sussex feels most grateful for your recollection of him and your kindness during his illness; I fear his heavy pecuniary difficulties, and the failure of all his expectations of relief thro' the P. office prey hard upon him, and are the occasion of the turmoil of their Mocks. With regard to my friend Mr Power, we had better not enquire whether my list of Chartains is full or not, but direct him to send me his warrant for signature, and I shall

be most happy to sign it, as nothing can afford me greater pleasure than to do any thing that is agreeable to you, from whom I have uniformly received every mark of the most affectionate kind-ness. — I am still, as you will perceive from the date of this, resident at your old favo-rite spot, but as, after inhabiting the house without intermission for nearly four years, it requires a little whitewashing, painting, and papering, I must humbly submit to passing 10 or 11 weeks at Kensington, where fortunately there is little probability, at present, of the early return of my great female neighbour. And

now, I am sure you will think, it high time that I should take my leave of you, as I must nearly if not wholly have exhausted your Patience, by this long Epistle, I shall therefore only add that neither time, nor distance ever can alter the sentiments of attachment, friendship and esteem with which I shall ever be proud to subscribe my-self,

My dearest Mr Fitzherbert

Yours most faithfully

affectionately, and devotedly

Edward

(8)

Duke of Kent to Mrs Fitzherbert (9)

1

Brussels 7 March 1817

My dearest Mrs Fitzherbert

It was only yesterday that I received your kind remembrance of the 28th of January which must account for my tardiness in replying to it, as I am sure I should have much too happy, had I been earlier in my profession of it, to have shewn you how much I was gratified by your affectionate recollection of me. I beg to assure you I have been a constant inmate thus, having never shewn to myself, I am informed from my letter

Mrs Fitzherbert

Albany Street

Duke of Kent to Mrs Fitzherbert

(9)

town on the 25th of October last from home,
excepting on the 1st November, when I dined
with my regiment at Malinnes, which
appeared a week that I should pass my
Birth day with them, and had the satisfac-
tory to ask the Duke of Wellington and
Lord Bilton to meet me. The Winter has
been an extraordinary one, as we
have not had in the Whole twenty days
of frost, but it has been uncommonly
rainy and wet so that I have had much
shooting have been out, and
riding has been totally out of the question
have as thing all private. I hope to
receive Mrs F. which will be great con-
fort and pleasure. I believe I mentioned
in my last, that owing to the extraordinary
increase of people there, amongst whom

there is a considerable number of English
Black Legs and swindlers, and a number
of the French Exiles, I judged it most pru-
dent at once to decline any invitation
whatever to dinner or evening parties, ex-
cept from the Duke, and the Prince of Orange,
and having strictly confined myself to
this rule, I have [illegible] occasion to rejoice
every day at having laid it down. I
have therefore restricted myself to having
one or two of a party from a couple to
half a dozen friends to dine, and the
Prince of Orange [illegible] which party, and
the rest of the evening I have passed
at home, en tête à tête, according to the
customs which we neither have nor
get time for, or at the Theatre, where we
have arranged a very comfortable private
Box

Band and there are a great variety of those
little lively French spaniels of which
I have always been so fond; and I can
fancy you, in being in this quiet way,
are perfectly contented, feeling that in the
sacrifice I have made in retiring to the
Continent, to live one on the foreign
income, I have done what duty and honor
require of me since I am sure I had a
right to expect would be my justice
with the Court and Cabinet at the conclu-
sion of the time for which I made up
my mind to be a voluntary exile,
the returning to England with the same
feeling of innocence as caused the
blind accusation of a few friends,
should be inadmissible to me and but my first
and caution, for preserving myself
from

(9)

45296

45295

5

from publication of such a paragraph
only I should appeal upon justice being
eventually done me, from claims to
unusually conducted by Sir Pole as far
back as 1809, and promised to be fully
satisfied but few months previous to his
death. In the mean while, it is a subject
of no small consolation to me to
find that my conduct is appreciated at
home and that from the continent
whence I have been, I have been received
with marks of kindness and esteem;
I do not however apprehend that, if
any important change should occur either
at home or in Prussia, there can be a
shade of any thing else to assume
my position at the former place, as
a perfectly independent man, entitled
from

few years from this time, but I must
be very anxious with so very limited
finances with a view of my allowing myself
that indulgence, and they I apprehend will
certainly not permit my contemplating
this object during the current year. —
I quite agree with you, that I have no
wish to upset being thrust at this tur-
bulent moment, for as I am no politician,
it would have been extremely painful
to me to have been obliged to take a
decided part in what is going forward;
for on the one hand, I feel the majority
of strong measures to put down the
rising spirit of faction, and on the other
I cannot help feeling that the conduct
of Ministers has been the main cause
of

of exciting that accordant which is the
basis of it, and therefore must consider
them as the most unfit hands, to entrust
with any additional latitude of military
power. — I did not fail as you may suppose,
whispering to the Regent, as soon as I heard
of the atrocious burning of the 28th January,
my sentiments upon the occasion, and I
have pursued a very friendly conversation
with and cannot help wishing the
Duke of Wellington had confined himself
to the same when he accepted him, without
entering into a discussion of politics,
which presumed the friends answer that
reaches him. — You will have seen how
he anticipated with me in the recent
fierce attacks informed by the Press
against the

Duke of Clarence, who I fear mistakes
exercise for any protracted injury
at Brighton, since his symptoms bear
a close resemblance to the attenuated and
still unused which ought to be functions
by a man of his unfortunate gaiety habits
and enfeebled organs of digestion. - Thank
God the attack was not violent and that
he is now safe. - I concluded the Grand
Duke Nicholas would be admired by the
ladies, whenever he appeared, for his
very fine looking young person, and of
affable good humoured manners. I saw
him twice when on his way to England
at the beginning of November, and when
I wrote home about him I gave that
opinion of him, which has since been
confirmed. I believe he is poor papa's
heir

Paris again lies in his way to Vienna, & he is pressingly to visit his sisters, the one at Darmstadt, and the other at Weimar, as well as his Mother at Berlin, before he returns to Koblenz. I shall long to hear what the Page of my Country, and above all of my fair Countrywomen, I had regularly from our friend the Duke of Coburg, until he set off for Paris, but of course since his departure for that place, all our correspondence has been prevented from prudential motives. I believe he felt a good deal the post being altered down to Brighton, but I conclude his friends left for one may have been a barrier thereto. — I have now only to request, that when you do me the favor of writing again,

yours

10

you will gratify and oblige your loving
uncle Kensington Palace, that from
whence it will be forwarded by my friend
General Fitzroy, who transmits all
letters from me to the Queen, and to con-
clude, by sending you the contents
and I have no doubt the pleasure
of your relish and determination with
which I remain

My dear Nephew, Your affectionate
Your most faithfully
and affectionately
Edward

(10)

Richard Dawes to Queen Victoria

45298

HOMEFIELD,
WORTHING.
13th October 1881

To
The Queen's Most excellent Majesty

Madam

45364 _6

With profound respect the accompanying Letter, bearing the signature of a loving father and referring to his "little infant", is offered to a beloved Sovereign (who may the King of Kings preserve and by His gracious guidance uphold for many years) once that babe but now the Monarch of a Mighty Kingdom — in the humble hope that it may be graciously accepted by your Majesty and be found interesting not only as a family record but as an evidence of domestic happiness. By Your Majesty's

very faithful subject and dutiful servant

Richd Dawes.

(10)

Richard Dawes to Queen Victoria

(11)

Duke of Kent to Mrs Williams

45299-300

Windsor Castle.
Saturday, May 19th: 1810.
10 o'clock.

My dearest Mrs Williams,

The whole house being in a bustle upon the occasion of the Day, our dearest little Sophy has deputed me to give you the account of our poor suffering angel's state. Thank God, I can give you a much more cheering one than I had dared expect from the alarming state of yesterday, as she has had from 2 to 7 this morning four hours of almost uninterrupted sleep; and altho' the fever has not altogether yet

(11)

Duke of Kent to Mrs Williams

45300

-ded, she has been able to retain some gruel with a little brandy on her stomach, and a part of her Laudanum Draft. To say that all present danger is over would, I fear, be going further, than I should be warranted in doing, but Dr Baillie's expression is "tho' we have much to fear, there are still so many good Points, that he feels no reason why we should not eventually overcome the Disease." Such my dearest Mrs Williams is the plain truth and I know, deep as your feelings are you had rather have that, than a more favorable one built on uncertainty. All here join in kindest love to you, and dearest little Sophy first and foremost. I must now take my leave and conclude by repeating the sentiments of friendship, and warm regard, with which I ever am, my dearest Mrs Williams,

Yours most faithfully
and sincerely
Edward

May 19th 1010

Duke of Kent to Mrs Williams

(12)

45301-2

Castle Hill Lodge
near Great Ealing
10 Nov 1800

My Dearest Mrs Williams

I have this day had the happiness of receiving your most affectionate Letter from Mill Hill, and as you will perceive our desires to prove to you by thus immediately replying to it, how gratified I am by your early remembrance of me, in the midst of all the additional load of affliction which your parting with our returnable friends at Mill Hill, cannot, I am well aware, but have produced: But, oh this this is more than I could in reason have expected, I have the vanity to think, that it is not more than I deserve, for I am convinced that none

of

of your own children can be more warmly attached to you, or sympathise more with your afflictions than I do, and we have done, indeed how could it be otherwise, when I have experienced such marked and affectionate attention at all times: — I cannot tell you how wretched I was on calling on Wednesday last at the melancholy deserted Mansion in St Albans St, to find that you had left it for the Castle, and had I not just gone thro' the painful trial of taking my leave of Dearest little Sophy, after taking over the harrowing scene of the preceding night, I should have gone back on purpose to shake hands with you, but the apprehension of inflicting a repetition of that / for I concluded I should have found you with her / kept me

back

Duke of Kent to Mrs Williams

(12)

45302

back, and I felt it due to her, to secure
to the happiness of seeing you once more,
the danger of again awakening those
sensations of affliction with which she was
already half distracted when I left her:—
I cannot tell you with what pleasure we
talked of you both yesterday and the preceding
evening, which I had the comfort of passing
with her altogether, as none of my Brothers
were at Windsor, or how much good it did
me to hear all the kind things, the Queen
said of you, who really seems to appreciate
you after my own heart:— I am quite
happy to find you like the present I
left in Sophys hands for you, all say it
is an excellent thing, this time chosen
to say it represents me too weatherbeaten

and

and do; of that I am not myself sensible, but of the the can. It is a fault that a very short time will cure. For after all the vicissitudes of climate I have experienced I have no right to expect to retain aught of the freshness of youth, and if I can but preserve that first of all blessings health, I am sure the other in what I am not in the least ambitious of, but whether a flattering likeness or otherwise I trust it will always recall to your remembrance, the affectionate attachment, & the unalterable interest of the donor —

You are very good, my excellent friend, in adverting to those little attentions which I had the good fortune of being able to show you in how deeply grateful and

affectionate

afflicting moments which we had to encounter, but exclusive of following in that the dictates of my own heart, it was most gratifying to me to think that our departed angel, if she were looking down upon us from that seat of bliss, which I trust she has attained, would love me, if possible, the better for affording all the comfort in my power to her, whom she loved with more than filial affection :—
The reflections you make upon the performance of the last sad and awful duty we went thro' together, altho' they renewed my grief afforded me no small satisfaction, as I felt confident you would after the sad scene closed, be pleased with my having encouraged you to exert yourself to go thro' it :—

I

I rejoice to find that that excellent Woman Mrs Beckendorf and her good Daughter gave you such proofs of their anxiety to lighten your sorrows, but they are most worthy creatures both of them, and I am sure they would see with each other in that kind office:— As you will have left Mill Hill before this can reach you, I shall only name your valued Friends there just to say that I have this moment been finishing a long letter to Mr Williams, from whom I received a most kind Letter evening yours:— I should ill acquit myself of the Commission given me by your Dearest little Sophy yesterday if I did not give you her

warmest

warmest remembrance, and inform you that she is thank God much better, and was to have her room for the first time to dinner with the Queen; she was however a little cast down about our revered Father, the accounts of his health for the 2 preceding days and nights had been less satisfactory:— The Duke of Sussex has got home to Kensington, & is better for the change of air, he charged me to remember him to you most kindly; and now one word more from myself to assure you that whatever changes may take place in my situation from the vicissitudes of life, neither time nor absence can ever alter the warmth of

those

those sentiments of friendship and esteem with which I shall ever be proud to subscribe myself,

My Dear Mrs Williams

Yours most faithfully
& affectionately

Edward

E

Mrs Williams

Duke of Kent to Mrs Williams

(13)

Kensington Palace
20th July 1811

My Dearest Mrs Williams/

I cannot suffer your kind Letter of the 24th to remain unanswered, altho, in reply to mine, as I am now enabled to state to you, from my own personal judgement (having seen the Dear King three times since I wrote you last,) that he is clearly making great progress towards recovery, tho

there

there are still strong shades of malady left. However all the Physicians agree in saying that 3 months absence will reinstate him, & I therefore cherish the fond hope, that that happy prospect will be realized: — Our little favorite too, I am assured both by Sir H Halford & Dr Baillie, both of whom attend her, is going on well, tho' her spirits alas! are sadly low, the effect I understand of the nature of her complaint, & of the medicines she is compelled to take: — I cannot tell you how sincerely rejoiced I am to find that your

own

Duke of Kent to Mrs Williams

(13)

45306

our health is now so nearly restablished, & how truly I hope that the return of mild weather will restore you to your strength. The account you give me of the conduct of my two young friends during your illness delights me beyond anything, & will make me feel it possible a yet livelier interest than before in their welfare. You will be gratified I know in hearing that the remains of poor Gascoigne were interred with all possible respect near those of our departed Angel on the 25th by the King's own directions, and that a stone is to be placed

over

over her Grave to commemorate her unexampled fidelity, & the loss of her health & the consequences of it: — I cannot conclude this without telling you that the Duke King fully bears in mind his gracious intention towards you, which I am sure will be realised the moment He is declared well: — In taking my leave pray let me assure you that I am highly appreciate the friendship and attachment you have shown me during our long acquaintance from above 30 Years, and that you cannot make me happier than in

omitting

(13)

45307

omitting all form & etiquette when you are so good as to write to me, being ever with unalterable sentiments of esteem, regard & attachment.

My Dearest Mr Williams

Yours most faithfully

Edward

13 DK

(14)

London February the Seventh 1812 45308 2

Captain G. Douglas

Royal Military College

High Wycombe

Bucks

Hunt and Strathearn

Duke of Kent to Capt. G. D. Douglas (14)

Kensington Palace
11 Feby 1812

My Dear Sir

I had the pleasure of receiving yesterday your favor of the 9th with its enclosures, and hasten to assure you, that I shall feel great pleasure in supporting the just claim of Mr Douglas & her Sister of the same, brought under the consideration of the Supreme Board, being perfectly master of the very peculiar situation which their services for the Good:— at the same time, I beg to add, that I hope you will do what depends

Sincerely

Laurent have the favor of coming over
Sunday, in the course of next
week, to take a dinner and a
bed at Castle Hill, but I am unable
to day to name the one that will
best answer, as I am not exactly
master of my own time, owing
to the frequent calls I have to
Windsor & to Cuttlebrook, but it
is most probable that I shall send
you the summons for Monday or
Tuesday: at all events you may
rely on having eight or forty hours
notice from me which I hope
will be sufficient — In the mean
while

Duke of Kent to Capt G. D. Douglas (14)

45310

which I remain ever
with sincere regard
My Dear Sir
Yours faithfully
Edward

Capt G Douglas

(15)

45311

London February the fourteenth 1812

Captain G. D. Dofeyfey

Royal Military College

High Wycombe

Bucks

Kent and Chatham

Military Tables

of Fees

Dr. Whitbreck

on Promotion

Paid Fees

Non Commissioned

Officers Sons

Military Catechism

Mr. Doyle.

Duke of Kent to Capt. G. D. Douglas

(15)

45312-3

The Lodge Castle Hill
17 July 1802

My Dear Sir

Referring to the answer, which I did myself the pleasure of returning to the work enclosed by you, permit me prior to your departure for the Isle of Wight, hereby to propose to you in the joint name of Mesdames de Launs daughter, who remember well hearing your friend the Duke of Orleans speak of you in the highest terms under your former

name

name of D'Eresy. I say you to
come over and dine with us
here on Wednesday next the 19th
inst at 6 o'clock: If therefore
you will regulate your movements
so as to arrive here by 5, it
will give you time to dress
yourself for the room, which we
will take care to have prepared
for you for the night; we can
then breakfast together the next
morning, and you will have
plenty of time to get home to
Wycombe

Duke of Kent to Capt. G. D. Douglas

(15)

45313

Wyombe by Dinner time —

I remain in the mean while

with sincere regard.

My Dear Sir

Yours faithfully

Edward

Capt Douglas

Kensington Pallast den 6ten August 1814.

Ich habe mit aufrichtiger Theilnahme die traurige Lage vernommen in der Sie Sich befinden und wovon Ihre kürtzlich erhaltenen Briefe vom Januar und May dieses Jahrs Mich benachrichtigt haben. Eine baldige glückliche Änderung derselben wünsche Ich von Herzen, und werde mich freuen wenn ein Geschenck von £20. welches Ich Ihnen durch Meinen Bruder den Herzog von Cambridge zu übersenden gedencke zu einiger Erleichterung derselben beitragen kann. Seyn Sie versichert daß Ich die mir von Ihnen und Ihrem Gemahl während meines dortigen Aufenthalts so oft bewiesene Aufmerksamkeit und Gefälligkeit noch immer im besten Andenken behalte, und daß Ich unter den aufrichtigsten Wünschen für eine bessere Lage stets verbleiben werde

Ihr

Ergebener

Eduard Herzog von Kent

(17)

Duke of Kent to Sir Wm Beechey

45315-6

The Lodge Castle Hill

August 26th 1814

My Dear Sir William;

Madame de St. Laurent not having made that progress in her convalescence which I had been sanguine in hoping she would, when last I saw you, but rather had an accession of fever, which has made her suffer considerably, I shall prefer not leaving home tomorrow, and therefore do myself the pleasure of writing this note to you,

to

(14)

Duke of Kent to Sir Wm Beechey

45316

to apprize you of it, for fear you should expect me: If on Sunday, or Monday I should feel more easy about quitting her, for a few hours, I will then, without fail, send you a Note, to apprize you of the hour, on which you may expect me on Tuesday or Wednesday. In the meanwhile with best remembrance to your Son, and every sentiment of Regard for Yourself.

I remain

I remain,
My Dear Sir William
Yours faithfully
Edward.

Sir William Beechey
&c &c &c

D. of Kent

(18)

Duke of Kent to Lt. Gen. George Cockburn

45317-8

Kensington Palace

14th September 1814

My Dear General

It is at the request of your old Servant Matthew Lipson, that I write to you to day, as he is fearful of your hearing of his not having entered my Service, and of your forming in consequence an opinion unfavorable to him, unless the cause of it be explained to you.

I have therefore, to satisfy the poor man, most willingly undertaken to do this, and may in consequence have to state to you that, after passing a few days here to see the routine of the duties he had to perform, he found from

(18)

Duke of Kent to Lt. Gen. George Cockburn

45318

from a defective sight, and a want of habit in Penmanship and accounts, he could not answer to discharge them with that degree of punctuality, which he was aware I should expect, and with which he would have wished to have executed them; he therefore candidly avowed his strong apprehensions on that head, and requested leave to give up all thoughts of the situation.

Of course I appreciated the poor fellows proper sense of feeling on the occasion, and to prove that I was not offended, as also out of respect for your recommendation of him, I have endeavoured to add my interest into the scale of that of Lord Mera and Sir John Doyle, with Colonel Macmahon, to try to get him some little situation, which might serve as a provision for his declining years, and most sincerely shall I rejoice if it be attended with the desired effect.

I am happy in this and in every opportunity of repeating the sentiments of friendly regard, with which I remain.

My Dear General.

Yours faithfully.

Edward

Lieutenant General Cockburn
&c &c &c

H.R.
Duke of Kent

(19)

Duke of Kent to Prince v. Starhemberg

Ambassadeur d'Autriche
le Prince de Starhemberg —

45319-20

Castle Hill Lodge
ce Mercredi matin 25 Octobre
a 5 heures

Mon cher Prince,

Je viens a l'instant de recevoir votre aimable lettre d'hier; et m'empresse a y repondre avant de partir ici pour Kensington, ayant fort a cœur de vous convaincre que mes sentimens pour vous n'ont jamais changé, et que si j'ai été privé du plaisir de vous voir depuis longtems je n'en ai éprouvé qu'un bien sincere regret. Je vous prie donc de croire, que vous serés toujours le bien venu, et que vos chambres vous en tout tems a votre disposition. Nommés donc un jour prochain pour venir nous voir, Cher

Edouard Duc de Kent

(19)

Duke of Kent to Prince v. Starhemberg

45320

Madame de St Laurent sera aussi charmée que moi de vous recevoir ici et nous tâcherons de vous prouver que votre longue absence n'a rien changé a notre amitié pour vous. Madame de St Laurent est pour le moment fort enrhumée mais comme elle a cinq ou six jours seulement que ça sera passé, si vous voulez nommer aucun jour de la semaine prochaine pour venir prendre la soupe chez nous excepté Mercredi, Jeudi, ou Vendredi, quand je serai necessairement absent, et nous mener aussi Waldstein et Rosenfeld, nous serons on ne peut pas plus heureux de vous posseder. Ayés seulement la bonté d'en avertir Madame de St Laurent, de crainte que je ne fus pas hazard d'aller lorsque votre lettre pourroit arriver. En attendant croyés moi pour la vie, mon cher Prince, avec les sentimens de la plus parfaite amitié et estime

Votre très affectionné
et devoué Edouard Duc de Kent