AA

[?1803]

46084

?1803

Windsor Monday Morning May 30th

Noctock -

My dearest Brother,

I am this instant favoured with your truly kind and affectionate letter of last night, and you will easily believe shall count every moment till tomorrow noon when I am to have the happiness of again meeting my best friend and benefactor. I will now only add, the Prince's reception of me has been truly kind, and his manners affectionate; but he has not touched in the least upon my unfortunate business. William has been over to see me, and he as well as all the girls, and the Queen, me complement

d'ainités: so that as far as my wounded feelings can suffer me
to feel any comfort, I certainly have been highly gratified
since my arrival here. Goddbless you, my dearest and
kindest friend, rely on my faithful and unshaken attach-
-ment while I exist, being ever most devoted by

your most affectionate

Edward

The Duchess of Kent
to
The Prince of Wales
May 30.

My kindest remembrance in Tilney Street when
to be admitted for a moment tomorrow.

Copy. 46085 Horseguards 9th June 1803

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Royal Highness's letter of the 6th Instant which I have transmitted to Lord Pelham, in order for its being laid before His Majesty's Ministers, and I shall not fail to acquaint your Royal Highness with the Result of the Communication —

I remain

Your Roy. Highness's
most affectionate Brother
(Signed) Frederick
Commr in Chief

AA

46086

Castle Hill Lodge Friday morning
June 10th 1803

My dearest Brother,

Having yesterday, as I left Dunnergues about eleven o'clock, with the intention of turning my steps towards Carlton house, scan your Post chaise, and found turn up Half Moon street, I concluded there could not be a chance of my meeting with you at home, and being very much wet I therefore went directly to the Queen's house where I dressed for the Drawing Room. From that time the rain was so incessant, that having no Equipage monté it was impracticable to attempt getting at you, so that when the King's Dinner was over, I made the best of my way home here. I had nothing new relative to myself to communicate, my letter of Monday last remaining yet unanswered from Head

quarters, but I was anxious you should know what had prevented my fulfilling the intention I mentioned in my note to Maxwell of calling on you yesterday. It is most probable I may be detained two or three days here without going into Town, having many letters by me to answer, and some business in my own private concerns to transact; in the mean while, should you have any commands for me, on receiving the slightest intimation of your requiring to see me, I shall at all times quit every thing to attend you.

Pray accept the unavoid apearance of my unalterable and most warm attachment, and believe me ever to be

My dearest brother,

Your most truly affectionate
and most faithfully devoted
Edward.

Pray say every thing that is most kind from me to Mr. Fitzherbert.

The Duke of Kent to Prince Leopold
June 10.

3/

advantage to the Duke — I have not yet thought it necessary to publish your letter to Cobbet as she seems quiet, and as to allusions you mention to have seen about cutting and dressing the hair, they appeared before we married and were too near the truth to meddle with — The letter from the Committee touching respecting the present to H R Hs is not so well expressed, I think, as to merit being printed but when the things are made for H. R Hs (—— what they are to be he has not yet decided) and I present them to him, the world shall know it, and it will have a better effect by and bye than now — The extreme pressure of public business has prevented any thing being done about Rutleigh

I

saw Mr Sergeant Wilde yesterday, who told me said he feared it would not be arranged till Parliament broke up - I shall request the Duke either to speak to, or write to Mr Addington tomorrow, he seems not to wish to communicate personally with him till his own matters are settled - The 5 per cents having been shut, your stock, I understand, is not yet bought in, which is so much the more advantageous to you as they will fall I perceive you had, on the 30 ultimo, no accounts of the war against the French and Dutch, it is said a Spanish one will be shortly declared - I hope by the time this reaches you, you

Castle hill Lodge 8th July 1803

Capt. T. Dodd to Capt. R. Keeling

Dear Knight

Yesterday I had the pleasure to receive your two letters of the 26th of May and 1st June, the Royal Highness also had one from you of the latter date – I cannot tell you how extremely chagrined I feel at the conduct of the persons you mention, but I foresee they will meet their day of reward – I will know your extreme anxiety to hear of whatever relates to the Duke, and tho' matters are not yet brought to a crisis I will briefly relate to you how they at present stand – After he had thrice in the most pressing and urgent manner, requested that he might be allowed to communicate with Ministers on the subject of his recall, he received on the 29 of June a letter from the Duke of Y–, enclosing one from Lord Pelham the purport of which was simply to say that his Lordship having ~~communicated~~ laid before the King H. R. H's letter, and not having received from his Majesty any Commands thereon, he had no enquiries to trouble him with from his Department – Thus you may be sure the Duke did not relish, and he instantly wrote a fourth

letter to his Brother, acknowledging his and Lord Pelham's, the latter he did not scruple to have recourse, but wisely imputing the Lordship's declining to trouble him with inquiries, to the conviction he must feel, that the civil duties of Gibraltar (which only could come within the Lordship's Cognizance) were executed in such a manner as to satisfy him, that no possible blame could attach to H. R. Hs on that head, but at the same time stating to the Duke of Y — that as his letter of recall named his Majesty's Ministers generally, he felt the necessity of all those included on that exception being equally satisfied with his Lordship, and if they were not so, he intimated a personal Communication with them — If however they were disposed to think that his Conduct, during the period of his Command at Gibraltar, merited praise and not censure he trusted that His Royal Highness would then lay his name before the King for some mark of His Majesty's Approbation, without which, his removal from his Government when a War was about to be declared, and remaining at home after that declaration had taken place could only

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indicate his unworthyness to be trusted with the command of so important a fortress as that of Gibraltar – This letter was wrote in a manly and pathetic style, strongly speaking to the feelings of every man who prefered any, but it still remains unanswered – The Duke has lately had a personal Communication with Lord Fitzroy and Mr Yorke on the subject of his return, and he has completely convinced them both of the cruelty of his situation and treatment, and I have no doubt, if the matter comes to be argued by Ministers & they are present, but they will both be strongly his advocates – The Sweating at war indeed, who is a fine manly fellow, at once declared that Lord Pelham's conduct, in not meeting H. R. Hs when he had bun so repeatedly prefered to do so, was weak and cowardly, and he hinted that General B – was not to remain at Gib:– Thus do things at present stand, and you may rest assured that the Royal Highness is determined to follow the business very

Capt. T. Dodd to Capt. R. Wright

closely up, but you know how methodically
he prepares his ideas he undertakes —
I feel much for what the conduct of many
near you must make you suffer, on account
of your connexion with the Duke, but I
hope you will have your triumph in your turn
you may be sure I am all anxiety to return
to my family, for Mrs D—'s situation has grieved
me more than I can possibly describe, but
I cannot quit the Royal Highness at present,
and I know that his own regard for me will
induce him to dispense with my Services
as soon as he can do so — you may rely
on your not being forced to do Captains duty
under Wellington, whose rancour, like Banquo's
wound I believe had him to wrench every man
in the Duke of Kents family — Yesterday I had
the pleasure of hearing from your father
who was very well, he is desirous to know
if you can recover a parcel which was entrusted
to Colonel Barnes for you — they talk
of raising another Battalion and 6 more
Troops, but the men are scarcely to be had —

The 3 per Cents spend the day before yesterday, and now considerably in consequence of a report that Russia is about to negociate a Peace on terms likely to meet the approval of this Country - However I have not much faith in this report - We are preparing against invasion, but I am concerned to see an extreme want of energy amongst those, whose fortunes and situations should induce them liberally and voluntarily to come forward and set a burning example to others - I have not the least doubt but the French will attempt an invasion, and tho' finally their mischief may not be great, they will at first cause much alarm and confusion - No military man has yet turned his attention towards Regiments of Mountaineers & Sharp Shooters who might independently act against an enemy in England with much effect, - a country like this, exactly in the height and not much calculated for either Artillery or Cavalry - and I wish to God they would

lay aside Mr Dundas's slow phlegmatic movements and learn to perform all manoeuvres in the quickest & shortest time possible — with regard to myself nothing has transpired since I last wrote to you, Mr Addington has not yet answered the Duke's letter on the subject, but I am in hopes things will soon be settled, I think you have no chance of seeing Rebecca —

They told me most kindly remembered to Mrs Wright, to beale Pepper & Sweetland — communicate to them how the Duke's affairs stand, if you think it necessary, they need not by any means disparage & seeing R. R. when the fair — Let Mrs Dodd know how things are going on — Dearest Dearbright, most faithfully Yours —

W: Dodd

I have a small Poem for you from Mr Moore which I will forward by the first opportunity it is entitled Glasgow, and is written in the Burns's style a Panegyric as you may suppose on that fair City — W.D.

[? 1802. mistake in date

Carlton house
4 o'clock Friday July 23.

My dearest brother

Agreable to your instructions I take up the pen to acquaint you that my visit to Blackheath this morning went off well beyond my ex=pectations. The Princess received the mes=sage about the excess in her expenditure with great goodhumour, expressed her ac=knowledgments for the communication thro' me, and fully admitted that she could not expect a larger allowance than that she had while youre continued so reduced: she desired I would say, she intended

[? 1802. ? Installation day

to give Colonel Thomas full power to retrench whenever it could with propriety be done, and to force her servants to execute the reform that should be recommended by him in which she requested me to give that advice which my little experience enabled me to do — She then desired me to inform you she proposed reducing her three Ladies Salaries from ~~five~~ to four hundred a year, ~~the~~ the vice chamberlain to the same; her Bed-chamber women from three hundred to two hundred and fifty, and to dismiss Miss Coleman as handsomely as she could altogether that order should also be given to alter those points to which Mr Grey's letter particularly alluded — that as a further proof of her wish to do what might be pleasing to you she would propose Lord Cholmondeley to be no longer one of her trustees, but Lord Eldon in place of him: and lastly that although she had no fault whatever to find with Thomas for any part of his conduct, yet she did not consider him as equal to the task of regulating her household, as having had no experience of that kind; but that if you had no objection she wished to propose Lord Lewisham for the situation held by Thomas, if he would accept of it; that she had long had this intention but having been lately cautioned into the ministry she had, not thought any more of it, least it might be displea-

46096

-sing to you. — I touched on the expen-
-ces incurred by alterations and repairs
to the buildings & on the great number
of company invited to the house, on both
which points she promised to be guarded in
future. — If therefore the Princess
will only have command enough of her-
-self to abide firmly by what she
has said to me she would, I flatter
myself your instructions to me for this
day will have been executed on my part
to your satisfaction, which as you well
know must be most gratifying.

To your most affectionate
and devoted Edward

Duke of Kent
July 23.

Castle Hill Lodge 25th July 1803.

My Dear Augustus

You will perceive from this being written on Dad's hand, that I take advantage of the indulgence you gave me to dictate these lines instead of writing them myself, by which means I shall be able to say more in the short time I can at present devote to you, than otherwise would be the case – Having premised this I shall commence by thanking you for your two very kind letters – one without date, which reached me on the 25th ultimo – the other of the 19th of June received on the 6th Inst: containing an enclosure for the King, which agreeably to your desire has been shewn to the Prince, and subsequently delivered to His Majesty – You will of course long ago have received mine of the 10th of June, so that I shall not repeat anything relative to my Passage, nor indeed anything else that occurred previous to that period, but of myself and my Concerns I will briefly say, that from the 9th of June, when I wrote my first strong remonstrance to the Duke of York up to the 23rd Instant, when I at length obtained an interview with Sir

Pelham. Seven letters passed between the
Commander in Chief, each stronger than the
preceding one, relative to the hardship and
injustice attending my situation, and strongly
hoping for an Investigation of my Conduct,
but without effect. However having at length,
as I before said, accomplished a meeting with
Lord Pelham, I obtained a promise that a
Cabinet Council should be assembled at an
early day when he would convey to them my
unqualified Sentiments, which were briefly ex=
pressed to this effect - viz. - that I could not sub=
mit to the Slur or Stigma which I felt at
present attach to my Character from the
circumstance of being brought away from
Gibraltar in such a manner, and at such
a juncture, unless the same was wiped
away by some public Testimonial of this
Sovereign's Approbation, such as my Promotion
to the Rank of Field Marshal, my Appointment
to the Chief Command of his forces in the Me=
diterranean, and his sanction to return with
this Letter to my Government whenever I
should think fit. But if this was not judged
expedient, that I must insist upon their
recommending to His Majesty a Mode to

afford me the opportunity of having my Conduct publicly investigated – I had previously seen Mr Yorke, the Secretary at War, who seemed to enter very cordially into my feelings, and upon whose Candour I at this moment principally rely for redress – I have since seen Mr Dalrymple, and I know I am also pleased with the manner in which he appears to be impressed with my feelings as to my present Position –

would be made one of early & serious Consi-
deration, and that he would talk over with
some confidential friends what had best
be done. So you see I have not been un-
mindful of your interests, though you are
absent — So much for Business — Of the family
I will tell you, that the King is, thank God, in
perfect health, but evidently very low in Spirits,
and heavily wounded by the loss of Hanover.

Yours
Lauing Sand

Capt. T. Dodd to Capt. R. Wright

London – 4th August 1803

Dear Wright

I have just received your letter of the 9th of June, and understanding that August leaves town tomorrow for Falmouth on his way to the Nore I hasten to acknowledge it – I feel particularly vexed that I cannot communicate good tidings to you respecting your application to succeed Morrisch as Registrar of the Admiralty, but unfortunately before your letters arrived, Lord St Vincent had intelligence of the vacancy and gave it away to Mr Polgrave of

the University of Cambridge — I regret
the business most sincerely, and you
may depend that nothing would have
been wanting on my part to aid
in the accomplishment of your wishes
had the circumstance been known to
us in time — your letter of the 23rd
of June reached us before this of a
prior date, but further when you say
sailed on the 22nd has not yet made
his appearance, the ~~ship~~ Packets
have had long Passages therefore we
cannot expect the fleet would have
very good ones, but I look for the
transport hourly — Since I wrote
you last, this Day, Mr Jones had a
personal interview with Lord Pelham

Capt. T. Dodd to Capt. R. Wright

46100

and decidedly told him that he considered himself as most cruelly treated, that his character during his Recall was blasted in the Eyes of the world, and that he insisted on justice being done to him, which could only be effected by his receiving the Rank of Field Marshall and giving out to Public Letter or the Mediterranean as Commander in Chief, or having a public inquiry into his Conduct. He desired his Lordship to summon the Cabinet & explain his Sentiments to it. This was to have been done a few days ago, indeed the Cabinet met, but as the Devil would have it this Lordship was prevented by illness from attending

and the business was adjourned till he could meet it. The Irish business will cause a second delay, but I hope these things will soon be brought to a decision in a satisfactory way. The Rey Highness is I assure perfectly pacific & decided not at all inclined to compound the Business, which the other Party would, I am sure very gladly do — The Duke of York is the coldest man I ever knew, and never has once offered any kind of Consolation to his Brother, whose letters to him have been feeling beyond your Conception — I am glad to hear you speak as you do of the 54. Regt and rejoice at Rep's promotion, which certainly

46101

has been much owing to the Duke of Kent's report of him, indeed His Royal Highness spoke of it as a matter which he would insist on — with regard to myself I remain much as when I write you last, perhaps something nearer gaining my point — I sent Raleigh to keep him quiet 100 Pounds, and requested him to renew his application to Peter, which he performs against my Expectation did, this has again been put to the Sentry at war and very strongly urged, therefore I hope matters will be soon arranged. I consider this second letter from the old man as a very essential point

gained

to observe in the exercise of that authority

I am Sir

Your Most obedient
Humble Servant

P Pelham

13.

From Lord Pelham
15th August
1812
Respecting the Hate of
the Inns & Garrison

Duke of Sussex.

46103

By the last Packet which arrived two Days ago, I received a long Letter dictated by the Duke. As it gives some Account of the Transactions I have cut off a Part for your Perusal. I am sorry to find Nothing settled yet, but I hope every Thing will at least a Compensation Will be made. The Duke. The 2. Bat. of the Royals has Distinguished itself at Luxor. Lt Colonel Hardman and the Hotes Captain Chalmer both Severely Wounded. The Unfortunate Event of Dublin is a Sad History but fortunate as to the Moment of its breaking out. We are all here perfectly ignorant of our Fate, and from the Wavering State of the Government I presume they themselves know as little what is to become of them, as the most Insignificant Stranger in this Inn. I think General Figg should set up a Communication with this Place for the present It might be of Use to all Parties

The fate of Hanover has been very unfortunate but by a
thinking People forever. Peace remain most true
August the 18th 1843
Lisbon

Augustus Frederick

Gen. Sir Wm Fawcett

46104

Extract of a Letter from General Sir William Fawcett K.B. to His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, dated 1st Sept. 1803.—

I am particularly obliged to Your R.H. for having been so good, as to communicate to me your Military Code of Regulations, & orders for the Garrison of Gibraltar as the perusal of it has afforded me both Edification & pleasure — he Object is that or any other Garrison who makes the exact & regular performance of all the Duties incident to that situation, the primary object of his attention, which he certainly ought to be can set up any just & well founded objections against it. — The fears that Your R.H. must unavoidably have taken in composing so useful

and

15.

Gen. Sir Wm Fawcett to the Duke 1st Sept 1803 Respecting his code of Orders

complete a work do you infinite honor. It was moreover much wanted, as Garrison Duty for want of a more general practice of it in our service, is but very imperfectly understood or attended to except as — Your R. H. p. most meritorious labours therefore for the benefit & instruction of the Army at large in this important branch of His Majestys Service, calls for its most grateful & sincere acknowledgments. —

A true Copy

Arthur
a.d.c.

AA

The Duke of Kent
Sept. 2. 1803

46105-6

Castle Hill Lodge
Friday September 2: 1803.

My dearest Brother

I trouble you with these lines to solicit your acceptance of a Spanish, and an Egyptian Stallion, which have arrived with the Residue of my Cavalry from Gibraltar, having been embarked there purposely for you. The Spaniard is of what is termed la race bleue, reckoned the best in Andalusia; he has one fault in common with every Spanish horse I have met with, that is a heavy head, but a beautiful barrel, and good limbs & he is fully equal to your weight tho' like all the rest of the breed, of low stature.

The Egyptian is but four year old off

AA

The Duke of Kent
Sept. 2d. 1803

46106

and promises to be uncommonly fleet; Lieut. Colonel Moore of the 23 Light Dragoons who procured him for me has assured me he is of a very valuable, and choice breed. I have sent both the Horses to Carlton House, and shall feel highly gratified if they can prove at all acceptable to you; I only wish they were more worthy of him, to whom they are offered but they are the best I was in my power to procure.

I thus beg to inform you that yesterday morning having received notice from Mr. Yorke that the result of the determination of the Cabinet on my business was that they could not consistent with their Duty interfere in it at all, I determined upon treating the Duke of York on it without delay, and he had in consequence a very long conversation together at the Horse Guards, which, as you may suppose was a very painful one to me. However the result of it, as far as my comprehension goes, was decidedly that he should recommend to the King to sanction the conduct of Sir Thomas Trigge in the suspension, and alteration of my code of orders, and consequently be averse to my returning to Gibraltar at all, assuming that my reputation accounted to his mind satisfactorily for the causes of the mutiny. He added that he thought the whole business was a very awkward one, expressed his wish to spare my feelings in it as much as was practicable without deviating from the opinion he had formed, and concluded by appointing me to meet him again

this day week, by which time he wou'd see what cou'd be done in it; at the same time he asked me to come over to Oatlands tomorrow when Their Majesties, and my sisters had expressed their intention of paying their annual visit to the Duchess. By this you will perceive my prospects do not improve, and that I am most probably destined to continue under the sufferance of severe mortifications. The time however, I am sensible, commands me to submit to the evil with patience for the present, and I only live in hope of better ones to come. Should you not have heard it before, I beg leave to inform you that Fox is certainly coming back from Ireland, and Lord Cathcart the man on whom the Cabinet have pitched to succeed him. I conclude

AA

46107

that every attempt will in consequence be made for me to vacate Gibraltar for Fox, who is the person for whom that Government was originally meant in the event of my not having got it when O'Hara died.

I have now only to add my kindest regards to Mr Fitzherbert and to assure you of that unalterable Friendship and attachment with which I shall ever remain, while I live, my dearest Brother

Your most affectionate and faithfully devoted

Edward.

Duke of Kent to Col. J. McMahon.

Carlton House 9th September 1803
½ past 4 P.M.

My Dear Colonel

Not having had the good fortune to meet either the Prince or you at home on my return from Mr Greenwoods, where I was obliged to go upon my own unfortunate business I adopt this mode of acquainting you for the Prince's information, with my having been unable to learn any thing whatsoever relative to the Effects produced by the Prince's last letter

to

H. M. indeed so completely were
my Sisters in the dark about it,
that when I made my enquiries
of them, they told me, they had
themselves intended questioning me
whether the letter had been sent
at all, as nothing relative even
to the receipt of it had in any
shape transpired — As to my
own affairs, they are literally worse
than ever, for the Duke of York
has intimated his intention of

Duke of Kent to Col. J. McMahon.

46109

speaking to the K— relative to them
tomorrow, and I am apt to believe
it will be to obtain his authority
to confirm officially the total dis-
-ousion of any system, as reported
by Sir Thomas Triffe. I conceive
the determination of my not returning
to Gibraltar to be irrevocably fixed,
but that there is no intention of
employing me otherwise, altho'
it is clear from the hints that
are dropt that it is the wish

I should give up Strathaar, but you may assure the Prince, that nothing short of a positive Command from the King will induce me — I am appointed to meet the Duke of York at his Office on half past One on Thursday and do not suppose being in Town again till Monday. It is thought the King, Queen & my Elder Sisters will be at Kew from Wednesday till Friday next, and that a Levee will take place of

46110

the Brigade of Horse Guards under
Lord Cathcart on Thursday — Pray
give the Prince of my warmest
and most faithful attachment,
and believe me to be my Dear
Colonel

Ever yours
most truly
Edward

Colonel McMahon
Prince Le L

The Duke of Kent
to
Colonel McMahon
9. Sept. 1803

Duke of Kent
Sept. 13th 1803.

AA

46111

Carlton House.
Tuesday September 13th 1803.
8 o'clock.

My dearest brother,

Pursuant to your desire I herewith inclose a hasty sketch of my interview this day with the Duke of York, upon which I shall make no comment as the facts speak for themselves. I shall feel highly flattered if my conduct meets with your approbation; at this juncture it appeared to me there was a necessity for it's being in different from what under other circumstances it would undoubtedly have been. My heart is quite broke with all that has passed, and I am quite care worn, in the literal sense of the word, so I trust you will forgive me, if I

only add the repetition of those sentiments of unalterable friendship, and devoted attachment with which I shall ever through life remain

my dearest Brother

your most affectionate
and faithful
Edward

Capt. T. Dodd to Capt. R. Wright.

Isle of Wight 22nd September 1803

My Dear Wright

I left London on the 16th to pass a few days here for the benefit of my health, which, from the confined sedentary life I have led, absolutely required a little Exercise and Sea Bathing — a day or two before I came away I received yours of the 1st of August, by which I still perceive you have not even then got any of my letters, I cannot account for this, they must be in Dogers some where, but I conclude you would have had some by the fleet, which, from Mrs Dodds letter of the 4th of August, appears to have

arrived about the 3. I will now give
you the detail of all the unpleasant bu-
siness that has passed since last I wrote to
you, I mentioned then, that Sir C. was transferred
from the Home Department, where Mr Yorke
presides, to that of Lord Hobart, but that
the former Gentleman, sensible of the Duke's
cruel situation, and of the great delay
which had attended his concerns, had
undertaken to state his situation to the
Cabinet. This he did a few days afterwards
but the answer was "that His Majesty's Con-
fidential Servants did not think themselves
authorised under the present Cir-
cumstances to interfere in the business".
The fact is, that his recall never was
a Cabinet measure, and Lord Pelham
had not authority for writing as he did,

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Capt. T. Dodd to Capt. R. Wright.

46113

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he did,

but he had the support of the Duke of Y—
and that unfortunately appears to have
been sufficient. On the Royal Highness
getting this Answer I urged him strongly
to call upon his Brother, with whom the
Matter seemed to rest, and endeavour
to have some kind of Explanation from
him; this he did about the 2nd or 3rd Instant,
in the Course of this Conversation there
was much heat, and among high
words, his Brother said (what we long
since foretold he would say) that his orders
alone were sufficient to account to
him for the Mutiny, and that he
could not but approve of the Alterations
he made by General Trigge, and
should feel himself obliged to tell the
King so. You may easily conceive how

language like this must have been relished, they parted however in good humour, the Duke off — asked his brother to dine with him (to meet the Royal family) at Oatlands two days afterwards, desired him to call on the next friday week, which must have been about the 9th and he would see what could be done. In the mean time I had several conferences with Wellesley, from whose mode of speaking I could clearly see, that he would neither be allowed to return to Lisbon nor command elsewhere, I urged every argument I could think of on the score of the Service, private & national policy family advantage, in short all that could

5/ 46114-9

be said was said, but the argument against me was that even if the Duke of Yorkwere willing that he should return to the Rank or, if that could not be managed, command in Scotland with additional Rank, Ministers would not think it a safe measure, considering the ticklishness of the times. I saw it was a matter decided, but anxious the result of the meeting, which was postponed till the Tuesday following the Friday, that the Duke of Y. might see the King on the intervening Sunday. On the Tuesday (the 13) they met. The Comr. in Chief told his Brother that Her Majesty had been pleased to sanction the cancelling of such Orders as had been suspended by Sir Thomas, he said this should be

done in the most delicate manner & took to himself much merit for his intention of not introducing the Duke of K.'s name into the letter to be written. He said there was no opening for employment for H. R. Hs at home, and from his feelings he would now be the best judge how far he could consistently return to Gibraltar — I had strongly impressed on Ha Regal Hs' mind the propriety of holding forth his willingness to go even at all points to the Rock, for I am convinced it was expected he would give up the Government in a pet, and I know it was intended for Fox, who is to be rewarded because he was caught

napping in

Ireland, while the other is to be punished
for being too much awake. His Royal
Hs therefore replied, that he would
not commission his Brother to say to
the King that he insisted or wd tender
his Services back to the Rock, but that
he wished His Majesty to be informed,
that he was ready to return if re-
quired, or to undertake any other
Service. This I hope will pressure to
turn the Government, and perhaps
by auf bye they may bestow upon him
something else to make way for
a favorite. I need not say to you
how severely he feels all that has
happened, his Spirits are very much
affected

and he scarcely knows how to act. He looks up to the Prince, who I believe is much attached to him, and by his advice it is in some degree policy to be governed. As it appears I can be but of little use to H. R. H. now, I shall endeavour to bring my own matters to an issue, & I hope to see you in Stuttgart at farthest. I should like to know what steps you would wish me to take about yourself, for God knows if he will be allowed his Staff Pay much longer, or even one June. If I take my departure for Eng. before I hear from you in answer to this I shall carry you if possible a discretionary

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have to come to England — Have the Goodness to read to Mrs Dodd how things are with regard to the Duke, 'tis too painful a Subject for me to recapitulate to her on paper. I can give you no News, excepting the Rebels retiring on his Rear, and an additional Battalion to be raised as to Politics I am quite in the dark, not having seen a paper since I have been here — Remember me most kindly to Mrs Wright, & believe me ever yours

most faithfully

W. Dodd

23d. Soon this moment favored with your letters of the 4. 17. 25. and 27 of August. It is

incomprehensible to me that so few of my letters have reached you and it must have appeared very strange that I did not write but the same has been the case by every opportunity, I fear Freelings Clerks have been inattentive. The letter to the Duke of Sussex is I believe written by me, and I perfectly remember writing to your Mrs D— by the same opportunity. But my letter from Falmouth, which I gave myself to the Agent of Packets, only reaching Mrs Leodo on the 27th of August, shews how incorrect & negligent he has been — I do not think that Ramsey will remain long with Lord Chas Somerset, for I have two old acquaintances the one his Aide de Camp and the other his Major of Brigade, who have spoken in the handsomest terms of the Duke, and under Mrs Lendship is so strong an Advocate for his System, that he has requested as a most particular favor that Adjt Robertson may instruct his Regiment, or rather Brigade, in it and this he is now doing — with regard to

But I hope to God he may be removed but I must candidly tell you, that H. R. H. has by his first letters from Gib.r established the Blockheads character at the expence of his own, & whatever he now says against him I clearly perceive the Duke of Cumberland to be actuated by motives, this I long since foresaw & hinted to him would be the Case, and I do not know how he will be got rid of unless we can send him to the W. Indies with the local rank of Lt Gen.l – Sir Thos will certainly get the first vacant 20 shilling Government & Fort be appointed Lt Gov.r of the Rock, perhaps he may wish his own ~~[illegible]~~ Aide de Camp with him & that may displease Barnet, but I shall be able to judge of this better when I return to London which I hope will be in about 14 days or less –

As your letters seem a little to expect the Royal Mss's return, I feel much for what you will suffer when this reaches you, but bid desponding! there may be something in store for her state, and he will never be unmindful of your attachment to him - It is useless to regret the past or take a retrospect of it, but I cannot help reflecting how differently situated he would at this moment have been had he but attended to our advice which was so frequently given him, that desire of command which in Princes, who cannot look forward to thrones, is paramount to every thing, will nine times out of ten destroy them; for they count complacement, and rather than be

quiet they meddle and make in every thing — letting the Duke of Cl— a who is now in a red Coat frasting with and drilling 3 or 400 tradesmen who ought to have been commanding the Navy of his Country — I do not think the K— approves of the way the Duke of K— has been treated, but his mind is no longer vigorous and at his age he prefers quiet to every thing else.

I do not like the fostering the Bl. family are on with each other, which I fear the Nation may one day or other seriously, Ministers see and take the advantage of it — I am well aware of the trouble you must have in the

Office, & how ever you would be if any thing happened to Lovaing, I can only say how grateful I feel for what you do for me, and so does the Duke too on whose business I came home. I can see you I know had work enough & unfortunately my health suffers from it — I shall do all I can to get to you & relieve you as soon as possible — I pray you again to remember me most kindly to Mrs W. and to all those interested in the Duke's welfare, and believe me ever most faithfully yours

Jno Wm Todd

Capt. T. Dodd to Capt. R. Wright.

46119-20

Isle of Wight 28th Sept.
1803

Dear Wright

Since I wrote to you a few days ago I have received your letters of the 7th and 22nd ult.o my last goes by Captain Parker of the Amazon, who will also take chase of this - I really feel so much for the pain & disappointment you must experience in having the cruel & unjust treatment H. R. H. has met with, that I know not what

consolation to offer you — It will also require some address to prevent a triumph on the part of his enemies, therefore I would not seem to give up the Idea of his Return, I have rather encouraged it in my letter of this day to Trials, with whom I have not entered into much Matter touching the Duke, thinking it best that you should say, what you, from Circumstances, shall deem best — As His Royal Highness has not written to me since I have been here, I conclude nothing has

Capt. T. Dodd to Capt. R. Wright.

transpired since I left him; but that
things are exactly in statu quo —
It is incredible the number of enemies
he has in this Country, his Severity
is in every Person's mouth, man
woman & child; and I much
fear the Sent. in Chiefs language
is, that it is not safe to employ one
so obnoxious to the Army — In spite
of all that has happened, in the
event of a Spanish war I sincerely
urge his return, it must be mor-
tifying, but it may restore his
credit —

I will now ride to where the Amazon lies, which is about 9 miles from hence, and will write a few lines when on board to Mrs Reed —

Remember me most kindly to Mrs Wright, & believe me

ever most faithfully

Yours

Wm: Reed

When last I heard from your father he was well, I acquainted him of what had happened. & I am sure he felt it sincerely —

AA

46121-2

Castle Hill Lodge
27th of September 1803

Dear Captain Wright

Dodd, whom I commissioned to acknowledge every communication, with which I have been favored by you, previous to your letters of the Month of August, all of which from the 4th to the 17th I have now before me, will have fully acquainted you, I conclude, with all my proceedings, and have informed you that, if I did not write myself it was solely because, I had nothing pleasant or satisfactory to relate. — From his letters you will have learnt, that no effort was left by me untried, no exertion unused, to bring my conduct at Gibraltar to an investigation, the result of which could not have failed of being honorable to myself, and completely satisfactory to all my friends, and well wishers; but so determined an opposition was made to this by the Commander in Chief, I presume, that after every pretext was spent that could lead to delay, I was at length informed, on the 9th of this Month officially, that the Cabinet did not conceive that consistent with its duty, it could interfere with the business at all, and that the words used by the late Secretary of State for the Home department, communicating His Majesty's pleasure for my Return, were the same always used to Governors or Commanders in Chief

when

when it was judged expedient to call them Home from their Commands from motives of Policy, without attaching any censure to their conduct, and consequently without intending to require, or allow of an investigation — This compelled me at length to demand an audience of the Duke of York, a measure I never should otherwise have taken, since, when I had previously seen him on the 3rd of June, at his Office, he had himself shewn the greatest disinclination to enter into a discussion upon the subject in question; by never suffering a word to escape his lips that had any connexion with it — The meeting took place the same day, as that communication was made to me, which I have just related to you; it lasted two hours and was, as you may suppose, of a most painful and unpleasant nature, for it gave occasion to a great deal of warmth, which between Brothers ought never to be the case. The result of it was briefly this, he condemned my Conduct from first to last, as marked by cruelty and oppression, to those causes he said, he ascribed the origin of the Mutiny, and intimated his intention of submitting to The King, Sir Thomas Sugges Report upon my Code of Orders, and recommending it to His Majesty, to authorise him to confirm the alterations which the Lieutenant Governor had made in many Articles, and to cancel those which he had provisionally suspended. A hint followed this, that probably under such circumstances, it might not be pleasant for me to return, and that it was suppose

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46122

I should not like to retain the Government.

To the two first observations I replied naturally as my feelings dictated, and complained of the manifest injustice there was in condemning me unheard, but this seemed to have no effect whatever. — With respect to the intention he had expressed relative to my orders, I endeavoured to obtain that they should first be submitted to the examination of a Board of General Officers, but he replied that he considered himself perfectly adequate to pass a determination upon them without consulting any one else. Upon the latter subject of the conversation viz.t the hints relative to my vacating the Government, on account of the unpleasantness that must attend my Return to it, after the Lieutenant Governor had obtained tantamount to the annihilation of my Code, I never made any reply what-soever for obvious reasons. — The conversation concluded by my being informed that I should be again sent for shortly, and that till then I must wait in patience. The next day I saw Mr Greenwood with whom I had a long interview, and who appeared perfectly disposed to urge the Duke of York, to abandon his intentions with regard to my orders, upon the score of the dangerous example it would be to the Service, exclusive of the wound it would inflict on my feelings, and I was led to imagine that, if it was judged expedient, that I should not immediatly return to the Garrison, I should either be named to the Command of the Forces in North Britain, or be sent to Malta as Commander in

in Chief in the Mediterranean, is now to prevent illiberal remarks being made on my nonresidence at my Government. But having seen him on a subsequent day, I found that he had in vain pressed these different points, and though the Commander in Chief appeared deeply agitated at all he had said to him by my directions, he had gained no ground whatever — A fresh attempt was made by Mr Greenwood on the 12th, but equally without success, and on the 13th, I was summoned to the Horse Guards, when with evident confusion, and the greatest awkwardness I ever beheld in any Man, the Commander in Chief communicated his letter to Sir Thomas Sligge, which exactly corresponded with what he had at our first meeting intimated to be his intention of conveying to that Officer — My Name however was totally left out in it, and he took much merit to himself for his forbearance. His Majesty's name being made use of in the dispatch, I felt it my duty, having fortunately a perfect command of myself to state, that I should ever bow to his Commands with humble submission, and without a remonstrance, but that I must deeply lament, that misrepresentation, dictated by malice and conveyed in the dark should have had weight enough upon the Duke of York's mind, to induce him to recommend to His Majesty to sanction an Act the most cruel, the most unjust and the most arbitrary any

Officer

Officer had been experienced. I then with great composure observed to him, that however I might feel after what had passed, it was still my wish that he should report to The King, my readiness to go out to Gibraltar, whenever he thought proper, that I was ready for it at the shortest notice, and therefore only waited for his commands to that effect. The surprise evinced when I made use of these words is not to be described, (for it was fully expected that I should throw up the Government at once). However as I begun to feel rather roused beyond what it might have been prudent to shew. I then withdrew, leaving the Commander in Chief, as I have since found by his own confession to one of my Sisters, painfully confounded at the coolness and determination with which I had received his communication to me; and thus matters stood at this moment between him and me. I have since seen both Mr Addington and Mr Greenwood, and to both I have stated least my forbearance hitherto should be misconstrued, that were I simply an individual, and to consider only my feelings as an Officer, no earthly tie should induce me to remain any longer in the service, after the infamous injustice I have experienced at the hands of the Officer at the head of it, but as The Kings Son, at a moment of awful crisis like the present, and when it is of the utmost consequence that His Majesty's family should at least appear united, that I felt it incumbent upon me to stifle my own feelings, and to refrain from an act that

might

might wound him deeply, that the same motive had led me to form the resolution, from which nothing should divert me, of immediately resigning the Government of Gibraltar, but that if the same power, that had hitherto been used to oppress me, were equally exerted to induce His Majesty to take it from me, my feelings could not withstand such an indignity, and this act should be followed by the instant resignation of every Commission I held, and a publication to the World how I had been used and of my motives in relinquishing that service, to which I had devoted the best years of my life so fruitlessly to my interest. Whether this will or not make the party that has hitherto so prevailed against me, alter from their determination of wresting Gibraltar from me, I cannot at present say, for all has been quiet since then, but the Government of Gibraltar was certainly already promised to General Fox as his reward for having nearly lost Ireland by his supineness. It is possible they may be satisfied after giving Sir Thomas Trigge the first 20 Thousand Government that falls vacant, with appointing Fox Lieutenant Governor, and sending him out to command and enjoy there with that commission the Staff Pay of Lieutenant General, the Bat and Forage as Commander in Chief, and the £3000 a year for his Table expences; but after what I have already experienced I should not be surprised at any thing they

they may do. Were I to write to you volumes I could not make you more completely master of my situation up to this day. If a Spanish War takes place, which, from what unaccountable feeling I know not, His Majesty's Ministers seem most anxiously to avoid, I shall again renew my offer of returning to Gibraltar, but I cannot pretend to form any idea, how it may be received — The kindness I receive from the Queen, the Prince, and every member of my family and all my old Military friends, is not to be described, and the personal goodness of the King was never more marked than it has been from the moment I my return, and continues to be, which is as much as a tacit avowal that he laments in his heart the part they make him take. The very Officers of all the Regiments that have returned from Gibraltar are so grateful for the superiority they now feel above every Corps they meet, from the perfect knowledge they have of their duty, that they express themselves every where with enthusiasm as to the obligation they conceive themselves to be under to me, and none more so, than those of the Welsh Fusiliers, in short if you except the circles about the Horse Guards and those immediately dependent on the smiles of that commander in chief, there is not an Officer of any respectability in the Service, that has not expressed himself most warmly in my behalf, and who does not reprobate the Conduct that has been adopted towards me. I shew you the opinion which the most experienced Officer in our Service, Sir

William

William Fawcett (who was upwards of 30 years Deputy Mountain and Adjutant General) entertains of my Code, I herewith send you a Copy of his Note to me upon returning the Book, that I had sent him at his own express desire. I think you will admit after that, that I have no reason to be ashamed of my labors on that occasion —

Of General Barnett's conduct, I can assure you, there is but one opinion, and I believe there is scarcely a Character in the Army at present more despised by every well thinking Man than his. I do not think his triumph will be long, indeed had Gibraltar remained under the Home Department, I am confident Mr Yorke would have made a point of his removal.

Captain Ramsay will, I have reason to believe, be ordered back to Gibraltar, for the Duke of York does not chuse that any Officer, belonging to a Regiment in that Garrison, should be on the Staff there, unless he has the Kings Commission, and even Captain Maule, who was Major of Brigade, has been obliged to vacate his situation and is now going out. At all events Captain Ramsay will not be in Lord Charles Somersets Family, for that Officer has appeared to be on the most intimate terms with me. I have thought it my duty to convey to him my opinion relative to him.

in

in consequence of which, even if the Duke of York should consent to his staying at home, His Lordship has declared he will have nothing to do with him. –

Dodd has been absent for this fortnight past, bathing at the Isle of Wight, to endeavour to get the better of the Ulcer on his Arm which has again broken out and was very troublesome to him on his return from thence, and the Treasury board will probably be assembling, or at latest in a fortnight or three weeks time when I shall make a last attempt to carry the business through with respect to the Secretaryship, and upon the result of that will depend my determination, relative to his immediate return or otherwise to the Rock –

I lament from my heart, that Sir Thomas Sugge, whom I am very ready to consider as an honorable Man, should have been so weak as to become the dupe of General Barnett. If he had only had common firmness and resolution, and as much activity as was necessary to have made him see things with his own eyes, all would have been well, but unfortunately his indolence has been the cause of much coyl, and I hope it may not eventually bring ruin and disgrace upon himself. Is it not singular that he has not even had the civility to write me once or send me a single report since I left the Rock? –

Yours