Castle Hill Lodge
29th of July 1804

Dear Captain Wright.

I embrace the opportunity of my old and worthy friend Lieutenant Colonel John Smith of your Corps, who leaves London to morrow to proceed on his route to Gibraltar, there to relieve Lieutenant Colonel Wellington, to acknowledge your letters of the 14th 17th 18th and 25 ultimo the three former of which inclosing the first, second, and third of Exchange for £600 reached me successively on the 15th, 20th and 28th instant, on the latter of which days your last also came to hand covering the first of Exchange for £918 .. 4 .. 8. These supplies I can assure you came very seasonably for me to square accounts with my banker, and I esteem myself much obliged to you for

the

dispatch with which you have transmitted the several sums, after you were enabled to get the Bills for their amount. I am however a little disappointed at your not having been able to send at the same time the balance of what is due to me from the Revenues up to the close of last year, as the same order from the Treasury which established what I was to receive, also pointed out that, if the Revenue at any time was insufficient to pay me the Kings Extra allowance, the General Officer Commanding should grant a Warrant on the Military Chest to pay me the balance that was due. However, I conclude much longer delay cannot arise in settling this, as Dodd, who was perfectly au fait at every particular connected therewith, and who knew how necessary the supply must be to me, (who have voluntarily tied up two thirds of my Parliamentary income for the next seven years in order to clear

myself

with my Creditors) must have reached Gibraltar very shortly after the date of your last. This I calculate, first from his having sailed on the 10th ultimo, and then from knowing, that the Brash Sloop reached Lisbon on the 6th Instant, after having left the Ambuscade in the Gut standing in for Gibraltar. I trust therefore the next arrival from the Mediterranean will bring me accounts of his having got safe to his destination, and some substantial proof that he has attended to my concerns. As Captain Gathorne only went over to Lisbon to attend the Duke of Sussex on his passage to England, it is probable he will be here before the 16th of August, the day on which the Bill for £600 will become payable at the Pay Office. He will therefore be enabled to give his own receipt as well as Mr Wetherall for his proportion of the Bat and Forage Money

which will be paid him by my Bankers Messrs Thomas Coutts & Co. from I have authority to draw the whole.

General Fox being a favorite at Head Quarters, and this being time of War which is the direct reverse of what was the case in April 1802, is permitted to remain at Home till Michaelmas, in order that he may be enabled to attend to his private affairs, to avoid the hot season, and to take his Wife and family out with him. But orders are sent out for the immediate return of Sir Thomas to England to attend as an Evidence at the trial of the Honorable Colonel Cochrane Johnstone and the Command ad interim will devolve on the Block, who, in time of peace, you will recollect, was considered to be so little qualified for that important trust, that it was the plea, on which I was hurried out, and

much

to my inconvenience; however I do not think it will be in his power to injure either you or Dodd, as I have recommended you both so warmly to Colonel Smyth, whom I have also apprised of the Major General's character and conduct towards me, and of both your situations with respect to him, as being attached to me; that, from the assurances I have received from that respectable Officer and most worthy Man, I feel confident you will ever find him a firm and steady friend. He will take with him the Soup Tureen and Ladle destined for the Officers of the 54th Regiment, and another for Captain Parker of the Amazon, which he is desired to deliver into the joint hands of you and Dodd. The former you will consult together about the handsomest and proper mode of presenting it to the Corps, and especially to those Officers of it, who were in the Garrison on the 24th of December 1852.

under the command of our gallant friend Lieutenant Colonel Ross, whose name, you will perceive, I have pointedly mentioned in the inscription, as unfortunately for the Regiment, he now no longer is in it. The Letter, as I do not myself intend writing to Dodd till I hear from him, you will desire him from me to forward to Captain Parker, by the first Man of War that goes aloft, and to accom-
-pany it with a letter conveying the appe-
-rance of my kind remembrance. Sergeant Cluff is at present remaining with the Band, till the event of the new arrange-
-ments is known, which is to decide whether I am to have Depot Battalions attached to my two established ones or not, according to what His Majesty's has been pleased to express, as being his wish and inclination; for, if one or more Battalions should be to be raised, it would be a pity not to take advantage of his talents in

disciplining

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the new levy, before he is sent to join the first Battalion in the West Indies.

It is finally settled that Colonel Gordon succeeds Colonel Clinton, (who goes Quarter Master General to Ireland) as Military Secretary to the Commander in Chief. Lieutenant Colonel MacDonald of my Second Battalion has at last fallen a sacrifice to the ravages of the West Indian Climate; he died on the 7th ultimo, on the eve of embarkation for Europe, most sincerely lamented by all who knew him, and by none more than myself; indeed to the Corps he is an irreparable loss, as they will again fall into the hands of Mr Duncan Campbell, whose Command certainly was has been while it lasted, and ever will be the ruin of the Corps.

The Kings health continues much the same as when I last wrote, he himself

talks of going to Weymouth as soon as Parliament is up which will take place in the course of the ensuing week, but I am rather apt to think that he will be strongly advised against it on every account. The Middlesex election, which is held at Brentford, obliged the family to leave Kew for Windsor ten days since, and my private opinion is that they will not change their residence so soon again. I pass two or three days of each week with them, and the rest of the time very tranquilly here, and go as seldom to London as possible.

Having now nothing further to add but my kindest remembrance to Dodot, I shall conclude by subscribing myself with friendship and regard

Dear Captain Wright

Ever Yours

Most Sincerely

Edward

P.S.

P.S. The four inclosed letters you will oblige me by giving to Dodd; the three first one not for himself need only be put in the Post Office, the other is from Lander to him, and I particularly wish he should attend to the contents of it; I believe its principal object is to procure a free passage in some storeship coming home to Deptford, for some Bales containing White Sheeting, which, as they could not be parted with there, he is anxious to get home, being certain of a ready market here, and were he to be obliged to pay for their freight it would do him considerable injury. E

From Mr Bellegham
the 29th July 1806
by Lt. Ogilvie

46230-1 now follows 46101

AA

46227-8

The Duke of Kent
to Castle Hill Lodge
The Prince of Wales
Aug.t 4.th 1804.

Saturday August 4th 1804

My dearest Brother,

Having seen the K— on Tuesday when he went to the House, as well as at St James's the same day both before and after, and, since that, passed Wednesday and Thursday at W—r, it was my full intention to have recalled myself to your recollection yesterday, but was unexpectedly prevented by William's calling in at the hour when I should have so employed myself, and thus unfortunately missed the Post. To make amends however for this involuntary delay on my part, I now take up my pen to

inform you that I do not think the removal from K—w to W—r has done any good, on the contrary, I apprehend it has done already a great deal of harm, and is likely to do much more. There has undoubtedly been far more hurry and agitation, at times, since he left the former place, than was ever visible there, and altho' we are not yet as much hurried as we were at the commencement of February, I am certain any shock, or perhaps even the total departure of Dr. Sy—s would bring all on again. There are days, no doubt, when I defy any man to make a remark upon any one point being wrong, but in general, he shews an irritability that is not natural, and his plans, and schemes are without number. At the P—t H—e I thought he delivered his Sp—h (with the exception of what was certainly the effect of mere accident, I mean, the omission of some lines owing to the leaves sticking together) stronger, and with more energy than ever I heard him before, but whether that was natural, or the reverse, I will not pretend to assert. In short, I am clearly of opinion, we have not gained an inch since we left K—, and the whole state is very precarious. Sy—s lodges in the Cste, and is not even throughout the day, nor does he visit his patient, but

after he returns to his room at night, which is commonly a quarter past ten. In the course of Wednesday night he told me he had again been pushed by the C—r about seeing you, before he went to W—r, and that he had decidedly said, nothing should shake his resolution of doing no one thing, and of not stirring from W—r till he was completely liberated by the removal of S—do, but I do not think he named you with the least acrimony or ill humour.

So much on this subject, upon which whatever I know further, I hope, with your leave to communicate personally on the 12th when I mean to be with you at Brighton for a couple of days, and to bring the Duke of

The Duke of Kent
to
The Prince of Wales

AA

Orleans with me, should it be agreable to you
Between this time and then, I propose
passing a couple of days again at W—r, next
Tuesday being Amelia's birth-day, who
as well as Mamma and little Sophy desire
a million of loves to you. The conduct of
the latter of these in her rides with the
King, whenever your name has been men-
tioned, is beyond any praise, for the spirit
with which she has spoken out, and the real
genuine unaffected attachment she has
evinced towards you, and I should be very
deficient in what I feel for you both, did I
not name it to you as it merits; I hope I
have not gone too far in assuring her, that I

had already acquainted you with it, and that you had commissioned me to say, that, to the last hour of your existence, you would never forget it. It is now time to spare you the trouble of reading any more, so for the present, I will only desire to be most kindly and particularly remembered to Mr Fitzherbert, and conclude by assuring you that my warm and devoted attachment for you will never cease but with my existence, and that you will ever find me, as I ever shall profess to be, my dearest brother,

Your most affectionate and faithful

Edward

Madame de Flaumont écrira que le Prince de Galles voudra bien accepter l'assurance de son souvenir respectueux et l'offre de ses hommages

Augustus was to embark the 25th, and at this season, from twelve to fifteen days, is a common passage —

AA

Prof. Aspinall says this should be dated Aug 10. 1803 (not 1804)

Castle Hill Lodge

Wednesday Evening August 10th

My dearest Brother,

It is with infi-nite regret I find myself deprived of the pleasure I had looked forward to with so much joy, that of paying tomorrow, and your birth-day, at Brighton: but the de-termination of His Majesty to go to the house on Friday, on which occasion I understand it is considered an indispen-sable duty on our part to attend him renders the thing altogether impracticable. I have heard that the Duke of York, and Adolphus intend rattling down after the attendance on the King is over, but

AA

Prof. Aspinall says this should be dated Aug 10. 1803 (not 1804)

as their object is to see the troops out the ensuing morning, and in my present situation, je n'ambitionne pas de briller en initiant a pareille fête sous les auspices du chef actuel, I know you will approve of my not doing the same: but notwithstanding that I shall not have the happiness of giving you joy in person on the 12th of that happy day, I trust you will do me the justice to believe that of the whole family none will wish you every blessing and comfort this world can afford, and very many returns of the day each happier than the preceding, with more warmth and sincerity than myself, whose firm profession through life will ever be that of the most faithful, and devoted attachment to you. I was commissioned jointly by Mary and Amelia to give you a small snuff box, as a token of their love and affection, and to say they knew you would take the will for the deed, but I shall now transfer the commission to Adolphus. Allow me to offer my kindest remembrance to Mr. Fitzherbert and believe me ever to be with unalterable attachment, my dearest brother

your most affectionate
and devoted Edward

Madame de St. Laurent desires me to express her best wishes also, and to offer her kindest compliment upon the 12th.

The Duke of Kent
to
The Prince of Wales
Aug.t 10.th 1804

46230-1 now follows 46101

AA

46232-3

Castle Hill Lodge
Monday August 20th. 1804.

My dearest Brother,

Agreable to your desire of finding, on your arrival in Town to day a letter from me, I take up my pen to inform you of my having sent off by express the instant I arrived here, on Saturday, from Windsor, your letter for the Queen, as well as that to me (to be shown all our Sisters) concerning both to the charge of that clever little thing and my first favorite Sophy. By the two paragraphs I have cut out of her notes of Saturday night, and of Sunday to me, and Amelias letter for you, together with a paragraph

what I have also taken out of her last to me you will perceive that I have fully executed your commission, as nothing can be more uneqivocal than the sentiments, both of the Queen, and of all the sisterhood with respect to You, or than the effect produced upon the whole of them by your letter. I desired Macmahon to tell you that in the ten days during which I did not see the King, I found an astonishing change for the worse, as his manner was so much more hurried, his conversation so infinitely more light, and silly, his temper so much more irritable, besides a strong indication of fever on his cheek, a return of that dreadful saliva, of the strong bilious eye, and of numberless symptoms, that manifested themselves last February, and were the forerunners of the serious attack. Since that, I find matters have not got at all better, and indeed that his levity rather increases from his being elated at Symmonds, and all his followers laugh him. In short, I conceive that there are odds of a thousand to one, that the Weymouth journey, which certainly takes place on Friday will bring matters to a crisis, from which the worst consequences are to be apprehended. As Augustus goes up to see you, and will of course talk matters very fully over with you, besides which, I expect to see Macmahon, I shall add no more at present, reserving what I have further to say till we meet tomorrow at Bushey, except just

that which, I trust, tho' the burthen of every one of my letters, you will not think, the lip service; I mean the apearance of those warm sentiments of heartfelt love and attachment for you that can cease but with my existence, and with which it will ever be my first pride to subscribe myself my dearest brother,

Your most affectionate
and faithfully devoted
Edward.

The Snuff Box that accompanies this is from our dear Amelia she says, for her Eau de Mel

His Duke of Kent
Aug: 20th 1804

Castle hill Octob^r 27.th 1804.

Dear Captain Wright,

Being in hourly expectation of hearing from the Isle of Wight, that my letter must instantly be sent off, not to miss the Convoy, and being apprehensive that, after the Family return from Weymouth, which will take place about the middle of next week, it may not be in my power to write again for some time, I will no longer delay thanking you for your letters of the 5.th 8.th & 23.d of August, and of the 20.th September, the three former of which reached me on the 24.th ult.o & the latter on the 10.th instant; I shall now reply to them in succession.

Sir T. Trigge having sent me no acknowledgement whatever of the letter Dodd took out with him from me, I conclude he found himself incapable of meeting my retort, and therefore I suppose the matter will rest there. I am extremely thankful to you for the very interesting inclosure contained in your letter of the 5.th of August, which I still hope to be able to make use of to some good purpose, in the event of the recent Captine of the Spanish treasure Ships being followed, as one may reasonably expect, by a war with that Power. Dodd to whom I have written, will communicate to you

what I have hitherto done, in this very interesting business, but I believe I forgot to mention that when I pressed the Minister upon the subject of my return to Gibraltar, in case of a rupture with your Neighbours, I pointed out to him, that abstracted from every personal consideration, I had the public service in view, in following up the two objects, which You & I have so often spoken of together, and which formed the principal subject of the letter I allude to, but that dispatch and secrecy, when the measure of War was decided upon, could alone insure success. This seemed to strike him, and I should hope, on this ground, it may be possible to move him; at least if I fail, it shall not be for want of making every possible exertion to effect my return, as there is nothing I have so much at heart as that; feeling most forcibly that it ought on every account to take place; You may however rest secure that I have not entered into any discussion of our plans, so far as to enable others, from any thing I have dropped, to turn them to their own advantage. The Commander in Chief whom I yesterday saw accidentally, expressed himself perfectly satisfied of the necessity of a very considerable addition to the Barracks at Gibraltar, and made no objections to the site of Windmill hill, except that he had been told that it was greatly too windy, which is the old story, than which You and I who know the truth, must be well convinced nothing can be more futile, not to say false. On the subject of Mr. Sweetland's

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representation to Sir T. Trigge, relative to my Contingent Allowance as also with respect to his Fees, I shall be very much mistaken if at some future day, that Gentleman has not occasion very bitterly to repent his Conduct, which evidently proceeded from no other motive than the fear of losing the per Centage, he has hitherto always received from the Officer Commanding the Garrison of Gibraltar for collecting his fees. It is probable I may have occasion myself to bring the matter forward at some future day, when I shall certainly avail myself of the information you have conveyed to me on this head. I am much obliged to you for the perusal of General Villettes's letter, that worthy Man and inestimable friend of mine, seems highly delighted with your attention in corresponding with him; so pray continue to do the same whenever opportunities offer. By this time, I hope, the Mess of the 54th Regmt have received their piece of Plate, and I long to hear from you whether it was acceptable. What you mention of Sir Thomas's neglect of the Princes Birth Day, does not surprise me at all, for the public observance of it, was one of the things established in my Code of Orders, which was of itself alone, sufficient to ensure its being cancelled. Your letters for General Ogilvie and your Father were forwarded as soon as received, and from the letter I now inclose to you one in return. I trust I need scarcely say with how much

concern I hear, of the dreadful malady that has afflicted the Garrison, and that I am anxious beyond any thing I can express to receive further accounts, for I have as yet nothing later than Some of the 25th Ult.o I firmly believe your opinion as to the original cause of the disorder, to be perfectly well founded, altho I conclude every possible pains will be taken to prove the reverse. Cleanliness in every climate is essential to health, but in that of Gibraltar above all, where a neglect of it, and in addition to that, the execrable practice of multiplying the huts, that are the receptacle of every thing infamous on the face of the Earth, is of itself sufficient to breed a pestilence at any time. Amongst the number of death you have mentioned I sincerely regret poor old Wyatt who certainly was a faithful old Servant, but as to Mills of de Rolls, the execrable wretch whence was in my service, he is a good riddance as a more vicious, unprincipled Man never existed. I heartily hope your next communication will set me easy with respect to the state of all my friends upon the Rock, for at present I cannot help feeling a degree of apprehension about them, that it is difficult to describe. In short I fear for you all more than I can express, and as a proof of the sincerity of what I profess, I am ready at this moment to embark, notwithstanding the Disorder, whenever permission is granted me to that effect.

Nothing further at present occurs to my recollection, that

worthy of being added, as the public papers will convey all public & political News, and of a domestic nature, there is nothing particularly interesting to communicate; I shall therefore now only assure you of the continuance of my most friendly regard and esteem, and conclude by subscribing myself with these sentiments,

ever Yours
most faithfully and sincerely.
Edward

P.S. Pray tell Josphson, I have rec.d his of the 10.th Ult.o & shall acknowledge it as soon as possible.

Captain Dright.
R.l Reg.t of Artil.y
Gibraltar.

From the Duke
October 27th
1861

46237

Kensington Palace
2nd of November 1854

Dear Wright.

Having written to you so recently as the 27th ultimo, I now give you these lines in haste to inform you that last night I received your Note of the 28th of September covering one for your worthy father, which shall this day be forwarded to Glasgow. You will easier imagine, than I can describe, how anxious I am about you all, and how indignant about Sir Thomas Tripp's truly infamous conduct. Dodds letter I have already sent to the Commander in Chief through Gordon <u>privately</u>, and given as strong a hint as I could of the apprehension I felt of his having been cruelly deceived as to the <u>real</u> state of the Garrison, and my opinion as to the urgency of instantaneous steps being taken for your relief.

Heaven alone knows whether I shall be attended to.

I most devoutly hope you and all our friends will escape this scourge, though I cannot help trembling each time a letter arrives from the Rock to hear of the loss of some one or other of them —
I trust I need hardly add that there is none more interested about you than myself, being ever with the most friendly regard and esteem

Dear Wright

Yours
Most Sincerely
Edward

P.S. I trust the Inhabitants are convinced, were I with them in this Calamity, no power should induce me to leave the Rock till I had overcome it and witnessed the return of Health and prosperity

AA.

46238-9

The Duke of Kent
Nov.r 5. 1804

Windsor Castle. Nov.r 5th 1804.

I fear, my dearest brother, I shall be able, but very inadequately, to express all my heart feels for your truly kind and affectionate Letter, which I had the happiness of receiving this morning; but, I trust, you will give me credit for being ever alive to those sentiments of attachment and devotion to you, which it will be my greatest pride to profess, and to actuate to through life, so that I hope you never can a moment doubt of my feelings, as I ought, every fresh proof of your friendship and affection, of which I will engage that you shall never find me undeserving. Accept therefore

AA

in the simple phrase of a soldier, of my warmest, and most gratefully affectionate thanks for having so kindly thought of me on my birth=day, and pray do not fail to convey to Mrs Fitzhubert how highly I am flattered by her remembrance, and how truly I feel in==lerested in every thing that contributes to her welfare and happiness. I have not failed to deliver to the Queen and our dear sisters your most affectionate message, and am commissioned in return to say every thing most kind from them. Little Lory in particu=lar, to whom, on the morning of her birth day, I gave your beautiful present, bids me give you a thousand loves, and say to you that the moment she has got over the tremendous bus=tle of the first move, which will be the case in a day or two she intends writing herself.

46239

Since I closed my letter of the Eve=ning before last, I have had no reason what=ever to change my opinion of the State of the K—, and I believe all those who know him best, and form their opinions without prejudice coincide with me in thinking that things will never get better than they now are, and that from his mode of life, the nature of the times and the season of the year, there is every thing to be apprehended. He has been to Town to day, and is not yet returned tho' it is now Twelve o'clock. Should any thing interesting transpire from his conversation when he joins us after coming home, you shall learn it from me, and if you do not hear from me you may rest assured that nothing has

I will now intrude no longer than is necessary to repeat what I am never tired of

saying, and what, I hope, you never will be of hearing me say, that I ever am with inalterable attachment,

Your most truly affectionate brother and most faithfully devoted Friend

Edward

P.S. If it is not taking too great a liberty would you permit me to solicit you to add, to the very kind present you have recently made me of a carriole, that of a pair of harness, as none of mine are large enough for the said horse it will be necessary for me to drive in it. Colonel Le when at Brighton last, asked him if I wanted any with it, when I replied in the negative not adverting to the objection existing against the use of him with that carriage, as being suited only to horses of a smaller size.

AA

Kensington Palace Tuesday afternoon
November 13th. 1804.
5 o'clock.

My dearest brother

Madame de St Laurent's continued indisposition having prevented me from calling on you to day, as I had fully intended doing, I am obliged to have recourse to my pen to introduce the inclosed letter from Amelia which I have just received for you.

To this I think it right to add two others addressed to me, the one by her, and the other by Augusta, for your perusal, as I

AA

know the sentiments they contain will do you as much good as they have me, and the more so as they were both written without any idea of their being ever shewn to you. I must also do the justice to my little favorite Sophy to say her expressions in a note she wrote me this morning upon a little business, are not less strong of affection for you, and joy at the prospect of often seeing you in future. The remaining two, Mummy and Elina, I know, feel all as deeply as any one of the sisterhood, and I cannot tell you all they both said to me yesterday upon the meeting. Tomorrow towards three I will call at Carlton House, having a great deal to say to you before you go to Windsor especially as, from the certainty of Madame de St Laurent being yet confined for several days, and having no other society than mine I know your good heart will excuse my not leaving her at such a moment, and that you will kindly excuse my not meeting you this time at Windsor. — God bless you, puisqu'au revoir tomorrow, and believe me ever to be with the warmest attachment

My dear not brother,

Your most affectionate
and faithful
Edward

The Duke of Kent
to
The Prince of Wales
Novr. 13. 1804

The Duke of Kent is requested by The Duke of Sussex, (who is now afflicted with a very severe Asthmatic Attack,) in his name, humbly to implore His Majesty for the grant of an Appartment at Kensington Palace, in order that he may have a home near Town, out of the foul air of London. If the King is graciously pleased to consent to this, The Duke of Kent presumes to suggest, that, by intimating to Lord Dartmouth His Majesty's pleasure, that the Appartment, called the Lord Chamber=lain's, now vacant (and of which it is understood Lord Dartmouth does not intend personally to make any use at present)

should be lent to the Duke of Sussex, until Mrs Middleton's becomes vacant, (which from her very advanced age, and enfeebled health may shortly be expected) His Majesty would be able to accommo=date the Duke of Sussex at once without any further trouble or expence to himself, than granting a small allowance to the Chaplain of the Palace, who now occupies a part of the Garrets belonging to that appartment, to compensate him for being obliged to move out. There is also a large shed on the Palace Green, by repairing and doubling of which, sufficient accommodation would be afforded for the Duke of Sussex's Carriages and Horses, without

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having recourse to any of the Stables The King has been pleased to reserve for other purposes. —

Kensington Palace
24th of November
1804

H. R. H. the Duke of Kent.

Kensington Palace.
24th Nov. 1904

Duke of Kent to Genl Fitzroy.
December 4. 1804

46244

Kensington Palace
4th of December
1804

Dear Fitzroy

It being now settled that the Duke of Sussex is to obtain possession, early in next Week, of the Apartments here, which The King has approved of his occupying, until the house, termed the old Duke of Cumberlands, is vacated by Mrs Middleton, I will thank you to submit to His Majesty, as an humble request from him, that he would be graciously pleased to give his order to the Lord Steward, for his being supplied with Fuel and Lights, while resident at Kensington, in the same manner as he condescended to direct that I should be, upon my moving

into this Palace. At the same time, if His Majesty, would further condescend to lay his commands upon Mr Wyatt, to fit up immediately the Shed I mentioned in the Memorandum which you presented, for the reception of the Duke of Sussex's Carriages and Horses, it would at once conclude the arrangement for my Brother here, and render any subsequent application to The King upon the subject unnecessary—

I request you will not fail to lay my most humble and affectionate duty at The King's feet, and remain with the most friendly regard

Dear Fitzroy

Ever Yours

Most faithfully

Edward

Major General
The Honorable
Charles Fitzroy

Dear Wright,

Having just concluded a long letter to Dodd, I only give you these lines to express the very sincere satisfaction I have derived in learning from him, that thro' the aid of Providence, and your good constitution, you had overcome the attack of the fever to which so many had fallen victims. The first account to that reached me of your being attacked, created a very considerable degree of uneasiness for the result; which indeed was not confined to myself alone, but extended to all the Members of my family, who from knowing the interest I take in every thing that concerns you, felt nearly as uneasy about you as myself. However we were not long kept in this painful suspence, for there was an intermission of but very few days between the accounts of your confinement and those of the malady having taken a favourable turn. Your letter of the 24th of September is the only one from you that I have by me, and as it is of so old a date, I only mention it, for the sake of regularity, more particularly as I do not wish to

introduce into this letter, the mention of any circumstances connected with the melancholy events that have taken place in the Garrison, and which would only renew in your mind, recollections the most painful.

The great Question of War with Spain, I do not understand to be as yet finally decided upon, but I believe very little doubt is entertained of a rupture taking place. I of course wait that moment to press my return, but whether it will be attended or not, with the desired effect, I cannot at present foresee, as our domestic situation, from the precarious state of the K's health, is such, as may change from one hour to another

Being anxious not to miss the Mail, and having really no one observation to add to those contained in my letter to Dodd, I shall only refer you to that, and

concluded

conclude, by subscribing myself, with the most friendly regard and esteem,

Dear Wright

ever yours most faithfully and sincerely

Edward

Kensington Palace Dec. 3. 1804

P.S. 4. Dec.

Your letter of the 30. Sept. has just been rec. & the inclosure forwarded to your father – I was happy to add – that you had so far recovered from the fever by which you had been attacked that on the 23 October – you was considered quite out of Danger –

Capt. Wright
R. Art. Gibraltar.

4th Decr 1804

On my Journey

32

Ld Melville to Duke of Kent

46247

Wimbledon 8 Decem. 1804.

Lord Melville has the honor to acquaint His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent, that the Memorandum which His Royal Highness left respecting Capt. Wright's Nomination to the Office of Registrar of the Court of Admiralty at Gibraltar shall receive every consideration which Circumstances may admit of. Lord Melville will make Enquiry into the Pretensions of the different Candidates on his Return to Town, and he is persuaded His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent will agree with Him, that in the Distribution of the Patronage belonging to his present His Royal Highness

The Duke of Kent K.G.

present Situation, it is his peculiar Duty to attend to Claims arising from naval Services. ~

33

Vice Mitchell's Dec
respecting the Legislature
to the Cty of Donnally at
Gibraltar

Received the 9th
December 1855
& the same day to
Captain Dodd

Kensington Palace
10th of December 1844

Dear Wright

Although I wrote to you, scarcely a week since, I will not let to morrow pass without expressing the very great satisfaction I derived from receiving your letters of the 23rd of October, 1st and 5th of November, which reached me on the 5th and 9th instant, as they confirm to me the circumstance of your entire recovery, concerning which I was still until then, not without some sort of apprehension. You may well say, that you owe your escape to the change, with which you met the disorder, and resisted any thing like despondency. After reading with great attention your very sensible remarks, and your account of the deplorable contagion, I am of opinion that it is impossible enough to reward the merit of the Surgeon of the 10th Regiment, who has conducted all his patients with such infinite success, from having the good sense to act wholly by his own judgement and experience, although contrary to the opinion of the senior and major part of the Medical people on the Rock, and I hope General Fox, when he is acquainted with the circumstance, will recommend him home for promotion and remuneration, to which he is so justly entitled. I think Pym's Conduct also, in repairing in the manner he did to his duty, the moment he knew of the disease, exemplary in the highest degree, and it shall not be my fault if he too does not meet with some handsome

testimony

of that appropriation which he so fully merits — As to my old friend, Doctor Booth, I am more disappointed than I can express to find how completely he has mistaken the matter, and how much misery has resulted from his opinions, for I know him to be an excellent hearted Man, and therefore can judge how much he must suffer, when he reflects upon the fatal consequences of his error; but I apprehend you are not wrong in the sentiments you have expressed relative to him, and that from some cause or other, his intellects are not so clear as they used to be. As you make no mention of his health or that of his daughter, I trust both well escape — In the midst of all the misery which the sad scenes that have occurred at Gibraltar have occasioned, I cannot help feeling highly flattered at the confidence expressed both by the Military and Inhabitants, that had I been there, things would not have been so bad, indeed I hope it will not be thought presumptuous in me, if I candidly confess that I am of opinion, that with the police I had established and the attention I felt it my duty to pay to the cleanliness of the Town, and the destruction of the huts as far as lay in my power, it would have been impossible for things to have taken the sad turn they have. As to General Fox, from what you tell me of the State of the Convent, and what I know of his excessive apprehension of fever, I fear he will stand but a bad chance of escaping; fortunately he knew of the malady before he sailed, and left his Wife and

Family

behind. I refer you to my letter to Dodd, for the steps I have taken to obtain your nomination to Mr Polgrave's vacancy; you will perceive that there was not a second lost in making the application, and that I really entertain hopes, that, if we fail in the one appointment we shall succeed in the other. Upon the principle I have ever professed of condemning a Monopoly of places in one person, you will at once see, that the recommending you for the Registrarship meets my ideas far better than if it had been necessary to ask it for Dodd, more especially as, if I recollect right, you have more than once expressed to Me your determination of not continuing in the Military profession; and that I should conceive there would be no great difficulty in effecting a similar arrangement in your favor with that I carried through for Dodd, after securing the Civil situation in the first instance. As to Major Andrews's situation, I am very glad you have no idea about that, the patronage being with the Commander in Chief and not with the Secretary at War, whose powers extend only to the appointment of Barrack Masters, and not of the Staff of the Barrack Department. What you relate of some of the heads of Departments, is shameful indeed, especially that of the Chief Engineer and principal Commissary. Should their fate be to fall at last, they will certainly not be those most lamented. Dodd's escape notwithstanding the disorder he was got into his office,

of

of what, I judge by the death of poor Levey, seem quite miraculous, it is as you may suppose a more consolatory circumstance to me, to know him safe, when I have experienced so much grief from the loss of poor Ponsonby and Dalby, both of whom you know, I was warmly attached to, and whom it is impossible at this time to replace. The rupture with Spain seems now to be considered as certain, and I am only waiting for its being publickly declared, to renew my offer of returning to my post, but as the Minister has certainly fear of his Concert upon the Duke of York commanding any Expedition to the Continent I fear much that my chance of success will be worse than ever —

Having nothing further to add, I shall now conclude by subscribing myself with the most friendly regard

Dear Wright

Your Gone

Most faithfully
and Sincerely
Edward

P.S. Be good enough to acquaint Mess Stower and Bolton that I have derived very great satisfaction from being able to effect their promotion agreeable to the application which they transmitted to me —

P. S. December the 11th

Just as I am about closing this letter to send it to the Post, yours of the 14th & 15th informing me of the decease of poor Ledgeton of your Corps, of Captain Wagwood, Paymaster Wilkinson and Lieutenant Kiss of my friends the 54th and of Surgeon Shaith, has reached me, I therefore add this Postscript to acknowledge them and to inform you that just before I sit down to dictate these lines, ——— I sent off a letter penned in the strongest terms I was Master of to the Secretary at War soliciting him to place the three fatherless Children of poor Shaith immediately on the Compassionate list for the largest allowance there was any precedent for granting from that fund; which I shall follow up with a very warm personal application the first time I can get a sight of Mr Dundas, so that, as far as depends on the I may assist you in fulfilling the sacred dying request of that unfortunate Man ——

Vesey wrote yesterday to your worthy father, in case he should not have received letters from you himself to inform you of your being recovered, and in good health on the fifth returns, and to day I shall write again to let him know of your health up to the 15th ——— E.

10th Decr 1864

AA

[?1805]

46250 A.

Kensington Thursday morning May 16th

Gosport.

My dearest Brother

Although I intend being with you, as soon as the review in Hyde Park is over, at which I must unavoidably attend the King, as he mounts at Kensington I feel it my duty to you not to defer till then, acquainting you, that I have just had a private note from Sophy, informing me that the King spoke so strongly upon the subject of those who might not personally attend tomorrow and decide with Government against the Catholic Emancipation, saying he should

AA

[?1805]

consider them as avowed enemies, that it will be absolutely impossible for me on that occasion to avoid going down, unless I chose to break altogether with him. This I know you would be as averse to, on my account, as I possibly could be myself, and therefore, as you did on a former occasion, so I feel confident, you will on the present, approve of my attending and dividing tomorrow. At the same time, as mine will most assuredly be nothing but a tacit vote I trust you will rest satisfied that the same principles which guides me now to take that line, will hereafter equally prompt me to support the measure, should it ever be brought forward under an administration whose measures are yours. Without saying more you will understand my meaning, and I only entreat that this communication may remain sacred between ourselves.

I will now take up no more of your time than is necessary for me to repeat (what I trust you are firmly persuaded of already) that no one is more warmly or zealously attached to you, both as brother, and friend than

Your most faithfully devoted, and affectionate

Edward.

The Duke of Kent
to
The Prince of Wales.
May 9th

AA

46251-2

Kensington Palace
July 8th 1805

Dear Mamahon,

I am this instant favored with your note, in compliance with the request contained in which I now do myself the pleasure to inform you that I understand the present arrangements at Windsor stand thus; The King to come up to Town to meet his Ministers on Wednesday, taking Blackheath in his way up. The Queen

AA

46252

and my sister to be at the Queen's house the same day at eleven, to go to Lady Charlotte Finch's at twelve, then dine early with the King at the Queen's house, then all return to Windsor in the afternoon together. Thursday to be passed at Windsor, and Friday the family to set off at eleven o'clock for Weymouth. The ostensible reason, I am told, of the Queen's coming up to Town is to take leave of Charlotte, but the Prince of Wales is neither expected at the Queen's House nor at Windsor.

I go tomorrow to Windsor, as the Duke of Cambridge comes away to day, and I think it wrong that the King should be left, at this time, without one of his sons with him. I shall of course not be home again till Friday.

Pray do not fail to offer the Prince the assurance of my warm, and devoted attachment, and believe me ever to be with the most friendly regard, Dear Marmahon,

Yours most faithfully & sincerely. Edward

The Duke of Kent
to
The Prince of Wales

July 8th 1805.

AA

Windsor Castle. Tuesday Evg.
July 9th 1805.

My dearest brother,

By the Queen's desire I now take up my pen to acquaint you, that, if she has not executed your commission, in sounding the Kng upon the kind offer you made of coming down to sup a day or two previous to their departure for Weymouth, it is solely, because she felt apprehensive, that, notwithstanding the excellence of the intention on your part, the visit coming so immediately after the Suspension of Mr Addington, and of his friends from the Ministry, might the

AA

continued as made with a view to find out what was going forward here in consequence. She therefore trusts you will approve of her having been silent from this motive. I am now further desired to add that she goes up accompanied by all my sisters tomorrow, and will dine at the Queens house at four, and that after dinner Charlotte will be sent for; this communication is made solely with the view of enabling you to avail yourself of that opportunity of seeing them all, should such be your intention, without putting you to the trouble of coming down here on Thursday to take your leave, which the Queen thinks would rather

tend to flurry the King, as he has dropped more than one hint that he hoped no one would come on that day, to take their leave of him, for that his nerves were not up to it. This is the extent of my commission, and if I have executed it in a very awkward manner, I flatter myself you will excuse it from the continual bustle and hurry one is over in here. The King's health continues as good, as when last you saw him, and his calm the same, tho' now and then, I think one observes a depression of spirits: his eyes, as far as regards the cataracts, are also in statu quo, but the inflammation, that had attacked the one, in which that is least forward being now

The Duke of Kent

subdued, I think he certainly was better

July 9. 1835

with it. That is a correct bulletin,

and I know of nothing else worth trou-

-bling you with. Pray excuse this

horrid scrawl, and the paper, having no

other at hand, and, with your usual kind-

-ness for me, accept of the assurance

of those sentiments of devoted attachment

towards you, that can cease but with

my existence, and with which it is my

greatest pride ever to profess, and from

myself, my dearest brother,

Your most truly affectionate

and faithful brother, and friend

Edward

AA

Kensington Palace
July 28th 1805

Dear Blomfield

I do myself the pleasure of addressing you these lines, in order to request that you will give my most affectionate love to the Prince, and tell him that, as the Duke of York has determined unexpectedly on going to Weymouth, on the 1st of August with the intention of staying there till the 14th and I am to be lodged in the apartment he vacates, His Majesty has been pleased to approve of my not arriving there till the 9th of the month. My plan is therefore now arranged to go to Brighton on the 11th, pass the 12th there, and proceed on the 13th on my

journey to Weymouth. As I travel in my Carriole, and the Dorking road is so much pleasanter than the Sutton one, I propose going by that, and therefore am anxious to solliciet the Prince to send a pair of horses to meet me at Horsham, about twelve o'clock on the 11th, and for the Morning of the 13th, he will also indulge me with a pair to Arundel, so as to enable me to send my own on from Brighton, the same night, I shall feel perfectly at ease as to the rest of my journey. You will therefore do me the favor to lay this request before him, assuring him that he may rely on my driving his horses at a very moderate pace, and that he shall have no cause to repent having indulged me with the use of them.

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P.S.

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Scale

Major

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Whenever I receive your answer, if it is a favorable one, of which I flatter myself there can be no doubt, I intend writing to Colonel Lee, to inform him of my having received the Prince's promise and to solicit him to obtain his sanction for giving the orders respecting the horses, as I know that is an attention he expects, and that will please him

I am happy in this opportunity of recalling myself to your remembrance and of subscribing myself with the most friendly regard and the highest Esteem

Dear Bloomfield

Yours most faithfully

Edward

P.S. Give my kindest regards to Mrs Fitzherbert, and say how concerned I was at not finding her at home when I called in Stratton Street Saturday sennight.

Major Bloomfield &c &c

The Duke of Kent
to
Colonel Bloomfield

July 28. 1805.

AA

Kensington . Monday July 29th 1805.

My dearest Brother,

I had the pleasure of receiving yesterday, by the hands of Baron de Hompesch your most kind letter, and commands respecting my old friend Sir Alured Clarke, which I beg to assure you were instantly complied with; in consequence, I feel no hesitation in saying that the Baron will certainly experience every possible favor, and attention from the board, of which Sir Alured

is President, as far at least as he can bias their decision. I had a very long conversation with Hompesch upon his case, and I cannot help saying that it is hard he should be denied that countenance, to which he seems so justly entitled, in the very quarter, where a single word in his favor would at once insure a favorable issue to his claims, the only one indeed that can take place if but common justice is done him. Previous to getting your letter, I had written to my friend Bloomfield, acquainting him, for your information, with the change I had been obliged to make in my plans with regard to Weymouth, and desiring him to solicit the use of a pair of your horses to take me the stage into Brighton on the 11th and out of Brighton on the 13th. I will not therefore bore you with a repetition of the same subject, upon which I conclude you will instruct him to answer me. The mail arrived by this morning's mail from Weymouth. Phipps, when he left this, proposed remaining there a week, so that I shall be free of hear-

=ing from him twice or three times now,
before he comes away, and I shall not
fail regularly to transmit his state-
=ment to you. All the girls are well,
and Augusta, Mamma, and Sophy, from
whom I have heard, desire their best
love to you, and that I should say
how happy they are to learn that you
have got so well again. Pray re=
=member me most particularly to Mrs.
Fitzherbert, and accept the assurance
of that unalterable attachment with
which I shall ever be, to the last hour
of my existence, My dearest Brother,
Your most faithfully devoted
and affectionate Edward.

AA

Weymouth Monday Morning
August 19th. 1805

My dearest Brother,

Having now been four entire days here, and with the K— at almost every instant of the day, when he has been out of his own Room, I think I have been enabled to form a pretty correct judgment of his present State, which is, as follows. His bodily health generally good, indeed I have only one heard him complain of a little pain in his foot, and that too he mentioned, as very slight, and as scarcely affecting his walking. His sight is unquen-

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-tionably much improved from what it was when he left Windsor, inasmuch as he was then so blind he could scarce see to sign his name, and no print of any sort whatever, or figure could he make out, whereas now he can write with little difficulty, sees to place his pen at the exact part of the line where he has left off, can make out the large print in which the titles of the newspapers are written, and can discriminate the hands, and large figures on the dial of his watch. Still this is all, and it is evident, that whatever affects his mind also affects his vision, for even since Saturday morning, when the very bad account of the poor Duke of Gloucester came here, his sight has visibly been worse. With regard to his conversation I have perceived as yet neither levity nor hurry, and not the least symptom of severity, or asperity towards any living creature. His spirits are never high, on the contrary, in general, inclined to be low, and whenever there is much heat, he is very drowsy. Of singularities the only one that would, I think, strike any person, or has me, is the dingle hat you have seen at Windsor, which he here wears with his uniform adding a feather to it, which is the more particular, as on account of his shaddy he never uses any wig, but his round one. However even this I firmly believe is done from the

convenience, of what she is to him, and not for any motive of avoiding at Singularity.

Our life consists in riding out from 7 to 9, then breakfasting, after which we go on board the yacht until five, whenever the weather permits, after that go to the play at 7, return when she goes to supper &c. On those days when she not judged advisable to go to sea, we ride from ten till about one, dine at four, and after dinner, walk till play time, or otherwise till eight, when there is the usual party and music. This I have mentioned, thinking that previous to your coming you might like to be au fait of these matters. The only books worn on the Windsor Blue with scarlet cape

AA

and cuff, and a plain blue one: of a Sunday Evening, or at the Rooms, if there is a ball to which the family go, either the Laced Windsor uniform, or a military one with shoes, and stockings, unless the a light Dragoon one, is worn.

I shall not fail to let Mr. Steward know that she is to expect you, with two gentlemen, about the last of this month, or the first of the next, and the same stabling, and coach house I have I shall also secure for you.

This, I believe, is the extent of all the commissions I had from you, and therefore having now nothing further to add, I will not take up any more of your time, than is necessary, to repeat the assurance

of those sentiments of devoted and unalterable attachment, with which it is my greatest pride ever to profess, and prove myself to be

Your most affectionate brother
and most faithful friend
Edward

P. S. Pray remember me most kindly and particularly to Mr. Sidney Herbert.

I have executed your commission to General Lisingnier, who was quite overjoyed with your remembrance of him, and desires sein wärmste Dankgefühle ausspricht; he is delighted at the thought of seeing you here.

Ernest told me last night that he hoped you would only hint your wishes about the manner in which you would like to see the hospitality, when it would be his study to meet them to the utmost of his power.

The Duke of Kent
to
The Prince of Wales
Aug. 19. 1805.

The Duke of Kent
to
The Prince of Wales
Augt. 31. 1805

AA

Kensington Palace.
Saturday August 31st 1805.

My dearest Brother

Under=
=standing from our mutual friend the Duke of Orleans, that a letter from me written this day would still catch you at Brighton, before you set off for Weymouth, and perhaps be acceptable, I take up my pen to recall myself to your recollection, and to assure you of my unceasing and devoted attachment. I returned here on Thursday, having left Weymouth on Wednesday Evening in consequence of the arrival of Ferdinand

The Duke of Kent
to
The Prince of Wales
Augt. 31. 1805

AA

and Adolphus, the former of whom was to occupy the appartment I had till then had. You have of course, long ere this, heard from Adolphus that he is to have the Coldstream, upon the Duke of York's getting the First Regiment; it was not offered to me, but I have no reason to believe that the most distant degree of unkindness towards me was meant by that, but that this was the consequence of what passed between the King and me last January twelvemonth, immediately prior to his illness, when you will recollect that he was very decided in his approbation of my not relinquishing the line. Had the Duke of York declined the First Regiment, which the King, I know fully expected that he would do, I certainly should out of deference to your opinion, have accepted of the command of that corps, had it been tendered to me, as I should equally of that of the third Regiment, had it been left open to my choice; at the same time, I trust, you will approve of the resolution I at once took of asking for nothing, as well as of declining the Coldstream, had I been thought offered that, as, after all I have experienced at the hands of the present Colonel of that corps, I really felt it would be little short of madness in me to encounter in cool blood what I am well aware

would be little else than a hornets nest.
From what I have said, you will of
course infer that I rejoice from the bot
tom of my heart at Adolphus's good
fortune, and I cannot help adding,
that his conduct to me upon the oca
sion has been every thing that is mor
honorable, most affectionate, and most
kind. It now follows, that I can at
no future period ever be removed to the
Foot Guards, as by established custom
the command of the Brigade goes no
according to the army rank, but acor
-ding to the Regimental Seniority of
the Colonels, and as such the infere
is evident. But I will know, you

AA

will not permit me to suffer for following the dictates of honor, and I feel the fullest confidence that, whenever the time arrives when you can act for yourself, you will find some mode of rescuing me from that state of professional degradation, in which I am plunged for having too faithfully discharged my Duty. How the Home Park at Hampton Court, and the Wardenship of Lyndhurst are to be disposed of, I do not at all guess. If the Pavillions could be made a good house of at the Public expence, the former would then become an object to me, as it would enable me

to sell Castle Hill; but without that it would rather be a burden. — Colonel Smyth's letter to Major Bloomfield will have informed you of the effect which the Duke of Gloucester's death produced on the King; it certainly shook him, at first very much, and I was led to apprehend it would have produced a very serious effect both upon his head, and his health; but before I left him on Wednesday, he had got quite calm again, and the rheumatic attack, which had been the worst I ever saw him experience, was beginning to go off fast. You are expected from what Adolphus said, on Monday, and I am told Frederick stays on till Wednesday night. Augustus intends also meeting you there on the day you arrive; but I fear you will find it dreadfully dull, as till the funeral is over, the King only goes out for his morning exercise, and does not otherwise quit the house, when the whole Evening amusement consists in a dull game at Commerce. Your name I have on no occasion heard mentioned by the King, except once when he asked whether it was true, you meant to come, and whether the act was your own, to both which questions I gave a decided affirmative, which I felt no scruple in

saying) appeared to be received with an
air of satisfaction and good humor; Er-
nest has acquitted himself most prosper-
ly, I must say, as to his wish of ac-
cordy in whatever manner you may
point out to be most agreable to you-
self about dividing your mornings
in viewing the troops, and if he but
acts up to his professions, I trust you
will have no cause for dissatisfaction.
While I was at Weymouth, he was
very little, either with the Duke or the
family. — This I believe compre-
hends pretty nearly my whole
Budget, I shall therefore not take
up any more of your time, after having

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said this, than is necessary for me to beg my kindest remembrance to Mrs Talbot, and to repeat, what ever will, from the bottom of my heart be the burden of every letter I write you, and, what is no more, and no less, than that, while life is in me, I shall ever place my greatest pride, in proving that I am with unalterable attachment

Your most affectionate bro.
and most faithfully
devoted friend.
EDWARD