Duke of Cumberland
May 16. 1790

St James May 16th 1790

Sir

I have received Your Majesty's gracious Letter, and with Sorrow do I perceive that I have met with Your Disapprobation. I acted from a Sense of Honor in not wishing to bear any Rank in a Service which I was not particularly attached to. I know from many Circumstances (that cannot be related to Your Majesty) that my presence there could be of little or no Use. However I intreat You to believe me that it was not either Want of Respect, Affection, or Duty, that induced me to refuse that which at any other Time I should have prided myself upon, the Rank of Lt Gen. and Command of a Light Dragoon Regiment the first in the World in point of Men and Discipline. But, Sir the Situation of Affairs both here and all over the Continent is such that it becomes my Duty to bury all my private feelings, and hard as my fate may be in compliance with Y. M. Wishes and Commands, with Gratitude & Respect to bow to Your Pleasure & to accept the Rank of Lieutenant General in Your Electoral Service, You have been graciously pleased to offer me, and I shall be happy, if by so doing, I may in time of Danger be of Use to my own Country here for the defence of which I will with Readiness sacrifice to the very last drop of my Blood

Sir
Your Majesty's
most dutiful Son Cumd

Duke of Cumberland
July 7. 1799

St James
July 7th 1799

Sir

Excuse my troubling Your Majesty with a Letter, but as I have not had a proper Opportunity of speaking to You, I take the Liberty of addressing myself to You by Letter, and submitting to Your Majesty my humble Request of only granting me the Rank of Lieutenant General in the British Service with the date of the Commission I bear in the Hanoverian Service;

I merely request the Rank, for I am perfectly aware that there are many Officers in Your Service unprovided for, who from their Experience & Services are infinitely more deserving than what my humble merits give me pretensions to.

Should Your Majesty be most graciously pleased to acquiesce in my humble request, You may depend upon Your not having a more zealous Officer in Your Service, ~~t~~ Ever

Sir

Your Majesty's
most dutiful Son

Ernest

Duke of Cumberland
June 9. 1800

47187

Kew Green
June 9th 1800

Sir

I am this moment honoured with Your Majesty's Gracious Letter, & You may depend upon it I never will in the whole Course of my Life take any Step that may be disagreeable to Your Majesty. I can assure You, Sir, upon the Honor of a Gentleman that no later than Yesterday Evening I declared to Mr Cookson who is here that I should certainly not attend the House of Lords next Tuesday, as I really had the greatest Respect for Ld Lenyon not only as a Judge, but as a Man, and as I feard his Warmth of Temper might have led him to say more than he meant I should not like to attend the Discussion. But Your Majesty may depend upon one Thing that I never willingly would act in any Thing contrary to Your Wishes. Believe Sir You have not a more dutiful nor devoted Son than I am and ever shall be

Ernest

St James's March 29th 1801

Sir

I return Your Majesty my most humble thanks for the favour You have graciously conferred on me, in giving me the Command of the 27th Regt of Light Dragoons, as well as for Your gracious Promise that whenever an Exchange can be made, I may flatter myself I shall receive the 15th Regt Your Majesty's own Regt of Light Dragoons, which has always distinguished itself; whenever that happy Moment shall arrive I shall endeavour to prove myself worthy of the Command entrusted to my Care. As to Your gracious Approbation of my Conduct I beg leave to observe had I behaved otherwise, I should be unworthy of the Blessing Providence has conferred on me in giving me the best of Fathers and Mother; God grant I may always behave so as to merit Your Approbation, & Affection. Believe me

Sir

Your most dutiful Son

Ernest

The Duke of Cumberland
April 11th 1828.

47189

St James's April 11th
1828

Sir

I am this moment honoured with Your Majesty's gracious Letter, and cannot find Words sufficiently strong to express to Your Majesty my Gratitude for Your gracious Approbation of this Exchange with Lord Dorchester. Having me the Honour of commanding Your own Regiment of Light Dragoons I shall endeavour to prove to Your Majesty by a faithful and zealous Discharge of my Duty that my utmost Ambition will ever be to prove myself not unworthy of the Honour so graciously conferred on me.

Believe me

Sir

Your most dutiful

Son

Ernest

H.R.H. Duke of Cumberland

Kew House 5th May 1861

47190

New House May 5th 1861

Sir

I return Your Majesty my most humble thanks for the valuable Present You was so good to send me of the New Common Prayer Book which from henceforth I shall always make use of. It is with infinite Satisfaction I hear Your Majesty's Health improves so much & hope that now in a very short Time Your may be restored to us all & that we may yet manny happy Years in the Company of the best of Fathers. Believe me

Sir

Your Majestys
most dutiful and
devoted Son
Ernest

St James Nov 25th
1801

Sir

On my return to town I met Mr Bott and had a long Conversation with him, & again this Morning, he was telling this my morning and he positively asserts, that Bowman was the Person who ordered Your Majesty to be blindfolded, that he quarrelled with the Men for not tying Your Majesty tighter, that he had Your placed near the fire, as the person who felt Your & stirred himself the fire to make it hotter, using Expressions too gross to be written & makes me shudder to think of

Believe me

Sir

Your Majesty's
Most dutiful Son
Ernest

Duke of Cumberland
May 19. 1803.

47192

St James
May 19th 1803

Sir

The first Object of my Life is to merit Your Majesty's favour & good Opinion, & that I may not lose either beg leave to mention what I have done.

The Day after Y. M. Message came down to the House I waited on the Commander in Chief and was among the first, if not the first who offered their Services; feeling how necessary it was for Men of High Rank to come forward on such an Occasion. I offered to serve without Pay, that being no Object to me; hearing that so many Junior Lt Gen.s were named last Monday, on Tuesday I Commissioned Col. Calvert to tell the Duke of York that rather than not serve I would take the Command of the 14th & 15th Ds. brigaded together that the World should not say that the Branches of the House of Brunswick were backward on such an Occasion, & if that was not agreeable I would lay aside my Staff Rank & take the Command of my Regt. Believe me

Sir
Your most dutiful Sn
Ernest.

47193

Hot Wells Bristol
August 19th 1803

Sir

I trust Your Majesty will excuse the liberty I thus take in addressing You, but thinking it may be satisfactory for You to know, what I have already reported from the Loyalty of the People here, I beg leave to mention that on my Arrival here, I found & had been previously informed by M. G. Garth, that there existed here a Corps of Volunteer Infantry 1470 Men Strong, but their Services are so limited that they were only to serve in the town of Bristol, on my seeing Yesterday a Deputation of this Corps, I expressed my regret, considering the State of the Country, & the small number of troops here, that their Services were so limited, intimating at the same time my earnest Wish, that they would take this into Consideration, they said they could go Thereon I chose to order them, this I declined saying, unless they agreed to volunteer, & to signify that to me in writing, I could not avail myself of their Services. Their Committee assembling by rest, & last night when I insisted there, they to a Man has volunteered to serve anywhere in Great Britain, Your Majesty may think fit to convey

them. I assembled all the Officers in the front, thanked them for the very handsome Manner in which they had agreed to my Wishes, telling them that nothing but absolute Necessity could induce me to avail myself of such a liberal offer; to this they shewed their hearty Concurrence by giving me 3 Cheers. In short Sir I flatter myself I have in the short Space of 24 Hours, carried a point of great Consequence to this part of the Kingdom, considering the Whole Military Force here does not exceed 750 Effective Men, not one of Whom I have as yet seen as they are quartered all about the Country, on account of the Elections, & Assizes. I shall conclude by praying I may soon see a more truly loyal place Believe me

Sir

Your Majesty's
most dutiful Son

Ernest

Duke of Cumberland to Lord Hobart

Severn = District,
Head = Quarters, Bristol,
Sept 6th 1803.

My Lord!

I think it necessary to inform your Lordship of a circumstance that has this moment come to my knowledge, & to crave an answer by return of Post.

Your Lordship is aware, that since I have been in this District, a French General with many Officers & others, on their parole from Genl Grinfield, have been brought in here. — I instantly ordered a Guard on board the Ship to protect them, as well as prevent all communication with the shore. — Of this step His Royal Highness

the

the Commander in Chief entirely approved.

Unluckily, within these few Days, three or four of the men who have been at different times on the Ship-Guard have died; & although Mr Tudor, Assistant Inspector of Hospitals assures me, there was nothing contagious in their Disorders, still that idea very generally prevails, as well as the important one, "that Militia-Men cannot be obliged to go on such Duty".

Col. Moore of the Bedford Militia

Duke of

47

Right

Lord

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Duke of Cumberland to Lord Hobart

has made me this communication, tho' not officially, & I feel myself bliged to him for so doing.

Unwilling to expose myself by acting unconstitutionally, I shall leave things as they are till the return of the Post, when, if I hear nothing, (which I trust & sincerely hope will not be the case) I shall be bliged to act for myself, & send the Officers on Parole to Tiverton, & the Sailors to Prison,

Right Hon.ble
Lord Hobart
&c &c &c

(Signed) Ernest
Lt. Genl. command.g
Severn Dis.trict

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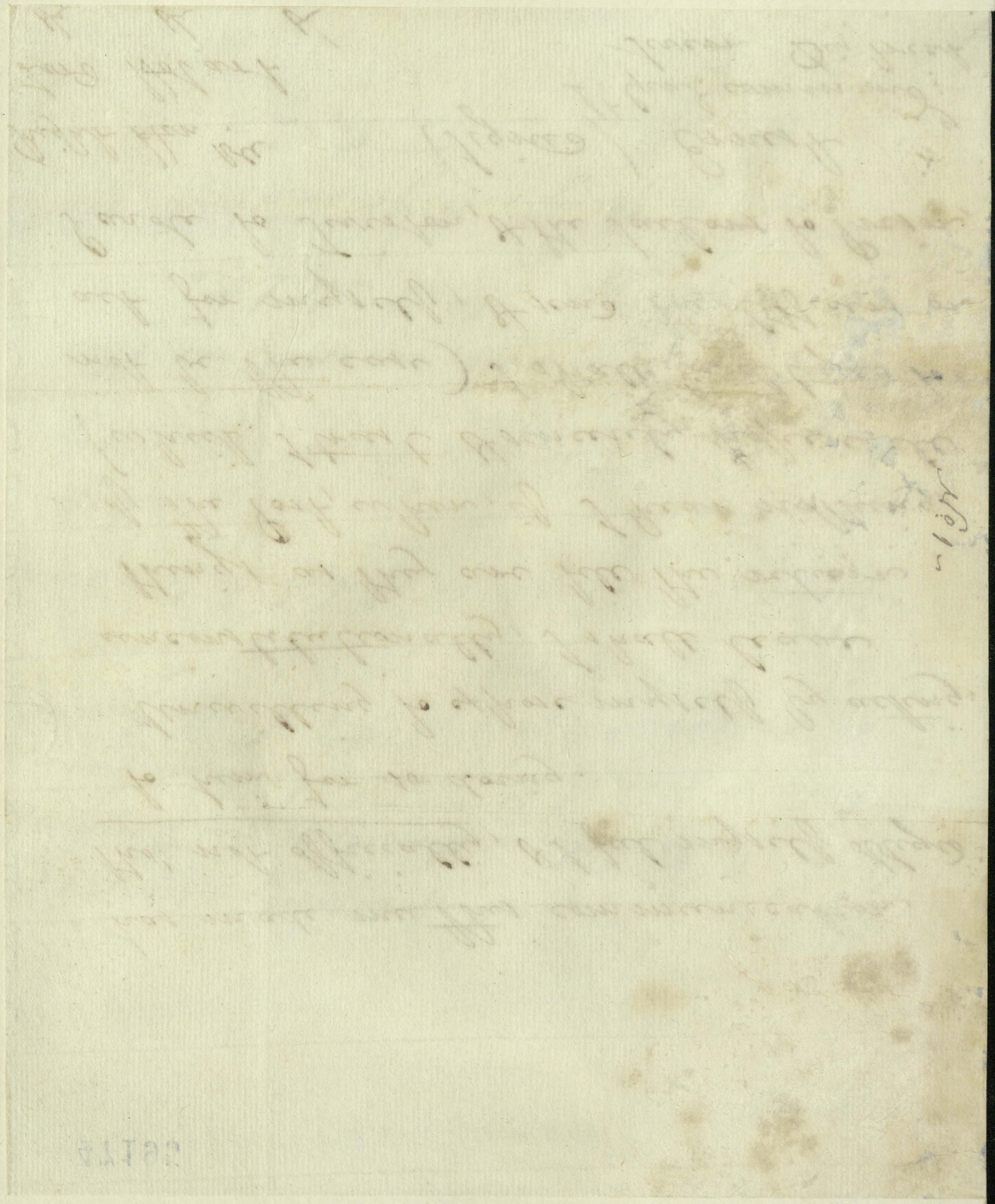

Col. Francis Moore to Duke of Cumberland

47196

Bristol, Sept. 6th 1803.

Sir!

I take the earliest opportunity of submitting to Your Royal Highness, whether, consistent with the Militia Laws, any Regiment of Militia or Detachment from it, can be ordered to take the Guards on board the Prison-Ship lying in the Bristol-Channell.

I beg leave to observe to Your Royal Highness, that doubts have arisen, I believe in consequence of the misfortune of my Regt. having lost five men since the 31st ult:, & having several others in a dangerous state in the Hospital, most certainly in consequence of their doing

Duty

Duty on board that Ship. — At the same time I cannot avoid thinking that, from the nature of the Oath each Militia Man takes, that the Ship being in Great Britain is doubtless within the limits of their Service.

(Signed) F. Moore
Col. Bed. Militia

Lieut. General
His Royal Highness
The Duke of Cumberland
&c &c &c

Duke of Cumberland
September 7. 1803

(Two Enclosures)

47197

Bristol Sepbr 7th 1803

Sir

Feeling it my Duty whenever any thing particular occurs, to communicate it to Your Majesty, I take the liberty of enclosing for Your Inspection, a letter I saw myself necessitated to write to Lord Hobart, (a Copy of which I transmitted to the Commander in Chief) in order to prevent any Misunderstanding which might arise, & I flatter myself You will approve of my Conduct, which is my most ardent Wish on all Occasions. The Volunteers in this District are not in that State of forwardness that I could wish them, & the Weakness, and uncommon Duty of this Garrison, prevents the Militia being able to exercise sufficiently for Your troops, however Your Majesty may rest assured, that neither Major General Garth, or myself spare any Pains, in promoting the good of Your Service. Believe me

Sir

Your most dutiful Son

Cumb

Duke of Cumberland
September 30th 1803

47198

Bristol Septr 30th 1803

Sir

I by this days post have received a letter from the Commander in Chief offering me the Command of the District become vacant by Lieutenant General Balfours Promotion, which I have accepted trusting it will meet with Your Majestys Approbation, my first Object in every thing I do.

Permit me to express my Gratitude for the very gracious Message from Your Majesty, communicated to me by the Commander in Chief, with regard to my not being included in the brevet. And

Believe me

Sir

Your most dutiful

Son

Ernest

Duke of Cumberland
November 23d 1804

47199

St James Nov.r 23d 1804

Sir

As I know that Your Majesty never speaks lightly and how sacred Your hold every Word You utter, I have been reflecting upon Your Intentions in my favour of purchasing for me a House. I had flattered myself that Your Majesty might in course of Conversation have given me an Opportunity of explaining my Sentiments on the Subject, but that not having occurred, I trust You will be graciously pleased to suffer me to remain quietly in possession of my present Apartments, which thro' Your Goodness have made most perfectly comfortable for me, & here having no Taxes, nor Repairs to pay for, my present Income can go much further than it otherwise could.

To the last Moment of my life, I shall feel grateful for this intended Proof of Your Goodness, as well as Royal Munificence – Goodness I will say Sir. that makes me proud, as I

trust that I may consider Your Gracious Intention, as a Mark of Your Majesty's Approbation of my Conduct; to deserve which, it always has been, and ever shall be, my Ambition. I hope Your Majesty will excuse Sir, my having thus intruded myself on Your time, & believe me

Sir

Your most Dutiful

Son

Ernest

Eu

Duke of Cambridland
December 12. 1804

(No Endorsement)

47200

St James Decr 12th 1804

Sir

Your Majesty's gracious kindness to myself is a bad Motive for presuming to trouble You, yet it is the Ground that enables me to proceed with confidence when I ask a favor of Your Majesty. My present petition is urged likewise by the general Benefit that will arise to the poor from the enclosed plan having Your Majesty's sanction. My own sufferings with my Eyes makes me the more desirous to assist in alleviating those of my fellow Creatures who are not like myself blessed with the Means of attempting to preserve one of the greatest and most precious Gifts of the Almighty Sight. Should You Sir give Your Royal Countenance to the plan set forth in the enclosed paper, Your humble will give it sufficient Weight to be immediately undertaken with Success, & I shall rejoice in the belief that it has pleased the Almighty to make me the humble Instrument towards

the Relief of a thousand distressed Beings & that I have found Phipps, who has attended me assiduously for a number of Years by procuring him Your Majestys gracious protection which will give him the Credit of becoming the Promoter of this Charity. Excuse Sir the Liberty I have taken & believe me most truely

Sir

Your Majestys
most dutiful Son

Cornwallis

J. Wathen Phipps to Duke of Cumberland

Amidst the great Variety of public Charities abounding in this Kingdom & Metropolis for the Relief of human Misery, which shed a Lustre on the British Name & Constitution, and will shine undiminished even beyond the Confines of this World; there has, as yet been no Hospital exclusively, for the Reception and Cure of Persons labouring under Diseases of the Eye. The Importance of this Organ & its Utility to every Individual need not be urged, but to the Poor it is their All. Deprived of their Sight, their Endeavours either for their own Support or that of their Offspring are cut off, and they are reduced to become a Burden on their Parishes and a Misery to themselves.

Above 30 Years ago Mr. Wathen threw open his Doors on certain Days & Hours for the indiscriminate Admission of all Paupers afflicted with Diseases of the Eyes, and the Number of these have amounted annually

to near two Thousand. For these last twenty years Mr Phipps has had the Charge of them, and to the best of his Ability has supplied them with Advice and Medicine. But this though some Relief, is utterly inadequate to their Necessities, as in a vast Variety of Cases (particularly after Operations) many Eyes are lost for want of that necessary Care, Attention, Food and Medicine which an Hospital could alone supply. This applies more particularly to Operations for the Cataract which however successfully performed are by the above mentioned Causes frequently among the Poor rendered ineffective. Within these few years these Diseases have greatly encreased among the lower orders of the People, from the contagious nature of that Complaint which has been called the Egyptian Ophthalmia, a Disease before by no means unfrequent in this Country and now much more common. The Soldiers and Sailors from their being more confined together have been the greatest Sufferers. The vast Importance of these Men to their Country

J. Wathen Phipps to Duke of Cumberland

47202

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and the additional Weight their Support must be after the Loss of Sight, added to the before mentioned general Considerations have induced Mr. Phipps to forward a Plan he has long projected, of applying for the public Aid to institute an Establishment not only for the Relief of the common Paupers but to afford a more effectual Remedy for the Army and Navy by introducing such Modes of Cure as may protect our brave Countrymen at any future Period from similar Effects of this dreadful Malady.

To secure this Succour from the Public and to place this Institution on an equal Footing with others, with which he flatters himself its Use and Importance might rank, he is most anxious to procure for it that Sanction, which will stamp its Value with a loyal and discerning People, the Approbation of their beloved Sovereign and his August Consort. Under their protecting Wing he doubts not it will become a national Benefit and the Means of diffusing and gaining more general and particular Knowledge of the Treatment of

Diseases of the Eye.

Mr. Phipps wishes for no personal Emolument but will have great Pleasure in paying every Attention in his Power to the Institution, and having been honored for some Years past with the Appointment of Oculist in Ordinary to his Majesty, and having been also honored more than once with the gracious Permission of attending her Majesty's Person, and that of several Branches of the Royal Family, he humbly solicits their condescending Attention to this Project in which the warmest Wishes of his Heart both as a medical Practitioner, a Man, and a Briton, are engaged.

For this Purpose he respectfully entreats of H. R. H. the Duke of Cumberland to prefer his humble Suit to their most gracious Majesties.

J. Wathen Phipps

47203

The Fund of this Establishment is proposed to be raised in the following Manner.

The Donation of Fifty Pounds constitutes a Founder

The Donation of Thirty Pounds constitutes a Guardian or Life-Subscriber

The Sum of Two Guineas annually constitutes a Subscriber —

the Motive that caused the Change in Your Sentiments.
You proceed to State, Sir, that I treated Y. R. H. with disres-
-pect at the Lord Mayor's Dinner; (I wished You had men-
-tioned the Circumstances) I do assure You upon my honour
that it was not my Intention to do so, I am too well acquain-
-ted with my own Rank & Situation in this Country, to
wish to fall in respect to the Prince of Wales, and
Your good Sense must convince You of the truth of this
Assertion; as Prince of Wales, & as such, my Superior, Advances
in public ought to come from You to me, & not from me to
Y. R. H: had I however presumed upon the relationship of
a Brother to have addressed You, such a Liberty might
have been misconstrued, as my calling at Carlton House
has been, which I have always done from time to time
as a Mark of Respect: the only Opportunity that
I have had for some Years of shewing You Attention
was last Summer at Weymouth & I flattered myself from
the cordial Manner in which You received it that You
was sensible of my Endeavours to treat You with the
respect due to the Prince of Wales & with the Affection
of a Brother. The ~~[illegible]~~ last part of Your
Letter contains a Charge that I think too serious

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not to answer it very fully, as I cannot but consider it as an Attack upon my Honour & Character, unjust on Your Part either to believe ~~without~~ or to ~~Act~~ without making me acquainted with the Author. viz "that I have "fraudulently and invidiously attempted to do You mischief "in a Quarter to which I have had means of access, & "wherein I have mistated & misrepresented You." this I most solemnly & most unequivocally deny & wonder that Y. R. H. with the penetration that belongs to You did not draw a natural Conclusion from such a Misrepresentation that the Person who could be sufficiently malignant to have made such a report to You could have been capable of inventing it; & Y. R. H. will find that That Person will more come forward to put You in the right by proving so unhandsome an Accusation of myself. I have no fears of that people apart Secretly while my Conscience tells me that I act with Integrity which is every Man's best Security.

I am
Sir
Your Royal Highness's
obedient Servant
C M B K

47205

The Duke of Cumberland
April 19. 1806.

Windsor Castle
Saturday Night
Eorlock April 19th
1806

Sir/

I have this Moment received Your Royal Highness's Letter & am sorry that mine to You has not had the desired Effect, having already sufficiently explained myself, I must remain

Sir

Your Royal Highness's
Obedient Servant
Ernest

The Duke of Cumberland
30th July 1808
&
Copy of Answer 1st August.

47207

St James
July 30th
1808

Sir

At such a Moment as the present it is the Duty of every Man to offer his Services and as I understand there is a great additional force of Your Majesty's troops ordered for embarkation, I do me entreat Your Majesty's Permission to accompany the Cavalry being ready to prove in any Situation, my humanity being only to prove to You my Zeal for the Service. Believe me

Sir

Your Majesty's
most dutiful Son

Ernest

Windsor Castle August 1st 1837

Copy

The King has received the Duke of Cumberland's letter and is sensible of the Zeal which has prompted him to make an Offer of his Services at the present Moment, but His Majesty fears that He cannot, for a Compliance with the Duke of Cumberland's wishes, set aside the Arrangements which have been made for the Command of the Troops which have proceeded upon Foreign Service.

Signed GEORGE R.