From the Camp near Contig.
July 14th 1794.

My Dearest Brother

I hear from Ernest that you have taken my long Silence very ill: Certainly it appears very negligent on my Side not to have wrote for so long a time; but if you consider the disagreeable Scenes that we have had here, together with the Fatigues attending them, your good Heart will certainly forgive me. I can assure you that I have detested writing a Word, as the News is so very disagreeable. — We are now encamped here since last Wednesday. All Prudentius Army is now together: & the Dutch are between Malines and Louvain. The French attacked the Aut Posts before Malines the day before yesterday, ~~but~~ & wounded the

force its way over the Canal which is just before the Town but they were forced to retire. Since that all has been quiet. L^d. Moira is with his Corps at Waerlos, a Ver. Village about 3. Miles from hence on the Road to Malines; & he is there for the Safety of that Place. He has got the 25 & 16. Regiments of Ligt. Dragoons with him. It is impossible for a General to be more beloved than he is by every Soldier & Officer. & the Choice he has made of his Staff is a great Proof that he is a very clever Man.— I am infinitely happy to hear that Ernest has pleased so much in England; & that he has been so well received by the Kings & Queen that this would be the Case if they knew him. I only hope that he will take care of his Health on account of his Son.—

How is William, is he just as mad as he was before? — I have heard some strange things of him. I only hope that you, my Dearest Brother will keep Ernest from him. — The life we lead here is not the most amusing; we are however now pretty well off for Girls, & this renders it less tiresome. Frederick is gone this morning to Prince Coburg where there is just now a grand Consultation, for the P. of Orange is also there. God knows what is to be done there; I only hope something sensible.

God bless you my Dearest Brother with the hopes of seeing you soon I remain

Your most affte.

Fond and Brother

Adolphus Frederick.

The Duke of Cambridge
July 14th 1794.

From the Camp of Hadenthal
July 29th. 1794.

Sir

I hope Your Majesty will forgive my long silence and not attribute it to Sullenness or Neglect, for I can assure You that since my last Letter I have been so very unsettled, that it has been totally out of my Power to write: I have been the greatest Part of the Time without my Baggage whatever; and most commonly I have been marching on the Worst Days. Besides I am quite ashamed of our capitulating our Retreat, which, though certainly not our fault, is equally disagreeable. I am now with my Regiment on the left of the Corps of the Hannoverians. We are encamped upon a very large Heath, so that we have quite a different Country than we had formerly,

instead of Hedges and fields we are now in an open Country where the Enemy can not advance without our being long time before informed of it, we can also very well make use of our Cavalry which is our greatest Advantage over our Enemy; so that if they come here, they will find it difficult to force us back. The only misfortune is that the Water is very bad, & so scarce that we are forced to dig wells which however have succeeded very well. The Provisions are also very scarce, as the Villages are at a great distance from us: our Sutlers are our chief Reference, & we are obliged to send to Breda which is above 6. Miles from hence for ~~Provisions~~ Liquors. My Regiment is at present the strongest in number of any of the Dragoons: I have very near 400. Men, which is certainly a great number, for

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when I marched out I had some 200. all the rest being at the Hospital. I saw General Hammerstein a few days ago; he was very happy at the gracious Letter Your Majesty had wrote to him, and at the Beautiful Sword Your had given him. He said that he was not so old; he should be afraid of getting round by Your Graciousness to him. I am infinitely sorry at the loss of the 4. Battalion at Newport, certainly General Diepenbroick's Regiment was by far the finest Corps, as it was quite complent and well exercised. I only wish that the French would exchange the Prisoners as they have done some days with the Austrians, but I am afraid they will not. Yesterday I was presented to the Stadholder, who did me the honour to go to Breda to dine with him. I have nothing more to say at present than that I ever shall remain Your Majesty's

Most Dutiful Nephew
Son & Subject Adolphus Frederick

Prince Adolphus
July 29. 1794

From the Camp of Berlikum
Sept. 2. 1794.

Sir

I received from General Wallmoden last Thursday night the News that Your Majesty had been so gracious as to advance me to the Rank of Major General. I was prevented from returning Your my sincere Thanks by the last Mail, as owing to a very fatiguing March which lasted two days. I seize therefore the first Opportunity I have of writing for to assure Your Majesty that I can not express in Words my feelings upon Your Graciousness to me; I that I always shall endeavour to render my Behavior worthy of Your Approbation which is the only means I have of proving to You my Gratitude.

Last Thursday night at eleven o'. Clock we received orders to break a power Camp; & to march immediately. We halted, the first day on a large Heath near Helvoit where we bivaquied; & marched on the next morning to the Position we now occupy. We arrived without being the least harrassed by the Enemy who were in great Force before us; and had spread themselves the Wednesday in such Numbers that it was not thought prudent to wait for an Attack. If our left Flank had not risked so much, I believe we should have had a very fair Battle for we had a very open ground wherein our Cavalry and Artillery could have acted with great Effect. But we were in such a Situation that if we had been beat we had no Retreat but into the Sea &

Gertruydenberg. Even General Hammerstein who commands the advanced Posts and who did not retire till eight in the morning was not the last molested by the Enemy. He went the first day to Tilleurey. I now he has his Chain of Posts from Michelgiebel to Aarle having the Maier Dommel in his front. I have nothing else of any consequence to inform Your Majesty of, wherefore I now conclude in renewing my Thanks for Your Graciousness to me, & in remaining

Your Majesty's
Most Dutiful and Affte
Son and Subject
Adolphus Frederick

Duke of Cambridge
September 2.
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From the Camp of Berlikum
Oct. 26th 1794.

My Dearest Brother

I can not express in words how happy I am at hearing of Your Marriage, & how much I thank You for Your Goodness in informing me of it yourself, as you are so very much pressed for time. Be assured my Dearest Friend that there is nothing in this World that might render You happy that I do not most sincerely wish for You; & the more so this as I am sure it will please very much the whole Nation. We are here in this Position ever since the 31st of last Month; perfectly quiet, and scarce knowing where the Enemy are.

We quitted our former Ground in very great haste for we did not get Orders for striking our Tents before 11. o Clock, at night, and at one in the morning we were already on the March. The first night we bivaqued on a great Plain near Helvoit, & the second day we arrived here, but were also obliged to pass the night without Tents as they were not yet come up. our Position in my Opinion is pretty good; but not so strong as one would imagine according to the Map for the Marais de Peel which is on our left Flank is at present perfectly dry.—

AA

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I will not at present trouble You any longer as I am sure You must be very much occupied therefore I shall now conclude with the most sincere Wishes & Prayers for Your happy many & many very happy Years; and shall ever remain

Your affte. Friend and Brother

Adolphus Frederick.

Duke of Cambridge
Sept. 6. 1794.

Prince Adolphus
October 4 1794.

From the Comp. of Well.
Oct.r 4th 1794.

Sir

Since my last Letter which I had the Honour of writing to Your Majesty from Dongen nothing has happened to us except the continual Retreats we have made; and which, though I am persuaded they are not our Fault, are very disagreeable for him who is forced to make them. We are now on this Side of the Maeze: The Duke's Army defend it from Ravenstein down to Venloo. The Hanoverians are at present divided into several little Corps, the Defence of this River from Bergen down to Venlo. A great number of Works have been thrown up, and the Train of Artillery which we have with us is almost all posted; but I am afraid that all these will avail very little; as the Austrians who are on our Left Wing have been forced out of their Position

behind the Rohr; so that I suppose we shall retreat. All the Baggage has been ordered off this night. The Austrians are at Kaiserswerth on the Rhine at Dusseldorff; They were defeated the Day before yesterday; the Cannonade was very heavy; but as we could hear it very well, it began at Day break, & lasted till twelve at noon. The French passed the Rohr yesterday. — They have been here since a week on the opposite side of the Maese; They fired the first Day, but now not answering them, they have given it over, & every thing is quiet. They want very much to be taken with us, but it is forbid. They are certainly not in any Force before Wesel; but about three Leagues nearer to Venlo they have a Corps of 6000 Men. It does not seem as if they would try to force their Passage

P.S.

Prince Adolphus
October 4 1794.

here, for till now they have erected no Works, except a small Fleche opposite Berger which is merely for their own Defence. I am convinced that if they were to attack us here, they would meet with a very hot Reception, for all our Batteries are finished, & the Artillery are here with us very respectable. Besides the Hanoverian three Batteries we have some Hessian Twelve Pounders, & four inche Howitzers. General Abercrombie is also here with eight Regiments of Infantry & three of Cavalry; so that we have now Men enough for to defend the River. — I have nothing more to add at present than that I ever shall remain

Your Majesty's
Most Dutiful & Affte
Son and Subject
Adolphus Frederick

P.S.

Goch. Oct. 6th. Though I know that a Postscript is not a very proper to be written to Your Majesty, yet I hope Your will excuse me, as this Letter was not yet sent off, and I was afraid of troubling You with a Letter second. The Hannoverians broke up their Camp the Day before yesterday at eight in the Evening and marched for Geldern. General Wollmoden sent me with one Battalion of Guards, two Squadrons of the 2d. Regiment, and three Pieces of Heavy to this Place, for to guard the Bridge over the Nee till General Bothmer who was detached towards Venlo should arrive. He came here yesterday afternoon, and I am now under his Orders. The News of the French having got over the Maese at Well come this Night, a Patrole was immediately sent off towards that Place, but is not yet come back. The Bridge which they had begun making yesterday over

Baron Lenthe to Prince Adolphus

[Enclosure]

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Arlington St. ce 30me Avril 1801.

Monseigneur

La male du 22 arrivée hier après dîner ne m'apporte d'Hanovre aucune autre nouvelle sinon le départ subit du Duc de Holstein Oldenburg pour Petersbourg. On ne sait pas s'il y est appelé, ou si c'est pour ses propres interets qu'il a entrepris ce voyage, mais ces interets étant précisement les nôtres vû que le Duché d'Oldenburg est également occupé, et sans doute convoité, par la Prusse, et eu égard d'ailleurs à son caractère, à la con-

noissance parfaite qu'il a de tout ce qui s'est passé chez nous, et à la bonne harmonie qui a toujours subsistée avec ce Voisin, le Ministère d'Hannovre lui a adressée une lettre à Petersbourg pour le prier d'y intercéder pour l'Electorat.

Mr de Jacobi Ministre de Prusse est venu hier chez moi me faire lecture de deux rapports l'une du Roi l'autre du Comte Haugwitz qu'il vient de recevoir. Elles contiennent en substance:

Que la mort de l'Empereur Paul, et les sentimens du nouvel Empereur qui venoit de declarer qu'à la verité il adhéreroit à la convention maritime mais qu'il préféroit que les differends avec l'Angleterre auxquels elle avoit donné lieu fussent ajustés par la négociation et non pas par les armes — que ces deux evenemens et l'Armistice conclu avec le Dannemarc changeoient la face des affaires et les ramenoient là ou la Cour de Berlin avoit toujours souhaité qu'elles fussent c'est à dire à une négociation pour parvenir à un ar-

Baron Lenthe to Prince Adolphus

[Enclosure]

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rangement amiable. Que la Prusse par sa modération en avoit laissé la voye ouverte où qu'elle n'avoit point donné d'ordres encore pour fermer à l'Angleterre les rivières; une lettre que j'ai du Baron de Geden dit que ces ordres effectivement donnés ont été revoqués; et que celle ci n'ayant non plus de son côté fait une démarche hostile contre la Prusse, Mr de Jacobi avoit non seulement a faire insinuer aux Marchands et Capitaines des Vaisseaux Prussiens qui étoient ici que le commerce et la navigation étoient libres, mais étoit authorisé aussi d'après la proposition qu'il en avoit faite de s'expliquer ici sur le désir du Roi de Prusse de contribuer à un arrangement amiable. Pour le pays d'Hannovre la Cour de Berlin continueroit à la vérité les mesures qu'elle avoit prises, mais qu'elle se flattoit que l'Angleterre se persuaderoit que ces mesures ne tendoient qu'à conserver un pays auquel Sa Majesté Britannique prenoit tant d'intérêt.

Mr de Jacobi a fait part de tout ceci a Ld Hawkesbury, et

le Comte Woronzow que je viens de parler ce matin m'a lue une lettre de Grondenes qui est dans le même sens. Woronzow sincèrement attaché au Roi et en versant des larmes aux yeux, paroit aussi fort bien intentionné pour le pays d'Hannovre et parfaitement convaincu qu'il est de l'interet non seulement de la Russie mais aussi de des autres Puissances de ne point permettre des injustices aussi criantes que le seroit l'anéantissement de cet état, et le bouleversement total de l'Allemagne duquel un exemple pareil menaceroit.

J'ai cru devoir informer Votre Altesse Royale de tout ceci non seulement à cause de l'interet qu'Elle y prend Elle même, mais aussi dans le cas qu'Elle jugeat à propos et trouvat occasion d'en parler au Roi. Quand même le pays d'Hannovre gemisse encore sous le poid de cette occupation soit disant amicale par les troupes Prussiennes, il est consolant pourtant de voir quelque lueur d'espérance.

C'est avec profond respect que j'ai l'honneur d'être

Monseigneur

de Votre Altesse Royale

le tres humble et tres obéissant serviteur

Delestre.

favour of you which is, that when our Army goes into Winter Quarters you would procure for me the leave of going over to England for a short time. Particularly should your Marriage then take place, it might be a double Reason for my going over. Could you do this without the Regiment's losing it all you would render me infinitely happy. I am very sorry to hear that the ill Humour of a Certain Person, (you know whom I mean,) continues so bad: Particularly her Behaviour towards Dear Mary & Sophia is so very singular, as they certainly by no means deserve it. What can possess her to be so odd, & why make her

Duchess of Cambridge to
Oct. 15. 1791.

Life so wretched when she would have it just the reverse. Mary writes continually how good you are to her, how much she is obliged to you for all your kindness to her at Weymouth. She deserves it for she is a charming creature, one of the seventy tempered Girls I ever saw. Adieu my Dearest Brother I will not trouble you any longer; but will only add that I ever shall remain

Your affe
Friend and Brother
Adolphus Frederick

Elvt. Dec. 4th 1792.

Dearest Brother

The unexpected Departure of Frederick from the Army prevented me from writing to You by him. I therefore seize the earliest opportunity I have for the Pleasure of Your Goodness in ~~asking~~ asking the King that we may come over for Your Marriage. I only hope that he will allow it. I should be infinitely happy to have the Pleasure of seeing you and of being able to wish You Joy in person. Be assured that no body can love You more sincerely & therefore wishes You every Happiness from the Bottom of his Heart. —

All is here at present very quiet wherefore I can not give You any News from here. A Heavy Cannonade

is maintained since some days upon Goree, which place holds out beyond all our expectations; which is a Proof that if the different Fortresses, the French are now in possession of since this Campaign, had such good Governors they might have held out much longer, especially as it is entirely surrounded & we have no Means of passing it. — Most Reports agree, that the French are gone into Winter quarters: I wish with all my Heart this may be true; for it is high Time we should have rest. I am at present under General Abercrombie's Command with a Brigade of 900 Hanoverians. To morrow we are to enter into our Huts after having been encamped for very near four Weeks: You may easily guess what a Number of Sick we must have. I will

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not tax you any longer, but will only add
that I ever shall remain

Your most affte.
Friend and Brother

Adolphus Frederick.

The Duke of ~~Sussex~~ Cambridge

Dec. 4. 1794