Hannover. Jan.y 9.th 1799.

Sir

The Messenger's setting off for England procures me an opportunity, which I can not refuse myself the pleasure of profiting of, that of presenting to Your Majesty my most humble congratulations on the beginning of this new Year; that You may see many very happy returns of it, and that it may turn out as glorious for Your Arms as the last was. This wish is, and must be the sincere one of every honest man, particularly at the present moment when the Supremacy of Governments over those the enemy can alone rouse the Sovereigns of Europe out of the phlegmatic state into which they are fallen. It seems unlucky that Austria is not to be roused; at least it is inconceivable how it can leave the King of Naples so long in the lurch: If the Austrians would advance I am convinced that the French would even be obliged

to leave the greatest part of Italy, all the Ecclesiastical, Tuscany as they would risk to have their Neck cut off; but now that the Emperor has not done any thing the French have fallen with all their forces on the Napolitans and I am very much afraid they will soon ruin their Army: General Mack has certainly done all in his power to make his Army act well, but with Troops which have not served in almost half a Century, and which are very ill officered ~~commanded~~ it is almost impossible to expect that much can be done, especially when they have been twice or thrice beat: I am doubly sorry for the King of Naples, as he is the only Sovereign on the Continent who has displayed a noble spirit, and tried to resist the French.

I have the honor of sending Your Majesty by the Messenger two Packets I received some blanks

ago from Stuttgard, which I have had no opportunity of forwarding before. My Sister mentions in all her Letters how happy she is, and every body, who comes from Stuttgard assures me the same. — My House has employed me a good deal of late: The workmen have worked very hard to get my Rooms ready but they have been very much stopped by the cold Weather. I hope it will be finished in a fortnight and then I shall remove into it immediately. I can not express in words to your Majesty, how much I feel for this new proof of your Goodness, and I certainly shall endeavour all my life to render myself worthy of your favour, which I value above every thing, and the preservation of which will ever be the chief aim of

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

Duke of Cambridge
9th Jan.y 1799

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Hannover. Jan.y 12.th 1799.

Sir

I am very sorry to be obliged to importune Your Majesty so soon again with a letter, but the importance of the subject will I trust excuse me. The very gracious manner, in which You were pleased to express Yourself to Mr. Dundas on his mentioning to Your Majesty my desire of securing my Cousin Princess Louise of Prussia, has been always deeply impressed in my heart, and nothing but the desire I have never to touch this subject to You, could have prevented expressing to You, my humble gratitude for it. Since that time I have not taken any further step in this affair having resolved never to do any thing without Your approbation; I only kept up a Correspondence with the Princess who seemed very happy with the hopes that the matter would in time be settled. This Correspondence has continued till about five Months ago when I remarked a great change

on her side, and since that time I have heard but very seldom from her: all this made me conclude that she had altered her Affection for me, and yesterday I received the Account of her having secretly married a Prince of Solms Braunfels. This fatal event has certainly made me very miserable, but I do not murmur at my fate having the comfort of having acted as an honest man in this whole Affair which the Queen of Prussia has acknowledged in the kindest manner: this is the disagreeable News which I thought it my Duty to inform Your Majesty of; and I hasten to write it by this post for fear it should come to You Ears by another channel: I hope You are persuaded I should never have disobeyed Your orders in mentioning to You this subject before the peace was made, as long as I had hopes that the Match could have taken place; but now that all these are over, I thought it would be a want of Confi-

dence from a Son who loves his Father as I do, to con-
ceal from him an Event, which sooner or later he must
be informed of. I beg Your Majesty to excuse
the incoherence of this letter, but I am, I am too
much moved to be able to write better. That You
may continue long enjoying the most perfect Health
is the sincerest wish, and most ardent prayer, of

Your Majesty's
Most Dutiful & Affte.
Loyal Subject
Adolphus Frederick.

F. Adolphus Friderick

Hannover Febr. 14. 1799

on the ill conduct of the Widow
of P. Louis of Prussia; the first
account I had from it except [that]
from Berlin.

Hannover, March 27. 1799.

My Dearest Brother

Though it is a very long time since I have had the pleasure of writing to you, yet I trust you know me too well to think me capable of neglect or forgetfulness, and that you will attribute my silence to the true reason, the fear of troubling you: I have also of late not been in a great humour to write, having been very much out of spirits on account of a subject which you undoubtedly will have heard of, which has hurt me so much that I have not thought it to any Body but to those who were informed of the whole affair from the beginning to whom I was obliged to write. Ernest has received an account of the whole business, which I desired him to mention to you, it being too painful a task for me to give a detailed account of these particulars; and for this reason I hope, Dear Brother, you will excuse my not having written to you before on this Subject: My first intention was to inform you of my they, but on my receiving an order not to mention the Subject to any Body, I put off writing to you till I should have some hopes that the Matter would take place, when you undoubtedly should have

been the first Person to have been informed of it. But as the whole Affair was her. brother's, I never felt much moved to write on the Subject except to those who were already implicated in the Affair. This is the real reason why You have not heard from me on this Subject, and I hope, my Dearest Brother that You are too much persuaded of my attachment for You to think that my Silence could come from Neglect. God knows I love You from the bottom of my Heart and that there is nothing I would not do for to prove it You. — Pray let me soon hear from You, and be assured that nothing can render happy

Your ever affte
Friend and Brother

Adolphus Frederick.

I hoped to have been able to give You some good News of the Operations of the Austrian Army. The last account we received, was that the two armies were very near one another not far from Constance, and therefore it is highly that an action will have taken place by this time. — [illegible] has been [illegible] but he [illegible] French [illegible] death [illegible] [illegible] is agreed [illegible] entered [illegible] for the [illegible] Troy, and [illegible] at Lord [illegible] from [illegible] Prussian [illegible]

time. – General Hake who commands in Switzerland has been twice attacked in his position at Feldkirch, but he has defeated the Enemy; and according to the French Reports, they have lost very near 4000. Men. The Aust. Duke has sent great Reinforcements to this General, the Enemy seeming determined to drive the Austrians out of Switzerland. – The Prince Royal is in a very disagreeable situation at this Moment, the French having entered the Duchy of Wirtemberg; it seems though that for the present they do not intend to molest the Country, and for this Reason my Sister has resolved to remain at Ludwigsburg, a Castle, three Leagues from Stuttgart, from whence she can get in a very few Hours into the Prussian Dominions.

H. R. H. The Duke
of Cambridge
&c. &c. &c.
1799.

Hannover. April 3.d 1799.

Sir

I seize this opportunity of the Quarterly Messengers departure for England, to inform Your Majesty that I have lately received an invitation from the Landgrave of Hesse to come to Cassel to meet the King of Prussia there. I conceive that I should be very happy to accept his Invitation if unforeseen circumstances did not prevent me, and for this reason I take the liberty of addressing myself to Your Majesty, begging You to grant me Your permission to go to Cassel. I have very often been invited by the Landgrave, but have never accepted for wanting reasons, and I have never even ventured to ask Your leave, knowing that Your pleasure I should remain at Hannover as long as I am on the Staff; but as the King goes to Cassel, where he is to review the Hessian troops, which is certainly an interesting sight for a Soldier, I hope Your Majesty will permit me to accept of the invitation. — I am very happy to be able to give You a good account of the operations of the Army under the Archduke. Yesterday we received the certain News of his having attacked General Jourdan's Army on the

21st of this last month, near Altkirchen, a Town in Suavia which is but a few Leagues from the Lake of Constance; The French General retreated through Pfullendorf and Stockach to Engen, where he was again attacked on the 28th by the Archduke and completely beat; so that it is said the enemy have lost 8000. Men: In consequence of this Victory the two French armies are separated; General Jourdan has retreated towards Strasburg and by this time it is very probable that he has passed the Rhine: It is likewise said that the Austrians have occupied Schaffhausen, and by this they have turned General Masena's left Wing, so that probably he will be forced to retire from Switzerland. I rejoice very much for my Sister's sake, for she will now be able to remain for the present quiet at Louisburg. I received a letter from her of the 25th last Month in which she mentions that she was very well and that as long as the Ennemy did not come to Stuttgart she should remain in the Country. The

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last accounts received from Berlin mention that my mother had had a return of his old complaint. Upon the whole, he has borne the winter very well, and the Duke of Brunswick, who passed through Hannover yesterday, and who saw my brother lately at Berlin, assures me he looks very healthy, and that he was very much liked by every body there, but particularly by the King and Queen. I have now not trespass any longer on Your Majesty's patience, than just to add the assurance of my ever remaining,

Your Majesty's
Most Dutyful and Affte.
Son and Subject

Adolphus Frederick

~~H.R.H. D. of Cambridge~~

April 3d 1799.

Hannover. April 20th 1799.

Sir

I was rendered very happy at the arrival of the Quarterly Messenger, by Your Majesty's very gracious letter, for which I return You my most humble thanks: I rejoiced very much to hear how well You are, and I most sincerely wish that You may continue enjoying such good health for many Years still. – The new house You have been so gracious to buy for me is now almost finished, and I cannot enough say how comfortable it is. The only thing I should wish still, would be to have the honor of waiting upon Your Majesty in it: I do not give up all hopes that this Wish may once be fulfilled; for as the operations of the Austrians have been hitherto very successful, and it is to be hoped they will continue so, the French will soon alter their insolent tone, and be forced to make a peace; and then is the moment I trust we may see You here. The Joy, this would spread through the whole, is undoubtedly very great, and I am sure Your Majesty would not be displeased with Your Subjects here. This for the most part are very loyal. Yesterday's post has brought us an account of a fresh Victory gained by General Suwarow over the French Army

under the Command of General Scherer. The Austrians attacked on the 5th Inst. the Enemy near Verona, and after a very hot engagement completely defeated them: The loss is very considerable on both sides: 7000. Prisoners, 11. Colours, and 19. Pieces of Cannon have been taken. The Austrians compute their loss at 4000. Men. This Affair is of the utmost importance the enemy being now obliged to give up their Plan of forcing a passage through Tyrole; and should General Kray succeed in taking Peschiera, which is now blockaded up: I think Matters will end very well in Italy; for the Austrians are then sure on one side. — The French have according to the last accounts retreated to the other left side of the Rhine, and General St. Cyr's Division is alone remained on this side for to cover Kehl. By this time Schaffhausen will probably be in the hands of the Austrians, and I trust that General Hotze will have advanced into Switzerland. It is a great pity that no Decision is made in the North, for I am sure, that if this were to take place Holland would be soon in our hands. — I dare now not trouble you any longer on Your patience, but just to add the assurance,

48537

that I shall ever remain

Your Majesty's

Most dutiful & affte.

Servant & Subject

Adolphus Frederick.

Duke of Cambridge
20th April 1799

Hannover. May 18th 1799.

Sir

The very gracious manner in which Your Majesty has been pleased to express Yourself on my subject in Your last letter of the 27th Sept. has rendered me infinitely happy, and it is impossible for me to find words strong enough to describe what I felt in reading it. God knows, that to deserve Your Approbation has been the constant aim of all my conduct, and there is nothing I would not do to prove the truth of this Assurance. I am perfectly convinced of the justness of Your Majesty's remarks on my late unlucky affair, and I cannot enough thank You for Your delicacy in not touching this subject till time had made me reflect more coolly on what had passed. I certainly have suffered a great deal, but the Conviction of having acted as an honest man in this whole business has helped to support well what I have gone through, and the Assurance of Your Approbation is a comfort which I can not express; for though I feel that I am happy in not having married a woman who has behaved in such a manner, yet I find it very difficult to forget a person to whom I have been most sincerely attached.

Our accounts from Italy continue to be very good. The French have been hotly engaged there, and the Austrian Head Quarters were at Milan, which the Enemy had left in consequence of General Wukassowich having surrounded a corps of three thousand men commanded by General Serrurier, and taken them all Prisoners near Milan. This Corps was posted at about four leagues from that Town, and was intended to oppose any operations that could be made in consequence of the Austrians passing the Adda; but General Wukassowich took the resolution of attacking this Corps unexpectedly after his having passed that river at Lecco, and his plan has perfectly succeeded. Poor General Stahl has made an unfortunate attack in Switzerland in trying to force the Pass of Luciensteig about four Leagues from Coire: He has been repulsed with some loss, but I think that this misfortune will soon be repaired. It is a great pity, that the King of Prussia will not take an active part, for I am sure the Cause would be soon in our hands. How happy should I be could I share the advantage of contributing

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come what with my brigade to the glorious exploits that most probably we should make, were we to act. I hope Your Majesty will forgive these remarks of an Officer who loves his profession, and is sorry not to have engaged at a moment when there is every probability of success, if a decisive step was taken. – I cannot conclude without repeating my thanks for Your last very gracious letter, and I beg Your to be assured that I never shall remain

Your Majesty's

Most Dutiful and Affte.

Son and Subject

Adolphus Frederick.

Duke of Cambridge
May 18th 1799

Duke of Cambridge
June 4. 1799

Hannover. June 4th 1799.

48540

Sir

It is impossible for me to let post this day without presenting Your Majesty my most humble congratulations on it, and my most sincere wishes that You may see still many and many very happy returns of it: This is the sentiment which every honest subject has, and I am happy to say that this is the call with all the Hannoverians: I am sure that if ever Your Majesty was to come over to this Country You would be pleased with the loyalty of Your Hannoverian subjects, for though they do not know You, yet they love You prodigiously, and I will answer for the Military being ready to shed the last drops of their blood for Your sake. — Since my last letter, I have been for some days at Minden to visit upon the King, and at the same time to see the Prussian troops. I should not have failed to have asked Your Majesty's permission to go there, had I not been convinced that You would have no objection to this excursion, Minden being only 7 German miles from hence: The troops, particularly

the infantry are in the finest order, and it is a great pleasure to see them manoeuvre. The bad weather, however, had the first days, and the ground so swampy that the Cavalry could scarce exercise at all. However the last four days the King was there, the weather changed and every thing succeeded perfectly; at least the King said he was very much pleased with his troops.

I hope Your Majesty will excuse the liberty I have taken of troubling You with these lines, but in favor of the Motive that has prompted me to it; and that You do not doubt the assurance of my ever remaining,

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

Prince Adolphus
31st July 1799

48541

Hannover. July 31st 99.

Sir

I take the liberty of writing Your Majesty a few lines by this post to inform Your that I returned last Wednesday from my Military excursion. I am very happy to be able to assure Your, that I have found the Guard Corps in very good order, and I wish Your Majesty could have seen them, as I am sure Your would have been pleased with them. The Men, and horses, are all in very good condition, and perfectly fit for active service: Indeed, I can not denie that when I saw the Troops I was sorry, at the thought of their not being employed. The present unactive life we lead, is undoubtedly a very disagreeable one for a soldier who likes his profession, and who wishes to distinguish himself. We have one comfort however, and that it is that our Inactivity is not our fault. I trust that a time will come soon, when Your Majesty's Troops will be called upon to act, and I hope then that they will behave in such a manner as to meet with Your Approbation. The spirit in the Troops is really very good, and their

loyalty and attachment to their Sovereign, very grea[great]
To keep up this will be the constant study and care
of him who has the honor to remain,

Your Majesty's

Most Dutiful & Affte.

Son and Subject

Adolphus Frederick.

Prince Adolphus
14th August 1799

Hannover. Augt. 14th 1799.

48542

Sir

Your Majesty will allow me to trouble You with a few lines on a subject, which I trust, when known to You will not meet with Your disapprobation. It regards the humble request to be permitted to attend my brothers on the Secret Expedition: I own I have long had the intention of offering Your Majesty my services; but the fear of being refused as long as none of the family were of the party, and the conviction that You know me always desirous to serve when called for, prevented me taking any step before: but now that I hear that my brothers are to be of the Expedition I should be miserable to be left behind, and I trust Your Majesty will not find this feel unnatural for a young soldier who wishes to be of some use to his country. The supposition that the Hanoverians are to remain at home, is the reason of this request, as certainly in the contrary case I never could wish to leave them, and I do assure You that nothing but the desire to be of use, and to lead an active life in my Profession have prompted me to take this step. Not in the least an idea to get into the Civil Service; for I wish nothing more than to remain in this country

where I am perfectly happy and contented; and where I know Your Majesty wishes I should stay. My humble request is therefore only to attend the Expedition in case the Hannoverians should not be of it; and then to return immediately back. – I trust Your Majesty will not disapprove of the liberty I have taken of troubling You with this letter; and if You would be so gracious to grant my requests You would render infinitely happy him who has the honour to remain with the most profound respect,

Your Majesty's
Most Dutiful & Affte.
Devoted Subject

Adolphus Frederick.

P. Adolphus
Hannover Oct. 2d. 1799.

48543

Hannover Oct. 2d 1799.

Sir

I can not let the heartedly Messenger leave Hannover without giving him a few lines for Your Majesty to congratulate Your on the glorious news from the East Indies, and the different successes of Your British Arms in Holland. The strong resistance they have met with does them the highest credit, and I dare say that now a Corps has been detached into the Province of Friesland, the enemy will soon leave their position at Alkmaar, and retire to Amsterdam. Or they could render one happier than to be ordered to join with the Hannoverians the army in Holland, and from here the fine condition in which our troops at present are, ~~is~~ would enable them to act in a manner that would merit Your Majesty's approbation. We have not been able to exercise much the last six weeks, most of our men being on furlough to assist the peasants during the harvest time: but now that that is over the men are ordered in, and both battalions will exercise again on the 15th. of this month: I hope the weather will be fav=

rable about that time, for since a fortnight we have had very cold and windy weather, and three or four nights, a very hard frost. The harvest has been very plentyful this year notwithstanding the cold summer we have had, and this is a great helping for the poor people for the Corn was grown so very low that the peasants have scarce been able to pay their board. — I hope the heir of Weymouth has done Your Majesty good, and that you may ever enjoy the most perfect health is the most fervent prayer of

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

Duke of Cambridge
October 12 1799

48544

Hannover. Oct. 12th 1799.

Sir

I beg Your Majesty to accept my most humble thanks for Your very gracious letter of the 28th of last month which I received on Tuesday together with the enclosed for my sister which has been forwarded yesterday to Stuttgart. I rejoice in being able to congratulate You on the glorious affair of the 2d Inst: in Holland, and I do most sincerely wish that the future operations of the combined Army may be always crowned with the compleatest success. This great news arrived here from Holland some days ago; and though the account as stated in the Dutch Gazette is as little favorable to the British as possible, yet one can easily see that General Brune's Army has been completely beat, at least the left Wing of his troops consisting chiefly of French.

General Suwarow has forced the St. Gothard, and has joined the Austrians under the command of General Auffenberg: He had intended to march to Lucern, and from thence push on to Berne. Should this plan succeed, the Position the enemy had on the Albis Mountains before they attack

Glynig would be perfectly turned, and the French obliged to retreat, and perhaps to be entirely routed. The corps of Russians commanded by General Korsakow was advancing on the 30th of last month together with the Austrian corps under General Petrarsch's orders, and it is to be hoped that a general attack will have taken place by this time, and I trust then that all the advantages the enemy have had will be lost. – I have not heard from my sister for this last fortnight, which I look upon as a sign that in Saxon every thing is quiet, for else she would certainly have written. – I have now not trespass any longer on Your Majesty's patience than just to add the assurance of my ever remaining

Your Majesty's
Most Dutyfull & Affte
Son and Subject

Adolphus Frederick.