

Wm Fitzhardinge Berkeley to Col. J. McMahon

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Bethelby Castle

January 10. 1813

My dear Mr. Mahon.

In consequence of a Correspondence that has taken place between Mr. Adam and my Mother, I find he is under a mistake with regard to the expectation I had of being created a Baron, and in justice to myself, and to her, I must request that you will have the goodness to set him right. Mr. Adam in a letter addressed to my Mother, December 9. 1812 says "I think it right to mention that it appears to me on enquiry, that the idea of creating your eldest son a Baron,

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must have been a mistake on the part
of your Ladyship ^{4th. 8th. 8th.}

Now I beg to assure you, my dear Mr. ¹⁰Stanton,
that if the Prince Regent thinks me
unworthy of that honour, or that from
any reasons His Royal Highness may
have, he may think proper not to confer
it upon me, I am content: and shall
urge the subject no further; yet, in jus-
tice to myself, that I may not appear
in the eyes of Mr. Adam a mere visionary,
I must call to your recollection the
following circumstances, and for the
truth of my statement appeal to you.
In the summer of 1811 immediately
after the House of Peers had decided
that I had not proved my claim to
the Easton, I had the honour of an

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interview with you at Carlton House,
when you told me the Prince Regent
wished me to go to Portugal either to serve
as a Hunter in the British Army or
in the Portuguese, as a means of giving
His Royal Highness an opportunity
of conferring on me that, the Duke
of Cornwall was pleased to
say, he firmly believed I was born to
inherit. I immediately accepted my
naming to go to Portugal in compliance
with His Royal Highness's wishes.
Some few days afterwards I saw you
again at Carlton House, and you
told me His Royal Highness for
certain reasons wished me to abandon
the idea of going to Portugal, which I
accordingly did. In the month of July

1812, I again had the pleasure of
waiting on you at Carlton House,
and then you told me, that you
advised me immediately to go to
Orkney Castle some able Lawyer, and
there collect what proofs I had of the
existence of a territorial Baronry, not
with a view to claim it at the Bar of
the House of Peers, but that His Royal
Highness merely wished to have the
claim laid before him, as a ground
for creating me a Baron. I went
to Orkney Castle with Mr. Boulenger
and in four days returned with
a few extracts of the most striking
proofs of the existence of a territorial
Barony. These I sent with a letter
(by your advice) to the Prince Regent

In September 1792, I again met
you at Cheltenham, and you then
advised me to purchase two seats
in the House of Commons for my
Mother and myself, as you thought
the support I might be enabled
to give to His Royal Highness's
Government would induce Ministers
to approve of the Creation. Since that
time I have not had the pleasure
of seeing you, but heard from my
Mother that on consideration, you
thought it would be derogatory to me
to sit in Parliament (otherwise than
as a Peer. No further communication
was made to me on the subject

As she sent to me her correspondence
with Mr. Adam and to clear her
and myself from the charge of the
idea of the Barony having only existed
in our heated imaginations, I have
detailed to you these circumstances
as they took place, and hope you
will take the earliest opportunity
your convenience will admit of, to
assure Mr. Adam that the idea of
creating her eldest son a Baron was
not so decidedly a mistake on the
part of Lady Berkeley as he seems
at present to suppose.

I remain, my dear Mr. Mahon

Most faithfully Yours

J. Fitzharding Berkeley

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Colonel Berkeley
Jan 10th 1813.

To Colonel Berkeley
The Right Hon. Mr. Mahon
St. St. St.



DURSEY
PENNY POST

Attn House
London

