Draft
to Mr. Robinson Sewby Sept. 2. 1784.

5876

Mr. Robinson has acted with his usual propriety, undoubtedly the original letter from Lord North was put into Mr. Robinson's hands that Mr. Drummond might shew that Lord that he has a demand on him for £17,000. which I had reason to suppose had been paid to Mr. Drummond. Of the remaining £10,000. I have discharged £7,000. desired paying the other £6,000. that Lord North might previously state desired with his own account with Mr. Drummond. Having had reason to transact some business this spring I then found that Lord North had taken no step and therefore have now been obliged to put that letter into Mr. Drummond's hands and a new agreement has been formed by Mr. Robinson that Mr. Drummond has arranged with Lord North, then I shall pay the £6,000. and any interest due to finally to close the transaction.

Sewby
Sept. 2d. 1784.

Richard Rigby to Ld North

5877

St James's Place
6th Sept: 1784

My dear Lord,

Amongst a variety of very unpleasant circumstances attending my present situation as a public accountant, it is not one of the least, that I find myself under the necessity of writing to your Lordship upon the subject of money. But I must acquaint You, that I have made an agreement with the Treasury, and in consequence of it, have entered into a recognizance in the Court of Exchequer, to pay interest for the publick money remaining in my hands

Lord North

hands from the first day of January last, to pay the principal at certain instalments, and to deposit securities for the amount of the debt. This situation makes it unavoidably necessary for me to call upon every Body who owes me money. It will certainly be disagreeable to many to have their money or securities given in by me to the Solliciter of the Treasury, but I have no way of avoiding it, but by being paid. In any other predicament but the one in which I stand, your Lordship would have heard nothing of this matter, but have taken your own time for the discharge of your Note of hand.

Circumstanced

Rich

Richard Rigby to Hd North

5877 (2)

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circumstanced as I am, Jou must see the necessity of the application

I am, my dear Lord, with the greatest regard Jour most obedient and most humble Servant

Richd Rigby

Wm. Pitt

Sept. 9 1784

5878

Mr Pitt humbly presumes to transmit a Letter, which is prepared for your Majesty's signature at the earnest Recommendation of the Lord Lieutenant for an Issue of Seven Thousand Pounds from the Irish Treasury to Captain Brooke, upon Account. His Grace seems to think it very material to give him this present Aid from Government without Loss of Time to enable him to go on with a Manufacture established at the Town

of Prosperous, which is in many Lights of great Public Utility.

Mr Pitt takes the Liberty to add that he has received a Letter from Mr Orde, by which he learns that some of the Information received at Dublin, have the supposed Plot to Sir Edward Newenham in conjunction with Lord Bristol. Mr Orde promises more particular Information

Wm. Pitt

Sept. 9 1784

5878 (2)

Sights in a few days. In the mean while Mr Pitt can hardly imagine that under such Auspices any Plan can have been brought to much Maturity.

Brighthelmston
Thursday Septr 9th 1784

Mr Pitt Chan.r of the Ex.r
Knightsbridge Sep.r 9. 1784.
Rec.d Sep.r 10.

Draft
to Mr. Pitt Chan. of the Ex.
St. James's Sept. 10th 1784. m/20 p. 1. Pk

5879

St. James's Sept. 10th 1784.
m/20 p. the Ch

I have just received Mr. Pitt's letter enclosing the Warrant prepared at the desire of the Duke of Rutland for Capt. Brooke to go on with the Manufacture at the Town of Prosperous.

I am not surprised that Mr. Orde's information on the supposed Plot ~~reach~~ Sir Edward Newenham as well as Lord Bristol; but such heads as Mr. Pitt very well observes are not likely to form well regulated Plans, yet they ought to be well watched for they may be desperate ones.

On Monday I received through the hands of Lord Southampton the enclosed letter from the P. of Wales, the Copy of my letter to the Ld. Chancellor will explain what ~~his intimation~~ on delivering it, I also ~~send~~ the Ld. Chancellor answer to the ~~which~~ I do not see I am required to take any step ~~[illegible]~~ which he ~~comes~~ this morning, ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ on Wednesday ~~Ld. Thurlow~~ will ~~then~~ return these Papers which I cannot want before. Whether the P. of Wales will apply on the subject of his Debts I have no guess ~~but~~ Ld. Southampton thinks he cannot avoid it. He dropped ~~to me~~ that they are supposed to amount to £100,000. which in one year and without gaming seems hardly credible. I shall certainly give no answer but that of a general kind, and such as appears to be made for I don't possibly see till I have the whole before me what can be done on the subject, and then not without the fullest communication with Mr. Pitt.

Mr. Drummond
Langley Park Sept. 10th 1784

5880

Mr. Drummond with his most humble duty to his Majesty, has the honor to return him Lord North's Letter intrusted to his care, with Lord North's answer to the same.

Langley Park Saturday Noon
10th September 1784.

Copy
to Mr. Ellis
Windsor Sept. 15th 1784.

5881

Mr. Ellis's politeness in offering Me and the Queen any accommodation at Paultons if the Chase from Popham Lane on the 25th should lead Me too far towards the Forest, deserves my best thanks. I thank God bodily exertion is never inconvenient to Me, and though the Stag should chuse that course I shall certainly without inconvenience return to Windsor.

Windsor
Sept. 15th 1784.

George R.

Wm. Baker to Vincent Lunardi Sept. 18 1784

5882

Sir

I send this by my Servant, that I may learn from yourself what I am extremely anxious to hear, that your health has not suffered by your late Fatigue, that your Balloon arrived in London without Injury, and at the same time to acquaint you with the further Steps I have taken in your Business.

Yesterday morning I made to the very Spot where your Balloon in its Passage touched the Ground & where your Cat was landed; and with the Assistance of several People who were Witnesses of this first Descent, particularly of a Person whom you may recollect to have seen at the time near the Balloon on Horseback, and of the very Girl who picked up the Cat, have ascertained the Place with sufficient precision. They pointed out also the Part of the Field where you Grapple dragged, and mentioned some other Circumstances, the most material of which I propose to collect into a Formal Deposition and shall attend them again today to obtain their more solemn Confirmation of the Facts.

Yesterday too, at my request, Five of the Harvest Men mentioned in the Deposition of Elizabeth Brett (which you have with you) attended me here, & have in the same formal Mode deposed to the Time, Manner and

5883

Place of your last Descent, and to the Fact of their Coming to the Assistance of Elizabeth Brett, as stated by her. This Deposition shall accompany the other which I am to take today, and you will make such Use of them as you may find necessary. I cannot however avoid saying, that Admiration & Astonishment seem so thoroughly to have taken possession of all Ranks of People, instead of that Incredulity which your Friend Mr Sheldon apprehended, that these supplemental Proofs are hardly required. If however they should finally be thought requisite, it will give me particular pleasure in having procured them. — Whatever you may be advised by your Friends in London to give to the Publick, will, I have no doubt, be well considered: — It cannot be detailed in Terms too Plain and simple. — You must be sensible that the Façon de parler here and in France are extremely different, and that Truth has never received advantage from unnecessary Ornament. You will recollect too that the Account will be read by Thousands who were not witnesses of the Facts.

You will make such Use of the subjoined Memoranda as you think necessary.

Your General Course from the Spot of your Departure in the Artillery Ground to that of your First Descent was something more

than One Point on the Compass to the Westward of the North, and the General Course of your Second Voyage was Three Points on the Compass to the Eastward of the North from the Place of your First Departure or something more than Four Points on the Compass to the Eastward of the North from the Place of your First Descent. Observe, I speak of your General Course, with a reference to the best Maps which I have by me: What Deviations or Traverses you might make from time to time in both Voyages, as you certainly must have made many, you will best judge. As a Proof of this, you will recollect, that the Field in which the last Letter with the Belt annexed was found, lyes about One Mile and a half to the Eastward bearing somewhat to the South of the Spot where you finally landed: If therefore, the Belt & Letter dropped in any thing like a perpendicular direction, the Course you took after the dropping of this Letter must have been West bearing somewhat to the North, notwithstanding, as I have before said, your General Course in the last Voyage, during which this Letter was dropped, was to the Eastward of the North. I mention this by the Bye for your Consideration.

You may wish to know the Identical Spots on which you made the two Descents.

That where you made your First Descent, that is, where your Galley came to the Ground, & where, or near to which, you put out the Cat, is in a large Ploughed Field belonging to John Hunter Esq.r of Gubbins in the County of Hertford. The Field itself is Part of the lately Inclosed Common of North Mimms in the

Manor of the Duke of Leeds. The Field is about half a Mile to the Eastward of the 16 Mile Stone on the Road leading from London to Hatfield and adjoins to the Road leading from said Turnpike Road to Northaw on the Left: The particular Spot in the Field is on the East Side very near to the Boundary Line between the Manors of Northaw & North Mimms. For the present a Common Hedge Stake only marks the Spot, but with your Leave & the Permission of Mr Hunter, I propose to erect a Stone there as I shall likewise do on the Spot of your last Descent with a suitable Inscription to record the Fact. It is remarkable that the Field where you made your first Descent is Called Etna, from the Circumstance which attended the late Inclosure of a large Quantity of Roots & Rubbish having been collected there & have continued burning for many Days. The Common People having heard of the famous Burning Mountain, gave the Field that Name. You hardly conceived when you dropped that you was so near to any thing that had Connection with Naples.

The Place of your final Descent is imperfectly described in Elizabeth Betts Deposition, but is in fact, as therein Stated, in the Parish of Standon, about half a Mile to the North West of the 24 Mile Stone on the Road that leads from London to Cambridge through Ware & Puckeridge.

If you wish to have any further Conversation with me on these Matters, I can

See 5885

The Voluntary Declaration and Deposition on Oath of Elizabeth Brett Spinster Servant to Mr Thomas Read Farmer in the Parish of Standon in the County of Herts &c

This Deponent on her Oath saith, That on Wednesday the 15th Day of September instant between 4 and 5 o'Clock in the Afternoon She this Deponent being then at work in her Master's Brewhouse heard an uncommon & loud Noise which on attending to it she conceived to be the Sound of Men singing as they returned from Hawers Home - That on going to the Door of the House She perceived a Strange Large Body in the Air, and on approaching it in a Meadow Field near the House called Long Mead She perceived a Man in it - That The Person in the Machine, which Sheknew not what to make of, but which the Person in it called an Air Balloon called to her to take hold of the Rope, which she did accordingly

That John Mills & George Phillips Labourers
with said Mr Thomas Read came up soon
after, and being likewise requested to
assist in holding the Rope both made
their Excuses, one of them ~~said~~ George
Phillips saying he was too short, & John
Mills saying that he did not like it
That this Deponent continued to hold the
Rope till some other Harvest Men
& Mr Benjamin Robinson of High Ercf
came up, by whose assistance the
Machine was held down till the
Person got out of the Machine. And
this Deponent further on her oath
saith that the Person now present
and shewn to her by William Baker
Esquire the Justice of Peace before whom
this Deposition is taken as Mr Vincent
Lunardi, and in ~~her~~ Presence declaring
himself to be Mr Vincent Lunardi
was the Person who called to me

from the Machine as above stated and who descended therefrom in the said Field called Long Mead.

Ebenezr. + Brett

Sworn before me this Sixteenth Day of September 1784 at Bayfordbury in the County of Hertford aforesaid.

Jere Mack

C Baker

Deposition of Eliz: Brett

No. 4.

Deposition on
Oath of Eliz: Brett

5884

The Voluntary Declaration & Depositions on Oath of Jonas Langton, John Chivey, James Champion, Edward Bentley, William Walker severally made this 17th Day of September 1784 before William Bolle Esquire one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Hertford.

The said Deponents on their Oath severally declare that on the 15th of this Instant September between 4 & 5 o'Clock in the Afternoon being then at work some of them in the Harvest Fields, & others in the Farm Yard of Messrs Benjamin Robinson and James Snow in the Parish of Standon in the County of Hertford They saw a Large & Uncommon Machine hovering in the Air, which they severally followed till it arrived at a certain Mead called Long Mead in the occupation of Thomas Read Yeoman of Standon aforesaid, where the same touched the Ground, and on their severally arriving at the said Place they found Elizabeth Brett Spinster Maid Servant with Thomas Read aforesaid holding a Rope which was fixed to the said Machine That on their severally approaching

the said Machine they perceived a Gentleman in one Part of it who desired them to assist Elizabeth Bell the Servant who was then holding the Rope, which they did accordingly; That by this Assistance the Machine being Stopped the Gentleman who was in it Came out, and to these Deponents declared that he had set out from the Artillery Ground in London a little before Two o'Clock in the Afternoon of the said Day in the said Machine, and had travelled through the Air to the Place where they found him.

Jonas Sankton

Sworn before me this Seventeenth Day of September 1784 at Bayfordbury in the County of Hertford.

Wm Bakes

John ⊢ Clover
his Mark

James Crampton

Edward ⊢ Bentley
his Mark

William ⊢ Waller
his Mark

For 1st part see 5882

5885

come to London conveniently after Wednesday next, and will attend you with Pleasure, if you give me Notice.

The Inclosed Scraps of Paper were found in the Field where you first descended near the Part where your Grapple took up the Corn. Whether you threw them from the Balloon you will recollect.

I have as yet no Tidings of the two first Letters — Probably today I may hear something of them, as I shall meet many Persons assembled from different Parts of the Country.

Adieu! most Sincerely

Yours

C. Baker

Bayfordbury
near Hertford
Sept.r 18.th 1784

5886

The Voluntary Declaration & Depositions on Oath of William Harper of the Parish of Hatfield in the County of Hertford Labourer and of Mary Butterfield of the Parish of North Mimms in the Said County of Hertford Spinster

This Deponent William Harper on his Oath saith That, as he was mowing Oats in a certain Field called Etna in the Parish of North Mimms in the County of Hertford on Wednesday the 15th. of this Instant September between Three & Four o Clock in the afternoon in Company with Thomas Blackwell Thomas Moore John Richardson & several others he perceived a large Machine hovering in the Air & gradually approaching the Ground near the Boundary Line of the Manors of Northaw & North Mimms that on his approaching the Machine in Company ~~of~~ the Persons aforementioned The Machine which had then Passed the Said Boundary Line touched the Earth in the said Field called Etna and this Deponent being then at the Distance of Four or Five Poles from the same plainly perceived a Gentleman in the Lower Part of the said Machine dressed in light Coloured Cloaths and a Cocked up Hat, who, on the Machine touching the Ground, threw out a Parcel of Dust or White Sand, That immediately the Machine mounted again into the Air, and went off in a North Direction. That while the Machine continued touching the Ground Mr Nathaniel Whitbread who was likewise present on Horseback desired this Deponent & the Rest who were present to stop the said Machine, which some of them, & in particular Thomas Blackwell attempted to do, but the Gentleman desiring them not to stop the Machine, they desisted. And this

Deponent Mary Butterfield on her Oath saith that
She was raking Oats in the said Field called Etna
on Wednesday ye 15th of September instant between
Three & Four o'Clock in the afternoon in Company
with Mary Crawley, Sarah Day & others, and
perceived a large Machine Hovering over Northaw
Common & approaching the Earth in the Field
where the this Deponent was at work, which at
length it touched in the said Field called Etna,
and during the Time that it so touched the Ground
a Kitten which was in the lower Part of the
said Machine came out on the Field – which
this Deponent picked up and soon afterwards
Sold to a Gentleman who came up to the Hedge
Side Enquiring after the Machine which he
called an Air Balloon – That this Deponent
plainly perceived a Gentleman in the Lower
Part of the Machine dressed in light Coloured
Cloaths, who on the Machine ascending again
spoke through his Trumpet and wished them
Good Bye. And these Deponents William Harper
& Mary Butterfield severally on their oaths
say That the Machine which came down
to the Earth appeared to consist of Two Parts
connected together, Namely, That in which
the Gentleman was, appeared to be a Framework
of wood & Netting from which there Stuck
out a Sort of Wing, and the other Part of the
Machine appeared in the Shape of a large
Pear with the Stalk downwards, and appeared
to be made of Silk or Canvas in Stripes of Green
and Red. And this Deponent Mary Butterfield
further on her Oath saith, That when the Machine

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1784

was ascending again from the Ground, She this Deponent perceived an Anchor or Grapple drag along the Ground, which took with it a small Parcel of the oats from the Field where they were Raking.

William ✗ Harper
his Mark

Sworn before me
this 20th Day of September
1784

[illegible] Bickle

Mary ✗ Butterfield
her Mark

No. 2

Deposition on Oath of
Wm Harvey & Mary
Butterfield

The Voluntary Declaration and Deposition on Oath of Nathaniel Whitbread of Swanley Bar Farm in the Parish of North Mimms in the County of Hertford yeoman —

This Deponent on his Oath saith, that being on Wednesday the 15th Day of September instant between the hours of Three & Four in the Afternoon in a certain Field called Etna in the Parish of North Mimms aforesaid he perceived a large Machine sailing in the Air near the Place where he was on Horseback; That the Machine continuing to approach the Earth, the Part of it in which this Deponent perceived a Gentleman Standing, came to the Ground and dragged a short way on the Ground in a slanting Direction, That the time when the Machine thus touched the Earth, was, as near as this Deponent could Judge about a Quarter before Four in the Afternoon — That this Deponent being on Horseback, and his Horse restive, he could not approach nearer to the Machine than about Ten Poles, but that he could plainly Perceive therein a Gentleman dressed in light Coloured Cloaths, holding in his hand a Trumpet which had the appearance of Silver or bright Tin — That by this time several Harvest Men coming up from the other Part of the Field to the Number of Twelve Men & Thirteen Women this Deponent called to them to endeavour to Stop the Machine, which the Men attempted, but the

Gentleman in the Machine desiring them to desist, and the Machine moving on with considerably Rapidity and clearing the Earth went off in a North Direction, and continued in sight at a very great heighth for near an Hour afterwards. And this Deponent further saith that the Part of the Machine in which the Gentleman stood did not actually touch the Ground for more than half a Minute during which time the Gentleman threw out a Parcel of what appeared to this Deponent as Dry Sand — That after the Machine had ascended again from the Earth this Deponent perceived a Grapple with Four Hooks which hung from the Bottom of the Machine dragging along the Ground which carried up with it into the Air a small Parcel of loose Oats which the Women were raking in the Field — And this Deponent further on his Oath saith that when the Machine had risen Clear from the Ground about Twenty Yards the Gentleman Spoke to this Deponent & the Rest of the People with his Trumpet, wishing them Good Bye and saying that he should soon go out of Sight. And this Deponent further on his Oath saith, That the Machine in which the Gentlemen came down to the Earth appeared

to consist of Two distinct Parts connected together by Ropes, namely, That in which the Gentlemen appeared to be, a Stage boarded at the Bottom and covered with Netting and Ropes on the Sides about Four feet & half high, and the other Part of the Machine appeared in the Shape of an Urn about Thirty feet high and of the same Diameter made of Canvas like bilskin ~~of~~ with Green Red & yellow Stripes.

Nathl Whitbread

Sworn before me this
Twentieth Day of September
1784

J Baker

No. 1

Deposition on Oath
of Mr Na: Whitbread

A

John Robinson to Ld North

5888

Lyon Isle
Monday Evening
20th Sept. 1784

My Lord

I have this Moment recd the Honor of your Letter, and believe me am always ready to obey your Commands, when they are within my Power — It gives me concern, that you shd have uneasiness, and whatever may be that, I shall always feel a satisfaction when I can shew an Attention to you, or render you any Service — Your Lordship I believe

I believe, states very correctly the Bus.
with Mr Rigby; 20,000 £ was repaid,
the remaining 10,000 £ was to have been
discharged, but part of that Money being
paid to Mr Powell for your Ballances,
I think, by your Orders on Messrs
Drummonds & on me, and other part of it
swallowed up in that unfortunate Affair
of Bates's, there remained only the Sum
of £3190, some odd Shillings & Pence
the Ballance, for Mr Rigby, which was
paid

John Robinson to Ld North.

5888 (2)

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paid to him by your direction soon after your going out of Office, and I believe by him regularly wrote off on your Note, as recd. of you so that there remains due to Mr Rigby £6810 sage some little Fraction, as I think the Acct stands

Both Mr Drummonds spoke to me on the Situation of their Debt, and I was sorry to find them uneasy about it — I have not however seen either of them for some Weeks —

Mr Gillies of Portland Road was one

one of the Trustees for Hyde's Annuity, but I have never heard One Word about it, since that Bus.ᵉ was fixed, & the Deeds, I apprehend sent or delivered to your Lordship.

I have the Honor to be with great Respect — Your Lordships

Most Obedt humble Servt

John Robinson

To the King's most Excellent Majesty.

Sire,

Full of Thankfullness for the Honor granted me, I beg to lay myself at your Majesty's feet, having no higher ambition than to obtain the approbation of a Monarch no less admired by strangers than beloved by his people, I humbly beg leave to present to your Majesty a Memoir of the first Aerial Voyage that hath been undertaken in your Majesty's Dominions. And if I have the happiness to afford your Majesty any pleasure or Entertainment, I have at least obtained one principal object which outweighs the hazard of the Enterprize.—

The 15th. of September being fixed on for my Embarcation from the Artillery Ground, accompanied by a friend, an immense Multitude assembled, of which many thousands were Witnesses to the process and preparation

for my Departure. —

Though the utmost diligence had been used by myself and several ingenious Friends to put the Machine in a condition to be launched at the appointed hour, it was found impracticable: from the violent agitation it received from the wind, an aperture was made in the neck, which required a considerable delay to remedy. —

I determined therefore to embark in the state it then was, lest I should be exposed to the fury of the populace, who already betrayed symtoms of Impatience and Incredulity, and filled me with apprehensions of being treated as an Impostor. —

A smaller Gallery was, in consequence, suspended, and the ballast reduced; but the power of the Balloon being still unequal to the weight of myself and my Friend, I was obliged to forego the pleasure and advantage of his company on the Voyage. —

Exhausted with fatigue, and full of apprehension and anxiety, I was preparing to embark in the Armory Room, when intelligence was brought me, that an accident had happened to the Balloon, which in all probability would defeat the Experiment. —

I now gave myself up for lost, and was reduced almost to a State of incapacity to undertake the Voyage, however

I found the accident upon examination to be so trifling as to occasion very little delay.

All difficulties being at length overcome, I took my seat in the Gallery, but in the hurry and discomposure which a combination of untoward circumstances had occasioned, I forgot some of the Instruments necessary for my intended observations; which added to the loss of a scientific companion, hath very much lessened the philosophic importance of my Voyage.—

The cords being divided, the Balloon ascended with a slow and majestic motion amidst the shouts and acclamations of a numberless multitude, who liberally attoned for their suspicions of Imposture, by their unbounded admiration and applause.—

At the height of twenty yards the Globe was suddenly depressed by the wind; but on discharging a part of the Ballast it again ascended, and at the height of two hundred yards I repeated the salute of waving my Flag, which I then threw down to convince such as were yet incredulous that I accompanied the Balloon.—

I now began to apply my oars, but one of them unfortunately broke, and fell from me: Here likewise a pigeon escaped, which with a Cat and Dog I had taken up as Subjects of experimental observation.—

The Thermometer having now fallen from 60°. to 61°. I perceived a great difference in the temperature of the air; I became very sensible to cold, and found it necessary to take a few glasses of wine; I ate likewise the leg of a chicken, but my bread and my other provisions were spoiled by mixing with the sand. —

When my Thermometer was at 50°. I felt the most delightful sensations; such I believe as are felt in no Region upon Earth. —

The stillness of the scene was inexpressibly awful: The prospect of London, with the surrounding country, in which trees and fields were distinguishable to a great extent, presented a picture, of which the liveliest fancy can form no Idea. —

To prolong this exquisite enjoyment, I kept myself in the same parallel for at least half an hour, by working continually with my single oar, and again had recourse to my bottle, which I emptied to the health of my Friends and Benefactors in the lower world. —

All my affections were alive; but the sentiment that seemed most congenial to this enchanting Region, was gratitude, which irresistibly impelling me to address myself to my honoured Friend and Patron, I wrote four pages of observations and pinning them to a Napkin, consigned them to the Zephyrs, to waft them to the Prince Caramanico. —

(A)

At this instant I heard the report of a Gun, and examining my Thermometer, it had fallen to 32°.

The Balloon was now so compleatly inflated, that to prevent its bursting, I slackened the neck, which I held in my hand, to give, if possible, a free passage to the inflammable air.

There congratulated myself on the circumstances which had prevented the compleat filling of the Globe previous to my Departure; and which an hour before, I had reckoned the greatest misfortune that could befal me.

The vapour about the neck of the Balloon was quite frozen, though I was perfectly free from cold, owing to much labor, and the wine I had taken.

The Earth at this point appeared like a boundless plain, whose surface was variegated, but on which no objects could be distinguished.

I now descended by means of my oar, to about the distance of three hundred yards from the Earth, and moving horizontally, spoke through my Trumpet to some country-people, from whom I heard a confused noise in reply.

At half past three I descended with much labour on a corn-field in the Common of North Mimms, where I landed my Cat. (A.)

(A) This Field is called Etna in the Manor of the Duke of Leeds, is about half a mile to the Eastward of the 26 mile-stone on the Broad leading from London to Hatfield.

The poor animal had been sensibly affected by the cold, during the greatest part of the time. —
My general course from the Artillery Ground to this place, was something more than one point to the Westward of the North. — A Gentleman on horseback approached me, but I could not speak to him, being intent on my reascention, which I effected after moving horizontally about forty paces. —
As I ascended one of the Ballustrades of the Gallery gave way, but no danger attended it; I threw out the remainder of my Ballast and provisions, and again resumed my pen. My ascension was so rapid, that before half the page was filled, the Thermometer had fallen to 29°. The drops of water that adhered to the neck of the Globe, were congealed to a perfect chrystal.
At this point of Elevation, (which was the highest I attained) I finished my Letter, and fastening it with a Corkscrew to my handkerchief, threw it down. — I likewise threw down the plates, knives and forks, with the little sand that remained of my Ballast; and likewise an empty bottle, which I could plainly distinguish for some time before it totally disappeared.
I now prepared to write my last dispatch, which fixed to a leather belt, I sent towards the Earth; it was visible to me on its passage for the space of several minutes. —
The Earth appeared, as before, like an extensive plain,

with the same variegated face.

Having no further object to pursue, I betook myself to the oar, in order to descend: With a quarter of an hour's hard labour, by which my strength was almost exhausted, I accomplished my descent. — My chief care was to avoid too violent a concussion at my landing: In this my good fortune befriended me. —

At twenty five minutes past four I descended on a spacious Meadow, in the Parish of Stondon, (B.) in which some Country-men were at work. — I requested their assistance, but no intreaties could prevail with them to approach me. At last owed my deliverance to female Heroism: a young woman, who was likewise in the field, took hold of a cord which I threw out, and calling to the men for their assistance, they yielded to her entreaties. —

A Crowd of Country people were soon assembled, who very obligingly assisted me to disembark. —

General Smith, who had followed me on horseback, was the first Gentleman that overtook me: I am much indebted to him for his great affability and politeness to me, and his kind assistance in securing the Balloon; which after letting out the inflammable air by an incision, I committed

(B.) is, about half a mile to the North West of the 24 Mile Stone on the Road that leads from London to Cambridge through Ware & Puckeridge.

to the care of Mr. Hollingsworth, who kindly offered his service for that purpose, and then proceeded with General Smith and several other Gentlemen, to the Bull Inn at Ware. —

The general course of my second Voyage was three points to the Eastward of the North from the Artillery Ground; and about four points to the Eastward of the North from the place at which I first descended.

On my arrival at Ware I had the honor to be introduced to William Baker, Esqr. late Member for Hertford, who conducted me to his Seat at Bayford-bury; and entertained me with an hospitality and politeness which I shall ever remember with gratitude; and excited my admiration of that Liberality and Beneficence, which are the allowed Characteristics of English Gentlemen.

With most profound Respect and Veneration,
I have the Honor to lay myself
at Your Majesty's Feet.

Vincent Lunardi.

Marq. of Carmarthen

Grosv. Square 22. Sept. 1784.

5890

Lord Carmarthen begs leave to inform Your Majesty, that Sir James Harris proposes taking leave today. Monsieur Gorniello being order'd to Holland to execute a commission relative to some disputes between the Two Republics, denies your Majesty's permission likewise to take leave today.

Mr. Peters from Ostend having been permitted by Your Majesty to accept the order of St Philip of Holstein, wishes to be presented as Sir John Peters. Lord Carmarthen with all humility begs to submit to your Majesty's consideration, that as in several instances of Your Majesty's subjects receiving foreign orders of Knighthood, viz. Sir John Deck, Sr William Chambers, Sir George Macartney, and Sir John Hill, the same style (as if English Knights) was allowed them. there probably can be

no objection to Mr Peters' humble request being complied with. and with your Majesty's permission he may be presented to day.

Gros^r Square
Sept. 22. 1784.

20 min. past 11. a.m.

Draft
to Mr. Robinson
Kew Sept. 23d 1784.

Kew Sept. 23. 1784.

Unless Mr. Robinson has been informed by Mr. Drummond he must be surprised on hearing ~~that I have received from that gentleman Lord North's answer~~ the very unbecoming answer Lord North has made to the communication of my original letter received from the Lord ~~he wrote to me~~ May 16th 1782. wherein he acknowledges what I have mentioned but that ~~in that~~ he cannot repay Mr Drummond, and does not pretend to have taken ~~made~~ any step in consequence of ~~what I wrote~~ written to me; ~~attempt to do it~~. This answer the rest of that Lords ill behaviour to me and shews that in every line ~~he forbearance~~ I have equal reason to complain of ~~them~~; I doubtedly Mr. Drummond must not be a loser therefore I must take the ~~whole~~ £23,000. upon me and the Interest, due this is so much larger a sum than I had the smallest expectation of that I cannot pay it off but by installments. In addition to this I owe Mr. Drummond £10,000. consequently in the whole £33.000. besides the Interest which I desire Mr. Robinson will get Mr. Drummond to fix and to add consequently to this sum; I am ready ~~to pay £ 1000. of it now, and £ 1000 yearly by regular payments~~ and to give a fresh bond for the whole sum ~~and I can on every payment make a weight deduction if from the whole sum said~~ on paying the above agreed. Therefore Mr. Robinson ~~will take this with~~ would keep this with Mr. Drummond that the whole may be brought into some method. on the enclosed Paper I have just put how quick ~~I think~~ I can discharge this large sum.

GR.

Mr. Drummond

5892

Mr. Drummond shewed to Lord North the original letter from Lord N. to his Majesty dated 16 May 1782. which he had the honor to have intrusted to his care; Lord North perfectly recollected the letter, but informed Mr. Drum.d that the whole of his income does not exceed £2500 Nett p.r annum the larger part of which, he holds for the Life of Lady North, the rest for his own; and that the Office which his Majesty had been so kind as to confer upon him, does not produce £3000 a year. It is therefore absolutely out of his power to make any arrangement to discharge the debt due to — Mess.rs Drummond.

Wm. Pitt
(1 HM's reply)

Sep. 23 1790

5893

Mr Pitt humbly presumes to trouble
in consequence of having received
the Enclosed Resolution from the
Chairman of the East India
Company. Mr Pitt understands
that the Company have Gen'l Campbell

in contemplation for the command,
and humbly conceives if it meets
your Majesty's approbation, that
it will be proper to signify to
them, that Government does not
wish to interfere with such an

Wm. Pitt
(1 HM's reply)

Sep. 23 1790

5893 (2)

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Appointment as they may think fit.
Mr Pitt hopes at the same Time
that the Company will make good
to Genl Hope whatever Expence
the Nomination may have occasioned
to him

Downing Street
Thursday Sept 23. 4. PM.

Whilst the Army in India remains in such unfit hands as those of the Company of Merchants I cannot expect any good can be done and therefore do not interest myself much as to the Officer that shall be appointed. If the Company nominate Major General Campbell there is reason to believe the choice will be in general approved; but then it would be very improper for a Lieutenant General to serve on the Coromandel Coast; and as Lieut. Gen. Sloper has certainly incurred some expence, it is trusted the Company will reimburse him.

Kew Sept. 23d. 1784.

W. Pitt

Vt Torrington
Bruxelles Sept. 24th 1784.

5894

Sire.

Bruxelles September 24th 1784

In the beginning of this year, I took the Liberty of addressing myself to your Majesty & stating the distressed situation of My Family.

I told you Sire, I wished to owe the happiness of my children to your Majesty personally - and that I relied solely upon your Goodness & protection.

In every let - word - or Thought I have

entirely devoted my services to your Majesty personally &

My utmost Wish is to have obligations to no other person whosoever

but to be considered in future, as attached to you Sire alone

If your Majesty would deign to accept my professions of

respect, Obedience and Submission.

I am Sire

Your Majestys Dutiful Subject

and faithful Servant

Forrington

Ld. Sydney
Windsor Castle Sep.t 29.th 1784. 45 m. p.t 7. A.M.

Windsor Castle
Sept: 29: 1784
45 m past 7 A.M.

Lord Sydney humbly presumes to mention to his Majesty that Mr Nepean's Letter relates to Messages, which Lord Sydney thought necessary

to

to send verbally to the India House by Mr Hepean in consequence of an intimation, which he had received from the Deputy Chairman, that they expected an Answer to their Question, whether

His

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Majesty would permit General Sloper to serve in India without a Letter of Service.

Lord Sydney had heard, that they were at that time discussing the Appointments, and therefore let them know in general,

general, that he had reason to believe that no General without a Letter of Service would be allowed to have more command or direction of His Majesty's Troops, than a Foreign General would have in an allied Army: but that the Eldest Officer of His Majesty's Troops would have the interior Management and Direction of them.

Mr. Robinson
Lyon Hill Sept. 30th 1784. 9 AM

5896

Lyon Hill
30th Sept. 1784
9 o A. M

Mr. Robinson has this Moment recd. His Majesty's Commands of the 23d., and will not fail to obey them to the utmost of his Power — Mr. Henry Drummond has been on a Tour to Mr. Harley's in Herefordshire, & thence to see the late Lord Talbot's place in Wales, and Mr. Robinson has not heard that he is yet returned; Mr. Robert Drummond is at Cadlands in Hampshire and does not soon return; but Mr. Robinson will send to Langley, and attend to Mr. H. Drummond's return, so as to see him the first possible Opportunity. Mr. Robinson has not seen Mr. Henry Drummond

Drummond for about a Month past. —