

Transcription of letters in 2664/3/1B/9

No 1

Gibraltar 19th Apr^l 1790

My Dear Bounce

By the Prince's directions I send you the enclosed list of Cloaths which he begs may be made for the Valet & Groom I wrote particularly about in my last of the 1st April, about The Hacks etc etc---- So that they may come properly equipped –Every other particular is already explained –

The Prince desires me to make his kindest Compts to you and to say that he hopes very soon to see you here – The moment any thing is decided abt. the Reg^t he will let you know – He is anxious to have you in it, and to see you occupy your room here, which is quite ready for you. Pray come as soon as possible – I sincerely hope you are recovered.

Adieu – Most truly yours

C Crawford.

Insert:

Groom.

- 1 – undressed plain livery Coat & Waistcoat
- 1 – plain livery Coat
- 1 – white waistc^t & breeches to D^o.
- 1 – pr. Corderoi breeches
- 1 – Pr. Leather D^o
- 2 pr. Boots -
- 1 – Gr^t. Coat
- 1 – plain glazed had with gold band etc
- 1 – laced D^o.
- 2. Working waistcoats
- 2. Pr. Trowsers

Of Glenton

Valet

- 1 – Grey Frock – such as he made for other servants
 - 1 – D^o Waist
 - 1 – pr. Buff breeches to D^o. Of worsted knit.
 - 1 – Chocolate frock with)
 - 2. buff waistc^{ts}. & breeches)
 - 1 – Gr. Coat.
 - 4. Aprons
 - 4 Jackets for dressing hair in
-

Of Schweitzer.

No 2

To Captain Talbot
No 13 Upper Brook Street

Mess^rs Cox & Greenwood present their compliments to Captⁿ. Talbot and send him the annex'd extract of a Letter they have received from Capt Crawford, requesting he may be credited with 5 Guineas on Captⁿ. T's account for which he will please to give them an order.

Craigs Court
14th Jany 1793

Extract of a Letter from Captⁿ. Crawford to Mess^{rs} Cox & Greenwood. 11th January 1793

"I find in looking over my Accounts that I am not Credited with 5 Guineas, which I begged you to transfer from Captⁿ. Talbot's Account to mine – It is owing by him to me, for a Poney that he Bought of mine in Scotland, when he was Lieu^t. In our Regiment – I was absent at the time. – He certainly will remember it, and I will thank you to Credit me with it."

No 3

To Lt Talbot
Gibraltar 15th march 1790

My dear Bounce

Nous voila enfin arrivés --- I am quite ashamed of not having written to you sooner, but really, what with settling the house, assisting in the arrangement of the family, etc etc. I have been fully employed – We landed on the 27th Feby. amidst all the honours of war – The passage was long, but the weather uncommonly fine, and the Prince proved Himself a most excellent Sailor, not suffering in the least from sea sickness. H.R.H. is on duty as Colonel of the day, every other day, when he goes the rounds at night, and performs every part of the Service with the utmost punctuality; on those days he commands the Guards of the Garrison (in all about six hundred & fifty men) at their mounting, and manoeuvres them on the Grand Parade according to the directions received from the Commander in Chief for that purpose – In this he is quite au fait – he is appointed to the temporary command of the Queen's Regiment, which he keeps in very good order, but he is in anxious expectation of His own – His military occupations employ most of his time – The limits of this place are certainly circumscribed, but where a man has a profession to attend to of which he is fond, an agreeable Society of gentlemanlike men, pleasant houses, some neat horses, as lovely 'Partner' of the softer home (which I hope he will have soon) and good living, he may do very well indeed, provided he is determined to make up his mind to it – This seems really to be H.R.H.'s case, and the cheerful manner in which He complys with every regulation of the Garrison, the exactness with which he performs the Duties of His Stations, in short his truly manly conduct on every occasion does him the greatest honour, and serves as an excellent example to the Troops --- He is on the very best terms with the General – He has a very

comfortable house in the Town, and a beautiful small place on the South end of the Rock for a summer residence – They are both putting in order and furnishing as fast as possible---

The Prince commands me to say that your Room is ready; it is fitted up, and christened; and he most positively orders that you will come out with the Regiment – We will take good care of you – As to my wishes for your forming part of our Society, you must be too well convinced of my Regard & Esteem to make it necessary to lay any stress on them – I can only say I shall ever be most happy to see so excellent a man share H.R.H.s confidence – Au reste, pray come as soon as you can – he is in much anxiety about Mademoiselle Victoire – He has not heard a word of her yet – I sincerely hope she may decide upon coming---

No 4

Milford Home Sept y^e 25th 1792

My Dear Friend

Many thanks to you for writing, & I trust you are long before this safely arrived at Gib. I am very glad you like the Corps you have got into & cannot but agree with you about your old Regt. Finances, is certainly the case & you may easily imagine how much I miss you & Geo. Beauchamp. We used to have many pleasant pranks together. But those times are passed, so that we must look forward to some future period, when we may spend some time together & in the meantime let us keep up a correspondence. For I really think there is a pleasure in hearing from a friend which cannot be equalled but by being with that friend. I assure you it gave me great satisfaction to find you had got in the 7th. As your connection & friendship with the amiable Prince who is your Coll. Made it the very thing for you to be in his R^l. H.^{rs} Regt Nothing could be more affectionate than his letter to you. I do not despair of visiting you before you leave Gib. & in the meantime pray let me hear how you go on there. And should you have anything you wished to be done on this side of the water, for yourself or anyone you are connected with: that requires secrecy, I need not say how helpful I shall be to do it or any thing in the world you may Commission me with: far from thinking it a trouble on the contrary I shall think a pleasure. We understand one another too well my D^r. Talbot, I hope for it, to be necessary for me to mention this to you, but yet I was afraid you might think not to assure you of my readiness to be of use to you, that I was not ~~xxxxxx~~ sensible you would do the same for me was I abroad & you in England. As there are a many things we young men want transacted that we would not entrust to anyone but a brother in iniquity with, & I do not know there is a Pin to choose as to goodness between us. Je crois que vous etes le plus grand vant Rien des deux_ & you know there is always honor amongst thieves. I have not seen Crawford since his abrupt return I always thought he would not stay long. He is an Author. I have land tolerable sport tho' the Partridges are rather scarce Pheasants are very plenty. I shall go to Shakespear soon & hope to persuade him to come over here & take a little shooting. I found Liverpool very pleasant etc. I was a good deal at Lord Derby's who was very civil to me. D'Aguilar & his wife I almost lived with, & we used often to talk about you, do you remember the sherry we used to drink. They begged me to mention them to you in the kindest manner they are very worthy people indeed. I made D'Ay drunk one day & had such a lecture as never was. Tour ce qui est aimable a Liverpool as to be met with every evening there. You know that I own they live like princes. Gregour a banker there is a very good fellow he asked after you & told me how you used to go on there & to be even with you I was not sober from the time I got into the Town till I left it. But such an fellow as I you know can find somebody to drink with at any time.

I shall stand no chance with you now, you will be in time a great officer & I shall expect to see you publishing a treatise on Tactics. You always had a fine Military genius. I saw that very plain when we used to attack the Smuggler's together & when we were in London for a month instead of being in Q^o But Southampton was the place where we waged war against our constitution the most, with fifty rounds of bumper of Madeira at least every day a la fin du Nesran. Pretty bad we were But now we are growing old & steady. Adieu my dear Talbot & believe me ever

Your most affection^{te} friend
Ph: Sm: Webb [Philip Smith Webb]

No 5

Ross Castle Killarney
24th Dec^r 1791

My Dear Talbot

I am exceedingly sorry to be so very late in acknowledging your very kind Letter of the 18th Sep^r which, however, I did not receive till within these ten days past – I suppose it was long on the passage, and afterwards aseason, it was a difficult matter for it to find me; as I have been upon the move constantly for some time before I came here – It is impossible for me to express how much I feel obliged to his Royal Highness for his very kind & gracious manner of thinking of me for the L^t Colonely of his Reg^t – which you may well believe it would have given me more pleasure to obtain than any thing – but when I received the very flattering offer, I was already L^t Colonel to the 69th Reg^t – having been appointed to that situation five months ago – My obligation, however, to the Prince, is not the less – on the contrary, the impression which his goodness has made on me, will mean he from my mind – and, agreeable, to your advice I have taken the liberty of writing to Him by this same post, and endeavoured to express, tho' in very inadequate terms, my gratitude for this, & every other proof of his gracious remembrance, which I had no right to expect, considering the many other claims, which, from increasing acquaintance must every day be made on his friendship and protection – Genl: O'Hara acquainted me how much I was obliged to His R.Highness before - If any thing could increase my dearest attachment to Him, these most pleasing, and flattering marks of his remembrance could not fail to do it – But I trust you will believe they were not necessary; and hope that if any thing further is requisite from me, to convince Him of it, your friendship for me will supply what ignorance on my past may have omitted, and keep me alive in his recollection – I need not say how truly sensible I am already of the friendly past you are so good as to take in my behalf – and how happy it would make me if I should ever have it in my power to make a suitable return – I hope you will be assured that I have never failed to take a warm interest in your different motions, & was made most happy by hearing that you were safely arrived at Quebec – I hope the Climate may prove agreeable & healthy to The Prince as well as to yourself – It would, you may believe have given me great pleasure to have join'd you there, if the fates had not decreed otherwise – You will have fine Traineaux parties, and perhaps they may sometimes put you in mind of similar ones on the banks of the Lake of Geneva, which I never think of without great delight –

I have joined the 69th about six weeks, and be assured that it is no way great compliment to say that I had much rather have joined the R. Fuzileers in Canada – This, tho' a beautiful spot in Summer, is, at this season. fall as sequester'd, bleak, & dreary as any of the most remote parts of y^r back settlements – and the Reg^t is extremely disposed – However, there is employment enough for me this winter, as well as when we get together next spring – as, no Reg^t, I believe, in the Service, is so much behind their Neighbours in every thing – appearance, private economy, & Field Discipline; - having been commanded for some years past by an old superannuated Major, who has suffered every thing to go to the Devil – but I have very good staff to work upon – a very fine body of young Lads – and tho' I have no great pretensions to be a Reformer (a task, which I detest) I don't despair, before many months are over to show a very fine Regiment, tho' probably still very inferior to the R. Fuzileers –Our destination at present is Gibraltar in the Spring of 1793 – though many things may yet happen to change it; which I should be sorry for – as I think I should like Gib: better than any other foreign station, Canada excepted – I shall wish very much to hear how you like Quebec? – how you pass your time? And when you (meaning His R^{ty}; Highness) expect to come home? – I fear not this good while – If you can muster up a little leisure you will make me the happiest man in the world by writing to me – as I am very much interested about every thing that happens to His R^{ty} Highn^{ss}: as well as to y^rself. Cox & Greenwood will always know where to find me – and you may rest assured of my gratitude for every mark of y^r remembrance – I wish I could send you any interesting intelligence from this County – but here in this sequester'd corner I am as much lost, as if out of the world – But remain always, my dear Talbot- Most faithfully yrs etc Wm A Villetes
If Col: England of the 24th is at Quebec pray give my best regards to him.

No 6

St James's Street Jan 4th 1792

My Dear Talbot

It is with anxious expectation I have waited to receive a few lines from the establishment in Canada. You, Brother Subs on that side of the water seem entirely to have forsaken the poor sheep who was obliged to retire on your leaving Gibraltar so suppliant a beginning may induce you to suppose that in recollecting in you are a captain that I have forgot my own rank but let me tell you we who have the Honor to serve His Majesty on full pay do not understand the meaning of the behaviour of that discarded part of the Army to which you belong (calling themselves half pay officers) who do not answer our Letters. London is at present very dull tho' the Dutchess of York talks of doing great things. I wish she may be able to perform them tho' her Royal Highness is extremely small as well as her income which she brought from Germany. This probably may turn out Multum in parvu tho they seem to think she has not at present any appearance of greatness in body or stature. I am happy to inform you of a fortunate circumstance which it is whispered is likely to take place. Namely the Prince of Wales quitting the turf I hope with all my soul it may be true as I fear he does not make much money by it. I have lately got a step in the fourteenth, but fear I shall not be a major this century tho perhaps I may shine in the next a cross some famous Rozinante. If you have any idea of writing to S^t James's Street I request you will inform me of what is going on in the establishment. There has been a general rise in that of my Master. Your Hum^{le} servant excepted Mr Lytes death you probably have heard of Col. Hulse got his place as Treasurer. Kemys Tynte the Comptrollership. Col Leigh is made Groom, Payne has

got made Auditor and secretary. To the Dutchess of Cornwall Major Doyle is made secretary to the Prince. And Geo. Hanger Equerry. I have not been able to find out if there are any more before me must therefore remain content till Providence decides my fate. On another vacancy. Cliffe. Vesey. Hale Wetherall & the rest of that disinterested establishment who are at present serving with so much pleasure to themselves & credit to the Prince in whose service they are employd, I hope have ..uffer'd [torn] from the inclemency of the winter [torn] is not favourable to all constitutions. There y[covered] arrived a mail from Quebec. I had the perusal of one or two letters and I assure you they speak of His Royal Highness and the establishment in terms too flattering to make me conceive my present situation by any means enviable in the temperate Zone. Your conduct could not by any means be news to your friend as I have ever had every reason to prepossessed in favour of people with whom I had so long been contracted. But I hope it will be of some consequence in town and hinder the enemies of the Prince from crowing so loud as we know they did sometime ago. The News Papers not being able to mention any frailty since His arrival I am sorry to say are entirely silent on the subject. Pray make my most dutiful respects to his Royal Highness. Remember me to Cliff, Walker Pigot etc and believe me Dear Talbot with the greatest esteem & regard.

Your sincere Friend J. Dyer

No 7

Turin November 1st 1788

Mon Cher Talbot

There is an unaccountable fatality attending the predictions of your evil genius which I made so light of at Geneva. Here I am still, & I have been laid up ever since my arrival with the old business but more serious. By Regular Diet the most rigorous confinement and many copious doses of mercury the disorder has at last taken a favourable Turn, but I can not expect to be entirely well for some time to come. You see I have been alarm^d & faith I can assure you with very good Reason, this is not the only disagrèment I have had, Duns from quarters where I the the least expected them added to the Jobations of dissatisfied Guardians, which one feels the more from a consciousness of deserving them. I was just going to preach a Sermon upon Gaming & Whoring but I recollected that I am talking to a person of no small experience, in those fashionable Follies. To quit then a subject that must be a bore to a man full of Spirits & Vigour how goes on tennis at Geneva. Do you find your ardour relax since my departure? À propos of tennis Beaumont ow^d me a Louis which if you think of it you may as well mention to the Marker. If Mr B. acknowledges the Debt I will make a present of it to the Little Marker & Black-Breeches: leave it to either of them to speak to him, or not at all if you think proper. After what I have said you will guess that my Finances are dans un etat de delabrement mais malgré la difference qui existe entre la Depense & la recette I shall be able to send a Letter of credit to you before I leave Turin. I wish to write to Greville have you any guess where one is to direct to him, la chose prepe so excuse me si Jexye votre reponse le courier prochain. But I am writing half French, half English, so I had better conclude the excess of ennui I feel almost takes away the power of writing in either.

Adieu

Very Sincerely Y^{rs}

Thanet