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[Jan. 14 1813]

Sir

My interview with the Queen last night was perfectly satisfactory, as I found Her Majesty full of approbation of your Royal Highness's letter to Lady de Clifford, and entirely disposed to concur with you in whatever else your R. H. had thought it right to say, and to do in the conduct of this most interesting affair — but my conversation with Her Majesty this morning at Her bed side, (for she has a heavy cold) has been still more comfortable — Her Majesty was pleased to desire me to give Her the reason, by which I was enabled to explain your Royal Highness's further wishes and views respecting the Regent, and other parts of the Princess Charlotte's arrangements — and when I left Her chamber, the Queen gave orders instantly for a message to be sent to Lady de Clifford, to bring her to the Castle, in order to a final termination of her Ladyship's charge.

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The Majesty intended to say exactly what  
you R. H. conceived the Queen would  
say to Lady Se. - and gave good reasons  
for not intending to separate the  
M<sup>rs</sup>. Charlotte from Lady Se. (this  
day - ~~but~~ leaving it in view to hint  
delicately to Lady Se. that she might  
go tomorrow morning, and intending  
to desire the M<sup>rs</sup>. Charlotte to come to  
the castle, and to detain H. R. H.  
here after the ride.

On the subject of Miss Knight, the Queen  
did more than hesitate at first - but  
the Majesty permitted me at length to  
prevail upon <sup>her</sup> not to make any objection  
to her assisting the M<sup>rs</sup>. of Leeds, and being  
attach'd especially to her Grace - and  
I flatter myself your Royal Highness will  
find the Queen tomorrow disposed to yield  
to your request, or shall I say? to your  
incomparable powers of persuasion  
when you come to talk to Her.  
I am the more earnest about Miss Knight,

because I have had a conversation with  
 the Sp. Charlotte this morning, and infer  
 from it, that this arrangement would  
 do much to allay that feeling of ini-  
 quity which has disquieted still so  
 strongly within these few days. The  
 Princess understands perfectly that  
 I never can or will have a secret  
 from your Royal Highness - that I  
 do and will tell your R. H. every  
 thing - yet compatibly with this  
 Mr R. H. is disposed I think to  
 give me her good opinion, and  
 something of her confidence - In my  
 conversation, therefore, I had no difficulty  
 in offering her R. H. my humble  
 opinion upon the propriety of her  
 continuing still under a Governor -  
 by stating particularly that the custom  
 of this Kingdom which had now acquired  
 almost the force of the law of the land  
 had held the future Sovereign under  
 Governors until 10 years of age, and  
 that I supposed the Constitution thought it

necessary perhaps to the condition of signing  
hereafter that the present plan shew  
to the Throne had submitted to be governed  
for 10 years - I say H. R. Hepburn heard  
this with complacency - asked if Principles  
were under the same necessities as Princes  
and then remarked that she did not want  
exceptions to be made in her favor -  
she inquired who was to assist the D<sup>ch</sup> of  
Leeds - I said some Royal Highness would  
Miss K. and I believe intended to ask  
the Queen to spare her - she expressed  
great satisfaction - said she had a high  
opinion of Miss Knight, and believed  
that Miss K. thought well of them, the  
D<sup>ch</sup>. - I said what I knew to be  
just of the D<sup>ch</sup> of Leeds - as to her gen-  
erousness, and the generosity of her  
nature - Her remark was, that she  
believed she had not much sense, and  
would therefore be ruled and managed  
by the latter - I answered that the D<sup>ch</sup>.  
would show only half the sense for which  
I gave her credit, if she did not make  
the Principles happiness and fame the

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exclusive object of her attention -  
 yes. She replied, but she may be more  
 disposed to consult the temper of the  
 ruling powers, than of those who are  
 to rule - It terminated by my  
 assuring ~~her~~ R. H. that as I had  
 no authority from your G. H. to say  
 any thing of yourself, she must receive  
 it as my most disinterested opinion  
 that every word I had heard your R. H.  
 utter on this subject convinced me  
 that you had but one object in view  
 her happiness, and that as she would  
 certainly find ~~her~~ Father on all  
 occasions her best friend, she might  
 and ought to look up to your  
 R. H. for every indulgence con-  
 -spicible with her present and  
 future happiness - I left the  
 Op. quite in comfort, I assure  
 your R. H. and have the best  
 hope that this matter will termi-  
 -nate quietly after all, and entirely  
 to your R. H.'s satisfaction. I am Sir  
 devotedly, your R. H.'s faithful servant  
 Henry Hallford.

