

Dow. Duchess of Brunswick

52244-5 Augustenbourg Feb^y 15th 1807

My dearest brother

As you are so kind to me I have taken the liberty to inclose this Printed order with Darn the Intendant declaration that he would administer the finances & those that he pleases he will strike out of their pensions Darn sets all engines at work to recover the Vase of Mantoue, one of our employd in settling the contributions wrote William that our States would warrant the vase for a hundred & fifty thousand Dollars, if they might present it to Bonaparte as a tribute hoping that it might soften his heart towards our poor disconsolate subjects. William having no faith in the stability of our States, that can be sent away at a moments warning, refused to send it. Sir William Hamilton valued our Vase of Mantoue as one of the rarest pieces of antiquity the saucer was at Naples it has been transfer'd to Paris. do you not think that an exact Catalogue should be made out with descriptions of the different articles of our Museum, they ought to be insured before their Embarkation & the sum at which they have been valued that Government or some rich Individual might perhaps be a purchaser it will be very difficult to set a price on the Medals & Cabinet d'Histoire naturelle as we do not know it our selves & I do not know who does the sheet wrote to Professor Imperious who has still the care of the Cabinet. I believe it best that they should send & dispose to them

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Council Münster will receive the documents that you wish to have, & I must in head of you to stipulate yourself what each son is to have, that no broil can ensue, William has been some days at Hacksbourg & here with all sort of propositions detrimental to the harmony which ought to subsist between brethren, that a greater allowance should be given to William, as he has a Wife & two sons his Brothers willingly consent to, but that his two Elder Brothers should be entirely at his mercy would not be prudent, nor just, as the Will cannot be opened till we recover the country, from the fear that the French would lay their hands on all we have found what is placed in the Bank at Berlin is as good as lost there remains but 24 thousand Dollars a year to be divided between them of which George & Augustus have nobly resign'd the half to William, but not content with that, he pretends that they must give up their right to all the bonds, which is the only security they have not to starve, in this perplexity they have thought of choosing three Princes to decide on these differences the Prince Royal of Denmark the Duke of Oldenburg the Duke of Augustenbourg. I am very impatient on your letters where I have asked your permission to come over as it is not safe to remain here, Sweden in case you will not let me come over must be my refuge, I should

have taken a House at Blackheath & never have stir'd from there, but by a Summons from you. I ever am my dearest Brother

Your most dutiful

Subject

Augustus

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The Duchep of Brunswick
February 15th 1007.

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