Private

Chatham 7th Novr 1828

My dear Sir Henry,

I received from you the statement of the Commissariat Contract Prices of Bread & Meat for the last ten years; but I have not yet received the London Prices.

It is impossible to conceive a more complete Chaos, than the Commissariat Prices present. Meat in Westmoreland cost nearly three times as much as the meat did in Devonshire, in the Autumn of 1822 and beginning of 1823. In Westmoreland the 4 lb Loaf now costs 12d, whilst in Devonshire it costs $5\frac{5}{32}$d.

The same strange irregularities may be traced in the comparative Prices of Bread and Meat in the same County at different times.

In Lincoln, for example, the lb of meat cost 9d in the winter of 1819-20, whilst the 4 lb loaf cost less being only $8\frac{15}{16}$d. At other times the 4 lb loaf costs 50 per cent more than the lb. of meat, in the same County.

In Suffolk, the bread cost nearly twice as much as the meat, in the summer of 1818. In May 1820, the

contract bread in that County was cheaper than the meat. At other times the prices were nearly equal. At present the bread costs about 50 per cent more than the meat.

It is evident that such a system of Prices can have no possible reference to the real market Prices of England. It is absurd to suppose, that the Market Prices of bread and meat in Westmorland ever exceeded those of Devonshire in a twofold or threefold ratio, as the Commissariat Contract Prices in those Counties have done. Such fluctuations may take place in Barbarous Countries without roads, canals, or regular laws for the protection of property; in Morocco for example; but certainly not in England.

It strikes me, that the extraordinarily high prices of the Commissariat Contracts in some Counties as compared with others, must be occasioned by the Troops in the latter, being scattered in very small parties over extensive Districts. In such situations, the Soldiers could of course buy their own bread and meat at a cheap rate, which a general Contract is necessarily attended with a prodigious expense.

If the Commissariat contract prices for bread and meat in Westmoreland are fair Prices, the Private gentleman in that County ought at this moment to be paying 19d for the 2 quartern loaf of the best bread, and 11½d a Pound for meat; for the value of bread and meat of the quality suited to the troops, making some abatement for ready money, or security of payment within the month, which they can always offer, cannot be estimated at more than 5/8ths or 3/4ths of the value of the best bread and meat consumed by the more opulent classes.

To clear up this point, which will be of no small importance in the Inquiry you have in view, I would recommend you to procure a Return of the Quarters occupied by the troops in England and Wales during the last ten years, at two periods of each year, namely on the 25th of June and 25th of December of each year. Those two periods will be quite enough to judge from; and this Return compared with the Schedule of Prices will show, whether I am right in my surmise that unnaturally high Commissariat Contract Prices are occasioned by few troops scattered over a district, whilst unnaturally low Commissariat Contract Prices are occasioned

by many troops being concentrated in a few great Stations in a District, whereas if the troops purchased their own provisions by Market or local agreements, the Prices would always be moderate, and always in proportion to the Market Prices of England and Wales.

It also strikes me, that it would be a very useful measure to write to all the Officers in Command of Parties in those Counties where the Bread and Meat are at such high Prices, namely in Bedford, Cambridge, Derby, Hereford, Herts, Hunts, Leicester, Lincoln, Nottingham, Oxford, Rutland Salop, Stafford, Westmoreland, Wilts, & Worcester, to request that they will send a report of the Market Prices of Bread and Meat at their respective Stations; or perhaps it would be better to issue a Circular letter to the Officer Commanding at each Military Station small as well as great, to send such a report.

In this Report they should state

Beef { The Price of the Prime pieces of Beef (not including Rump steaks) } per lb
The Price of the boiling or inferior pieces of Beef ____ } per lb

Mutton { The Price of the Prime Pieces per ____ lb
The Price of the boiling or Inferior Pieces ____ } per lb

Bread { The Price of the best Wheaten Bread per Quartern Loaf, or 4 lb loaf as it may be sold.
The Price of the Second Bread
The Price of Brown Bread if sold at all.

These Prices to be ascertained either in the

Market, or by a reference to the Prices charged by respectable Bakers and Butchers to their regular Customers.

Having these Data, namely (1) the Commissariat Prices for the last ten Years, (2) the Return of the Quarters of the Troops in England for the same Period (3) the Reports of the Present Prices from Commanding Officers when obtained according to the Mode now suggested, it would be very easy for me to draw up a Scale, of what ought to be the fair value of Arrows Bread & Meat, according to the London Prices, or even according to the County Prices; for I can obtain (4) by means of the London Gazettes all the Average ~~[illegible]~~ Prices of Wheat throughout England, for the last ten Years; and I can also obtain (5) the Smithfield Prices of Meat for the last ten Years from a Newspaper which we file in the United Service Library at this Place.

Having drawn up this Scale, I will send it to you for your Approval, as soon as I obtain all the Documents: two more of which I must request you to furnish,* as it is out of my own power to procure them.

Since I printed my book on the Commissarial Contracts, which you have been pleased to honour with your approbation, I find that an important change has taken place in the

* Nos. 2 & 3.

Regulation, as to the Extra Prices to be charged to the Government.

X Formerly the rule was, that when the Contract Price of meat exceeded 6d a Pound, the excess upon the Soldiers Ration of 3/4 lb was to be charged to Government, without reference to the Price of Bread: and in like manner the Extra Price of Bread was charged without reference to the Price of Meat. Thus there might be a charge to Government, upon one of those Articles, singly, if it happened to exceed the Standard Price, although the other might at the same time be much cheaper than the said standard.

By the War Office Regulation of the 25th of Augt. 1827 (or rather by the King's warrant of that date) Paragraph 14, Page 4, it is directed that the Extra Price chargeable to Government, shall be upon the aggregate Price of 3/4 of a lb of meat, and of 1 lb of household bread, or on the whole daily ration, and not on each of those Articles singly.

This change, which certainly accords with the spirit of the original Regulation of the 25th of May 1797, although not with the letter of it, nor with the

original Practice, is calculated to cause a considerable saving to Government. In the Garrison for example, all the Troops would now be entitled to an Extra Price of $1\frac{1}{8}$d per loaf, upon the bread by the old system; but now they do not receive it, because their meat is as much under the Standard Price of 6d as the Loaf is above it.

The Sappers and Miners under me pay at this moment exactly 6d a day, for their bread & meat, viz

3/4 of a lb of meat at 5d	$3\frac{3}{4}$
1 lb of Second bread at 9d for the Loaf	$2\frac{1}{4}$
Total	6d

For many years past they have paid much less than this, and the Line absolutely have been eating carrion, at a still lower Price. Surely it is not desirable that the pay of the Soldiers should be kept out of the hands of the honest Butcher and Baker, and the saving expended in strong beer and Gin, for such has been the result of the Commissarial Contracts.

In consequence of your letter to Sir Archibald Christie, he called upon all the Officers in Command except Lt Col Hay & me, to give their opinions; but he has conversed a good deal with me on the subject. He is not inclined (at least so I infer) to be quite so summary as I would be with those Contracts. He has an idea of referring them for approval to some Superior Department in London, and of paying them through the same channel as at present. But you will hear his own sentiments from himself.— My opinion is decidedly, that the Commanding Offr of every Regiment should be responsible for making the agreements; and the Reg.t Paymaster for the Payments, and that the Treasury ought to have nothing to do with them. In short let the Irish system prevail in England; nothing more is wanting.

It is astonishing how helpless many men are in things new to them! Many Officers here imagine, that they have no alternative between sending Parties to the Market, or a General Commissariat Contract: and Chatham Market certainly could not supply the troops, as only a very small part of the great Population of this Neighbourhood go there. But there are at least 12 independent Butchers each of whom could supply 3000 men at a few days notice.

I remain my dear Sir Henry
yours faithfully C W Pasley

Hd Qrs Headquarters November 12
1820

Private

My dear Hastings,

I received on the 10th your Letter of the 7th Inst enclosing Colonel Parley's Plan for a Revision of the Pay of the Soldiers of the Army and I will lose no time in laying both before Lord Hill as you desire, as the wife is in Town Tomorrow. In the mean time I send you the Observations which I have made upon this Document, which you may keep if you consider them worth having, as I have had a Copy made which I shall

The Right Honble
Lord Viscount Hastings KCB

Intrust

submit to Lord Hill. — They are not so clearly expressed as they might have been, if I had had more time, being written off hand & without any Notes or Draft.

I have confined myself to the Consideration & Details which belong to my Situation & have not entered into the General View & Reasoning introduced in Your Letter, which are more of a Ministerial Character, but I beg Your kind consideration that my Silence implies Consent, not Dissent, and that I entirely concur in the Principles You lay down, and that

I have always been of Opinion that when a Measure of Public utility is brought forward no time should be lost in considering & discussing its Merits; & that whenever Plans shall have been established & found to be free from Objection, nothing can be more weak & more absurd than to delay carrying them into Effect. — At the same time many Plans may be brought forward which in Theory may appear unexceptionable and which would not be so eligible to sound Practice & Experience. — This may prove the Case in some of Colonel Pasley's, in spite of all his Ability which may not

equally embrace every Object, and therefore can this Corporate should be well weighed before they are adopted.

I believe that there is much to approve in the System of Commissariat Contracts for Beef & Stock, and that the Service in general & the Soldier would be benefitted by a Change, but I cannot approve of ~~that estimate~~ the Means on which I believe Colonel Darby has introduced in this our Corps, the formation of Committees, consisting of N. C. Officers & Privates in each Company to sit in Judgement on the Character of the Supply. – I cannot conceive any thing to

be more systematic in Principle, more dangerous in Practice & more likely to subvert Discipline.

I quite agree with you as to the Propriety & the Advantages which will result from a thorough Enquiry into the Necessity & the Application of Contingent Allowances, from simplifying & consolidating such as it may be necessary to retain & from wholly abolishing such as shall prove unnecessary. But some thing should be done with Care, for there may be necessary Expences & Charges which the Officers & Soldiers must provide for & towards which it was intended that these Contingent Allowances should

be applied, and it would not be just or reasonable that they should have to meet such expense out of their Pay. — All this I have no Doubt You will fairly consider, and I am persuaded that Your Measures will be free from all Connection, arising from unbecoming Inquiry & not that of Interest hastily taken up in consequence of the Detection of particular Abuses and the Suggestions of Individuals who, however able, in some Instances may substitute Theory for Experience.

As soon as I have heard Your Communications upon Lord Hill's

note

appreciate Your of his Wishes on the Subject &

I trust I need not add that You shall have

the Cordial Support of the Adjutant General

in giving due Effect to the Measures

of Improvement or Reform which may result

from the Adoption of Your Suggestions.

Believe me to be

Very dear Hardinge

Most sincerely Yours

H Hayter

relating to revision
of Pay. Partly
with letter of
mine to Sir H. Taylor
on Soldiers' Pay

12. Copy.

Private.

Horse Guards
November 12th 1828.

My dear Hardinge,

I received on the 10th your letter of the 7th Instant, enclosing Colonel Paisley's Plan for a Revision of the pay of the Soldiers of the Army, and I will lose no time in laying both before Lord Hill as you desire, as He will be in Town To-morrow. — In the mean time I send you the observations which I have made upon this Document, which you may keep if you consider them worth having, as I have had a Copy made which I shall submit to Lord Hill. — They are not so clearly expressed as they might have been, if I had had more time, being written off hand, and without any notes or draft.

I have confined myself

The Rt Hon:
Sir Henry Hardinge K.L.B.

myself to the consideration of details which belong to my situation, and have not entered into the general view and reasoning introduced in your letter which are more of a ministerial character, but I beg you will understand that my silence implies Consent, not Dissent, and that I entirely concur in the principles you lay down, and that I have always been of opinion that when a measure of public utility is brought forward, no time should be lost in considering and discussing its merits, and that whenever these shall have been established and found to be free from objection, nothing can be more weak, and more absurd, than to delay carrying them into effect. At the same time many plans may be brought forward which in theory may appear unobjectionable, and

which

which would not be reconcileable to sound Practice and Experience. — This may prove the Case in some of Colonel Paisley's, in spite of all his ability, which may not equally embrace every object, and therefore even his proposals should be well weighed before they are adopted. —

I believe that there is much to reform in the System of Commissariat Contracts for Bread and Meat, and that the Service in general and the Soldier would be benefitted by a change, but I cannot approve of one measure which I believe Colonel Paisley has introduced in his own Corps, the formation of Committees consisting of non-commissioned Officers and Privates in each Company to sit in judgement on the Character of the Supply. — I cannot conceive any thing to be more objectionable in principle, more dangerous

in

in practice, or more likely to subert
Discipline. —

I quite agree with you as to the propriety of, & the advantage which will result from a thorough enquiry into the necessity and the application of Contingent Allowances, from simplifying and consolidating such as it may be necessary to retain, and from wholly abolishing such as shall prove unnecessary. — But even this should be done with care, for there may be necessary expences and charges which the Officer and Soldier must provide for, and towards which it was intended that these Contingent Allowances should be applied, and it would not be just or reasonable that they should have to meet such expence out of their Pay. All this I have no doubt you will fairly consider, and I am persuaded

that

that your measures will be the result of conviction, arising from unbiassed Enquiry, and not that of notions hastily taken up in consequence of the detection of partial abuses, and the suggestions of Individuals who, however able, may in some instances substitute Theory for Experience. —

As soon as I have laid your Communications before Lord Hill, I will apprize you of His wishes on the subject; and I trust I need not add, that you shall have the cordial support of the Assistant General in giving due effect to the measures of Improvement or Reform which may result from the adoption of your suggestions. Believe me to be

My dear Hardinge,

Most sincerely Yours

(signed) H. Taylor

(Private)

Copy of a Letter
from Sir Herbert Taylor
to Sir H. Hardinge
dated 12th Novr 1828

Sir Willoughby Gordon

Private

War Office

13 Nov. 1866.

My dear General

You have been good enough to offer me your valuable assistance, on many occasions where I have derived advantage from it, & I therefore request you to let me trespass on your license at Aiton, to look over the inclosed papers which regard the office sent of the General Staff.

There is no regular allowance

& in many situations either the Office is provided or not required.

The great object is to get rid of all contingent allowances, requiring vouchers certificates &c. & on this principle, no scale has ever been laid down, treating each case as a special one, disposing of it according to circumstances.

Whether you can devise any other plan, or knowing the duties to which the Asst. Qr. Master General are liable, can arrive at any settled plan, is the question which I beg to refer to you.

The Inclosed Return will give you all the Cases at Home, & as the Treasury intend to transfer from the Army Extraordinaries to the Regular Estimates, the Charges abroad for Officers, Clerks &c for the General Staff.

I fear I must again try Yr patience by requiring Yr experienced hand to assist me in regulating this matter abroad.

I am my dear General, Ever faithfully Yrs

(signed) H. Hardinge

Private

Hampstead November 13
1828

My dear Hardinge,

Colonel Dawkins's Proposal for removing the Ordnance Cadets to Sandhurst & abolishing the Woolwich Academy, altho' tending as to the Manner you state she is so unconnected with the Subject of the Letter that I do not enter into it in the Memorandum of Yesterday, nor am I aware even that you meant that this Attention to be drawn to it. —

Nevertheless I conceive it to be well deserving of Attention in various points of View, and that there are many Reasons why the Proposal would be a good Measure for carrying it into Effect.

Nevertheless

Neither Establishment has of late been going on satisfactorily & Reforms of various descriptions have become necessary in both which would be best effected by the proposed Amalgamation necessarily producing a Recasting of the whole, and effecting also a very considerable Reduction of Expence. — Both are more extensive than our Military Establishments call for and I conceive that Sandhurst would afford ample Accomodation for the united Academies. The Governor might remain as at present, a General Officer of high Rank, whose Salary & Appointments would be better justified by the proposed Union; the Lieut Governor might be

for the Artillery & Engineer Branches ought to be made to contribute in the same proportions & on the same principle as there for the Line and a practice Rule ought to be established that of the latter a fixed number should annually obtain Commissions by Purchase and without Purchase, with a Preference over all other Candidates for others, then by Purchase requiring certain general Qualifications of good Conduct & general Instruction & being eligible from their Commission at the Age of 17 & the others being entitled only in ~~consequence~~ Consideration of their progress in these Studies as should make them to pass their final Examination at the Age of 18

Cadets in general is quite early enough to enter the Army, unless their Capacity should justify their Attempting to Commission at an earlier Age.

I agree with Colonel Darby that a proportion of Cadets ought to be distributed throughout the Army, but I do not think it necessary that all the Cadets should be educated as Officers of Artillery & Engineers, or that their Studies should entirely be directed to those Branches unless they should discover a particular predilection or Aptitude for them. — I have always objected to this Account to the System pursued at Sandhurst where much of the time is devoted to the Scientific

By this I do not mean to suggest that the Cadets who may, after such early production of their Talents, be destined for the Scientific Branches should not have the Advantage of Instruction in Drawing & Writing &c., but merely that the Mathematics & other Studies required for the Engineer & Artillery Service should become the principal Objects, which they should cease to be so with the Cadets destined for the Line, whose time & Attention should be given to the Acquisition of general Information without subjecting them to a Mechanical Process having no constant or fixed Objects. — The Union of

the

the Two Establishments would offer an excellent Opportunity of laying down some Rules for such Division of Study and I am convinced that the Result would be the Introduction to the Army, of Officers who will have gone through a Course of Education at Sandhurst better calculated to fit them for their general Duties, & to take their proper Station in Society, and the Selection for the Scientific Branches of Individuals whose natural Talents have better qualified them for the Studies required for those Branches. —

As the Examination for the latter, would probably be more severe a longer period might be

allowed for the Course of Study, but with Respect to Pay Marks will depend upon the Attention given to the early Selection of those who shall show the greatest Desposition for the Engineer & Artillery Class.

If a Measure of this Description should be contemplated, it would be advisable not to delay its Consideration, as both Establishments require Reforms which had better not be undertaken separately for temporary purposes.

Believe me

Yours confidentially

C. Hayter

Intl. College

~~Demonstration~~ Structure of the Perspective and to its Mechanical attitudes, namely to highly finished Drawing absorbing hours which ought to be more profitably employed, & conveying little general Information in Theory, still less in the practice & Application of the Science. The dull Boy may succeed in this mechanical course equally with the more intelligent possibly better & may pass the required Examination after which he seems forgetting what he has so acquired. — Another part of the System to which I have always objected is the Quantity of Drill.

I conceive that it would be advisable to divide the Institution into General Instruction & Scientific Instruction & that a good Examination

an attempt should be made to establish the Claim to a Commission, the former for the Line, the latter for the Artillery & Engineers. —

Both Classes should embrace a general Knowledge of Classics, History, Geography & Literature as well as Languages, and General Instruction in Field Fortification & Artillery, but so soon as the Term & the Talent of a Cadet for any particular Study should be ascertained, he should be selected for that Branch & his Instruction should be given with a view to proficiency in it, instead of continuing to divert his time & Attention to pursuits which may not suit his Disposition, Inclination or the natural Character of his Intellect

to a Major General of Artillery, and all the other Appointments should be new-Cast. — The Distribution of Cartridges would not cause any Difficulty as there might be a certain proportion of Carriages for the Line and another for the Ordnance suited to the estimated Means of providing for both, the Master General filling up at present the Captaincies & the Commissions in the Artillery & Engineers & the Governor in Chief recommending for those in the Line. — Some Rule of the same sort might be adopted in the Selection of the Instructors & Minor Appointments. — Sandhurst contains all that can be required for its present or an extended

and

and erected Establishment on the Shape of Ground,
Bombarding, Rolling Shot &c and I do not apprehend
that any thing would be to be created or added.
It might be necessary to provide by Retirement for
some of the Officers belonging to both Establishments
but the Charge would be small, compared to the Reduction
of Expence produced by the Incorporation and you
would be able by this Measure to justify &
maintain the Retention of Establishments which are
the continued occasion of attack & which, taken
separately, are in fact upon a Scale which cannot
be required in time of Peace & is more than
sufficient in time of War. — The Retirement Cadets

Private

Downing St.
Nov. 15th 1828.

My dear Darling

I believe that I some time since shewed you the enclosed draft of a minute which I had prepared with reference to the Report of the Finance Committee on the subject of superannuations &c. I have since sent it to Croker & I enclose you the observations which he has made upon it. Some of his observations appear to me

well deserving of consideration.
but on others I differ from him
as however whatever is done
must apply to both services I
am desirous that you should
consider the subject and I will
call upon you some day next
week upon it

Yours very truly
Henry Fallram

(19)

Adjutant General's Office

Strathmores Nov 20
1825

My dear Hardinge

Upon looking over the Returns I find that the 2 last Indian Regts & the Colonial Corps, namely the Ceylon & Cape Corps, have not been included & that their deficiencies, or wanting to complete, amounted by the last Returns to 257. – These ought to be added to the 2613 & would make the Total 2970. (8?) Leaving the Consolidated Returns to be – 800. There would be upon the general Establishment. 3770 rank & File. But as you require 5000 rank & File for Arrangements which I may be allowed to lament & deprecate) I see no other Expedient than by keeping all our Battalions (now in India excepted) being

The Right Honble
The Secretary at War

P.T.O.

83
50
4150

83 in Number, short of their Establishment by 50 Off.
This will produce a deficiency of Effective to the Amount
of 4150 £, adding to these the Casualties between
Actions, you may expect the Saving on Paper &
the proportionate Reduction in the Efficiency of
the Army. — This being established, the Recruiting
of the Army must be regulated accordingly, and
as it must be partially suspended until the
required numerical Reduction is effected, the Standard
Heat Letter be raised to 5 ft 8 In.

There are another Points which I
am ordered to mention in consequence of

Suggestions I have received. It regards the Acting Adjutants of Depots.

According to the present Arrangements the Pay of such Acting Adjutants, whether he be a Lieut. or an Ensign, is made up to 8/6 per diem. The Consequence is that the Ensign receives an addition or extra Pay to the Amount of 3/3 which a Lieut. receives 2/ & a Lieut. of 7 Years Service 1/ only. and the Employment becomes an Object to the Individual in proportion to the Amount of extra Pay. — The Result is that the Situation is in many Cases held by a junior Officer, who perhaps not the best qualified & Certainly not the fittest to instruct the young Officers, thought, on the other

other hand, the Senior, or any old Lieutenants, may not be those whom the Commanding Officer would select. In order to obviate these Objections, to allow the Commanding Officer a fair Selection, & to render the Object worthy of the Attention of all the Subalterns, in a pecuniary point of view, I would propose before that 2/ should be the extra Pay given, whether to a Lieutenant of any Standing or an Ensign, in Consideration of his acting as Adjutants, and I apprehend that this Alteration would produce no increase of Expence. There are actually 11 Ensigns acting as Adjutants to Depots & the Number of Lieuts of 7 Years Standing or under who are so circumstanced might be easily ascertained.

Believe me ever
Your sincerely
B. Hooper

Recd
D. W. P.

22 William Street Monies Town
Devonshire 21 November 1829

Sir

On behalf of myself and my Brother Tradesmen in these Towns I beg leave most respectfully to call your attention to the manner in which His Majesty's Troops are provided with Beef and Mutton as now served to them by Contract which by the first Article should be Ox or Heifer Beef and Wether or Ewe Mutton in certain proportions whereas it is well known Beef and Mutton of a very different Quality have been frequently / not to say almost constantly / Served I therefore beg to state the origin of Contracts for Butchers Meat in this District About the year 1812 Meat was at an Enormous price / so high as from 8d to 10d per lb / the Soldiers then came to Market under the Charge of a Non Commissioned Officer and would take Crime prices leaving Government to pay the difference above 6d per lb this I admit was a great Evil and cried loudly for redress which brought on the present system of Contracting and which altho it did away with the former Evil created others. One by which the Soldier not having the laying out of his own Money, feels

dissatisfied even when well served which is frequently far from the case another evil attending this system is It does away with all competition amongst the Tradesmen the Troops being necessarily confined to one Man / the Contractor / whereas if they were allowed to come to Market and engage for themselves under the superintendence of one or two of their Superiors they might at this time / and in all probability for many years to come unless some unforeseen circumstance should take place / purchase whatever Meat they pleased at 4 pence &c

In addition to the above statement It may not be irrelevant to state that in the Towns of Devonport Plymouth and Stonehouse there at least 100 most respectable Butchers who pay annually a very large amount in Taxes Poor Rates &c &c and therefore naturally conceive they should have a participation in the advantages to be derived from the Expenditure made in the Towns.

Under all these circumstances I trust you will be pleased to take the subject into your favorable consideration and allow the Troops to go to Market for themselves under the restrictions before mentioned

as no Offence will be thereby Entailed on Government. The Agricultural interest will be much benefitted inasmuch as the Farmer and Grazier will have a fair and equal Competition which he certainly has not under the present system. The Soldier it is conceived will be better served, and better satisfied and the Tradesman will have an equal Chance one with another

I am Sir
With Heartyfelt Respect
Your Most Obedient
Humble Servant
William Pool

The Right Honorable
The Secretary at War
&c &c &c

my statements can be substantiated
I agree with you respectfully
Author

Sir

I have had the honor of receiving yr. letter of the 21st inst. relating to Soldiers purchasing their own Provisions, & beg that you will favor me with any details or statements which can substantiate the fact of the Soldier being at present, supplied by contract, with meat of a very inferior

quality, & I am
desirous of receiving
any suggestions from
the respectable Tradesmen
on the subject in question
I am
Yrs
A H.

Written 26/11
A H.

Mr. W. Pool.

Pressing

22.29)
1

~~Dep^t Sat^{ur}~~ — 24/11

~~Sat 24/11~~

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24/11 rd.

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Ellis LB 14 P 91.

new

Chatham the
22d of Novr 1838

My dear Sir Henry,

Having occasion to write to Captain White Adjutant of the Staff Corps at Mythe upon other business, I requested him to inform me, what Lord Greenock's sentiments were upon the subject of the Commissariat Contracts.

I inclose Captain White's reply to me, which is well worthy of your attention, for I consider him a very intelligent, zealous, active Officer. You will see that Lord

Greenock's experience and that of the Staff Corps, goes entirely against the Commissariat Contractors, and that the Subcontractors had the impudence to tell his Lordship, that it never was intended (they mean of course by the Government) that the Troops should have bread or meat of a good quality. The same remark was made to me some years ago, by one of those Gentlemen, and I can assure

you that the general belief of the inhabitants of this neighbourhood is to that effect, namely that it has always been the understood wish of the Treasury, that the troops should be supplied with the very worst qualities of bread and meat.

I beg leave to suggest, that the opinions most worthy of notice in the Kent District are Sir Colin Browne & the Cavalry Depot Land Greenock & the Staff officers, Colonel Savage and the Marine

Corps, Major Bentley & the Invalid Depot, Lt Col Hay & the East India Depot, and the Ordnance Corps at Woolwich and Chatham, all having permanent head Quarters and all decidedly against the Commissariat Contracts.

I wait anxiously for the General List of Prices throughout England

In the mean time I remain, my dear Sir Henry Yours very faithfully

C Pasley

The
Rt Honorable
Sir H. Hardinge KCB
&c &c

Hythe Barracks

19th Nov 1828

My dear Sir.

I am favored with your letter of the 17th instant, and can, with a certainty, assure you that Lord Greenock is as much averse to Army Contracts as you, or any other man in the Service can. — He has had a great deal of trouble and vexation with the Sub-contractors at this place, since he has been in command here there last five years, one of whom told him to his face, that no Sub-contractor could do justice

to the soldier, to make any thing decent by his dealings with the army he must cheat, and that such was an understood thing by all the contracting parties. Before Lord Greenock took the command of this Corps he was employed in Ireland, and he has often expressed his admiration of the mode adopted in that country for providing the soldiers with Bread & meat. and I am sure every man who has given any attention to the real interests of the soldiers must be satisfied that to

be allowed to form their own contracts or go to market with ready money is much more advantageous and attended with less trouble than being, as we are now, exposed to the harsh offers and sometimes receiving from the sub-contractors. Being convinced of this myself I some time ago (when I returned from Chattanooga in 1826) obtained Lord Fitzmaurice's leave to establish a private contract for our Sepoys Mess entirely disconnected with the Government contract, not even with the same Purveyors & Bakers.

Since then the Sergeants have received <u>any pieces of meat</u>. their Servant thinks proper to select. at from 5. to 5½ p. lb. and their Bread, much better in quality at the contractors price. until within the last month. when they have paid a little more in consequence of the high price of Wheat. – I am sure if you think proper to write to Lord Greenock. you will have his hearty concurrence and assistance in abolishing the Army Contracts in every thing that concerns the private soldier.

I have the honour to remain Very faithfully Yours

P. White

WHITE

Copy

War Office

24 Nov 26.

My dr Sir

I am much obliged to you for your letter of Saturday – Lt G. is very good authority.

I send you the Returns from the Regt! a few are still wanting & you shall have the D. W. Generals' Returns

of Quarters the end of this week.

Whenever you come to town, I wish to converse with you on the Univ. College.

I am adverse to the Consolidation but I think the whole system wrong, I wish the young men were dressed in Blue & Brown

had no field days or drills
till 15 yrs of age, & were
made to work more with
their brains than their
hands.

I also want to get rid
of the Black Hole – the
espionage of Sergeants &
a variety of Mil. Gonsense
which is in my opinion

Pulpit
Bookt

London Nov 24th 1828

The Duke of Wellington
presents his Compliments
to the Secretary of War
& begs leave to refer to
him the Enclosed Letter
from Mr Wm Pool.

Pressing (24/11)

22297
2

22297
2

24/11/20

Duke of Wellington

~~Deb. & Com.~~ 25/11
F.P. Sat War 24/11

~~Sat W.~~ 25/.

~~Ch. Ex.~~ 28/.

22 William Street Morris Town
Devonshire 21 November
1820

My Lord

In behalf of myself and my Brother Tradesmen in these Towns I beg leave most respectfully to call your Graces attention to the manner in which His Majesty's Troops are provided with Beef and Mutton, as now served to them by Contract which by the first Article should be Ox or Heifer Beef and Wether or Ewe Mutton in certain proportions Whereas it is well known Beef and Mutton of a very different quality have been frequently (not to say almost constantly) found, I therefore beg to recall to your Graces recollection the origin of Contracts for Butchers Meat in this District — About the Year 1812 Meat was at an Enormous price (as high as from 8d to 10d p lb) the Soldiers then came to Market under the Charge of a Non Commissioned Officer and would take prime prices having Government to pay the difference above 6 p lb this I admit was a great Evil and cried loudly for redress, which brought on the present system of Contracting and which altho it did away with the former Evil created others, One by which the

Soldier not having the laying out of his own Money feels dissatisfied even when well served which is frequently far from the case, another Evil attending this System is It does away with all Competition amongst the Tradesmen the Troops being necessarily confined to one Man, the Contractor, whereas if they were allowed to come to Market and engage for themselves under the superintendence of one or more of their Superiors they might at this time, and in all probability for many years to come unless some unforeseen circumstance should take place, purchase whatever Meat they pleased at 4d pr lb.

In addition to the above statement it may not be irrelevant to state to your Grace that in the Towns of Devonport Plymouth and Stonehouse there are at least 100 most respectable Butchers who pay annually a very large amount in Taxes, Poor Rates &c &c and therefore naturally conceive they should have a participation in the Advantages to be derived from the Expenditure made in the Towns

Under all these circumstances I hope your Grace will be graciously pleased to take the subject into your favorable consideration, and allow the Troops to go to Market for

themselves, under the restrictions before mentioned as no Expence will be thereby entailed on Government. The Agricultural interest will be much benefitted inasmuch as the Farmer and Grazier will have a fair and equal competition which he certainly has not under the present system. The Soldier, it is conceived will be better served, and better satisfied, and the Tradesman will have an equal Chance one with another.

I am My Lord
With duty and Respect
Your Grace
Most devoted and
Obedient Humble Servant
William Pool

Field Marshall
His Grace The Duke of Wellington K.G. &c
&c &c &c &c
Treasury Chambers
London

London 25th Nov. 1828

Sir,

I do you only justice in acknowledging the advantage of the measures which you have adopted, for the discovery of frauds in the department over which you preside, and your praiseworthy exertions to effect every possible retrenchment consistant with justice; permit me therefore, as a friend to my country, to suggest to you some observations, bearing upon this subject, which may assist your laudable views. You, Sir, have with great propriety, instituted enquiry into various abuses practiced in many Regts. relative to the discharge of soldiers, where a certificate of service has been improperly granted, and I have reason to believe that from inattention (in many instances fraud,) this evil has obtained to a great extent. Your enquiries relative to drawing the allowance for oil

and energy, and its improper application (as well as other objects under your contemplation) will also be productive of benefit to the public, and of comfort and advantage to the soldier.

I beg to call your especial attention to the abuses existing in the pensions granted to officers for the loss of a limb, or an eye on service, or for wounds received by them equivalent to such loss; a searching investigation, and a strict examination of officers receiving this pension, will afford ample means of proving the necessity of withdrawing the unmerited boon from a great proportion of those who now enjoy it; some instances actually exist where Officers receive a double pension who have not even a claim to one. I could enumerate many expensive military establishments, by the abolition of which His Majesty's service, as well as the public would derive benefit, I will however only at present, advert to

Sandhurst, where the Motive of the Director of the institution, and the great convenience and proficiency of the Students, who, in the acquisition of a little military knowledge, lose every feeling of that high honour and propriety, which ought to characterise the conduct of British Officers. — Should the hints I have given prove in anyway useful the object will be attained of

Yours Veteran Partem

N.B. An authorised & authentic list of Military and Naval Officers receiving pensions for wounds, if published in the Army and Navy lists, would assist in detecting imposition, by the exposure of numerous unmerited pensions. And a real medical examination of all doubtful cases, by professional men, incapable of favouring fraudulent practices, would greatly abate the evil.

The Right Honble
Secretary at War

My dear Hardinge

I send you the proposition which I received from Oporto ten days after the convention had taken place and which proposition I declined upon my honour as to be without any previous communication - expressing of opinion or I know ledge whatever of such intention in the minds of any of the Portuguese

I did think of showing

Eye at the time but
a reflexion I thought
as the Proposition was
the strongest from Events could not
practical upon, it might
be suspected I was
making a display of
confidence and Feel
feeling embarrassing
myself feel unworthy
our Friendship.
I further declare that
I never directly or in-
directly took any
step in the proceeding,
neither any conference
with the Deputies
Secretary, or other

Passages interested
in the Newspapers, and
that that would be
previous to the date
below, I should not
have acted as it
without the sanction
of the Dublin Gov.
as I have always
declined in the Name
of Lunacy & on the
public. as well as
private occasions the
offer the Lord Lieutenant
requested from the
Visitors Gov. & my
letter from Spain

to persuade him
either place as in the
alien bill - [redacted]
I felt bound as Home
Secretary never to engage
in any foreign service
whatever without
the King's leave
and authority. Unless
flattering myself
might be his
ambition and honour
disturbed I was
for the crime
of Employment.

I was placed

to think after
former remonstrances
in Portugal what the
Marquess Palmella
was thereby that
he had made such
a concession humble
to his official
disapprobation
but it is clear
by the very wording
of the Proposition
the Marquess &
Parties subscribing

anticipated a
negative on my part
to the Commander
and Senior Officer.
I can also affirm
that when the
former disturbances
took place in
Portugal & the
usurpation of
the Charter, that
I pronounced to the
Chargé of Mr
Canning and with
his consent &
acknowledgments

measures about
to be taken by the
friends here
for carrying
the foundings so
and should
be required produce
the proofs of the
alteration and
its limits.

Yours faithfully
[illegible]

Nov. 25. 1862.

(copy)

War Office

My dear Lord Fitzroy 26 Oct. 1860.

I send you a list of 144 Cornets & Ensigns on 1/2 pay who have never done a day's duty, & whose continuance on the 1/2 pay list is I conceive a just cause of public grievance.

Of this number, I imagine more than 100 never intend to make the Army their Profession - I have not gone farther back than 1816, because it is of course the Gen.

Lord Fitz-Roy Somerset, &c

preferable to get rid of the youngest lives first. The Old Ensigns who slipt in 20 or 30 years ago, many of whom are in Civil employments, must be allowed to die off, but with regard to the list I recommend, I conceive where the merits & pretensions of the Individual to 1/2 pay do not clearly rest upon some intelligible footing of Public Service, as in the case of young men completing their Education at College, that they ought at once to be forced to sell.

The Public & the Parliament ought not to be incumbered with this description of Annuitant, the purchase & sale of Commission

being no real excuse for the description of Military jobbing in Commissions, & I conceive if the whole question were strictly investigated that the Parliament would be justified in refusing to allow a single farthing of a Public vote of money to be so appropriated, more particularly when the act of 1811 is adhered to, only allowing officers to be placed upon ½ pay who are unfit for active service by wounds, climate &c.

I therefore conceive there can be no difficulty in at once openly informing each of these individuals, that he must

be prepared to serve or sell out, — requiring his age & other particulars, such as Civil Employment under Govt. &c

If 100 of these Annuitants are thus got rid of, I consider that you will be able to find 35 or 40 Lieut.s whom it is desirable to get out —

In all these matters I find time beats me so completely, that I fear L.d Hill & yourself may find me unreasonably urgent, but it is very important that this measure should be completed before the 20th Dec.r in order that the 1/2 pay may not be issued on the 25th.

If we manage it judiciously I hope the Secretary may be induced to extend the measure to other Branches & ranks of the Army making the measure one of considerable economy to Public & of undoubted advantage to the Horse Gds. by a purification of useless & discreditable characters &c

faithfully Yrs (signed) H Hardinge

8.

Private

War Office
29 Feb. 1820.

My dear Lord Bathurst

I send the inclosed papers regarding Pensions for Wounds, for Lord Hill's perusal & observations before I enter into any consultation with the Board of Admiralty & Ordnance.

In every case affecting the interests of the Army, I am most anxious to have my propositions sifted by

Military Men of Experience & judgement -
& I should be glad that Sir Herbert Taylor
& Sir Willoughby Gordon would make
any suggestions which they may consider
best calculated to secure & preserve
this very valuable Reward to Officers
wounded in the Service.

The Duke of Wellington's letter is
herewith attached, agreeing in the general
principles I have laid down.

The papers for various reasons

had better be considered in this stage as confidential.

I am
My dear Lord Fitzroy
faithfully Yours
(signed) H Hardinge

The Genl.
Lord Fitzroy Somerset

10

London Nov. 30 1828

My dear Bainbridge I return all the papers which you have sent me at different times on the subject of Pensions for Wounds.

The Warrant as originally issued conveyed the handsomest reward for well Merited Services, and for suffering that never was conferred by any Sovereign on his Army. Indeed the

purposes of the Moment Country; and
if acted upon in the principle of the
Regional point, and the operation of
it had been conducted purely and
impartially, the burthen upon the Pillig
would have been comparatively light,
it would have been cheerfully
borne, the Army would have been
satisfied, and those who were really
objects of the Prince's bounty would
have

engrossed in Security that what they had argued in the field.

The first mistake which was made was in giving the Warrant a retrospective operation. I don't say so because those who lost their limbs in the early part of the War were less meritorious than those who lost them subsequently; but because this extension of the operation of the Warrant gave it a personal character. The spirit of the Warrant

Sir D

have been discouraged future gallant services in the presence of the enemy in the field. This object was attained by the promise of the reward for the future. The part of this reward for past services was unnecessary for this purpose; increased the expense, and so far weakened the security of those whose services the promise of the reward was intended to secure.

The great Mistake was the giving the Warrant a prospective operation. That is to say an Officer wounded as an Image might have received the Pension for the Wound of a Rebel Marshall.

Another mistake was the part of the Pension for Wounds other than those Capable over the loss of Limbs and Eyes. This operation of the Warrant has Excluded all the Abuses practised

by the Medical Department; and
this Bounty still more important;
by the grant of the Rewards under
this Warrant which were originally
intended to stimulate Officers to
gallant Conduct in the presence of
the enemy in the field, to Officers who
may never have been an enemy in
the field, where constitutions may be
infirm or impaired by Climate or by
long living in Warm Climates, or who

maybe bad horsemen, or may ride bad horses, or who may meet with any accident whatever with an Engine a Steam boat or been without, Robert human Nature is liable in the ordinary transactions of life.

It is quite serious that this system cannot go on. Parliament neither will nor ought to countenance the fraud, if the operations under it are so conducted. The worthy menitonors will be deprived of their pensions; and in the mean time

the Officers of the Army who have been
and those who have left without of
continuing their services in tranquility
and contentment are bad and all of
them considering how they can make out
a case for a Pension but as good as
that of his Grandfather for a
former Wound; or for a New Wound on
Oscar.
He was never attended; and cannot
go on. The Warrant must be brought to

its original State, a prospective Pension for those who lose limbs or eyes; and nothing else.

In respect to those to whom Pensions have been granted my opinion is that if they have been granted permanently there should be no further question about them. Those officers should keep their Pensions.

If the Pension has been granted for a term Pension as in the case of Dr Nelson I would call review the point but the Report should be in the Error of the Warrant. If the Report should be in his favour in this case

the Pension should be granted permanently;
and there should be an end of the
Case. But there must therefore be an
end to all Claims of all descriptions
for new, or renewed, cases of Wounds, or of Hurts or
Sickness.

This is my Opinion; and I give it in
the thorough conviction that if acted upon
it will tend most to the Honour &
Comfort of the Officers of the Army.

Believe me Lord Grey's most humble
Wellington

The Duke's intention is that no wounds should receive pension but palpable by loss of limb or eye –

2. Expense of Clerical Duties

Papers marked A. to R.

(Duplicate)

Barbados 2nd December 1828

Sir,

The letter you did me the honour to address to me at Trinidad on the 23rd September last, having been marked on the envelope "Private" was forwarded here, and as it is headed by the term "confidential" I do not feel authorised to refer it to the Officer who succeeded me in the administration of the Government, particularly as I shall save time by replying to a question upon which I possess equal information.

The Military Posts in Trinidad where Divine Service is performed, are St. James's and Orange Grove in the neighbourhood of Port of Spain, and St. Joseph's distant from thence seven Miles. The Chaplain officiates alternate sundays at the two former and at the latter, but never at all three on the same day. For the duty, therefore, that he performs in that line his Services might easily be dispensed with;

The Right Honble
Sir Henry Hardinge K. C. B
Secretary at War.

but it is in occasional visits to the sick and in burying the dead that he is most useful.

The Population of Trinidad being chiefly Catholic, there is but one Protestant Church, the Minister of which does not possess health to enable him to undertake extra work; indeed he is at times most essentially aided in his labours by our Chaplain.

The Sum of 50 or 80 £s per Annum, alluded to in your Despatch, would hardly be considered an object in a Colony where public Officers are so well paid as in Trinidad.

On a review, therefore, of all the circumstances connected with this question, I am of opinion that a transfer of the duties could not well take place; it being for your superior judgement to determine whether a Chaplain to the Forces be required at all.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant.

C. F. Smith.

Can you send me the
original letter.—
HWS.—

1854

Sherman

(6)

15. Grosvenor Street
Feb.y 16.th 1830.

Sir,

In compliance with the wish, which you expressed in our last conversation, I beg leave to lay before you a brief statement of the Duties attached to the Office of Chaplain General, and also such observations, as have occurred to me, in regard to their importance.

In general, I conceive that the Office was designed, under military regulations, for the superintendance & guidance of the Army in all Matters and Questions connected with Religion. –

The Chaplain General is the person, to whom Officers in command within the limits of the United Kingdom are in the first instance directed to apply, when any difficulty arises as to the accommodation of the Troops at Divine Worship; and, particularly, when, from the want of room in the Parish Church at the usual times of Service, it becomes necessary that a separate Service should be performed to them. – In all such cases it is incumbent

upon him to take due care, by the exhibition of sufficient Testimonials, that the Duty is confided to respectable Clergymen — and that the Certificates of its having been discharged are regular and correct. — These Certifi=
=cates are then recommended by him under his signature to The Secretary at War, in order to intitle the Officiating Minister to the authorized Allowance.

It is also a part of his Official Duty to provide the Army with religious Tracts and Books — especially such, as are best adapted for the sick in Hospital — upon requisitions to that effect from the commanding Officer, or at the request of the Clergyman, who attends and visits them. — These Tracts and Books are obtained from the Society for pro=
=moting Christian Knowledge; and you have consequently the sanction of that Society, that they contain the pure and sound doctrine of the Church of England — without any intermixture of matter calculated to encourage false opinion, or to promote a wild Enthu=
=siastic Spirit. —

It has also fallen to the care

of the Chaplain General to carry into effect the admirable regulation of the late Commander in Chief - His Royal Highness The Duke of York - for the supply of a Bible and Prayer-Book to every Soldier in the British Army, who is able to read. This has occasioned much additional trouble; as in each case it is necessary that the supplies to the different Regiments should be accurately registered, according to the date of the respective requisitions, and that the accounts from the two Societies, who furnish the supplies - namely - The Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, and The Naval and Military Bible Society - should be carefully examined before they are submitted for payment.

I may add too, that in several instances I have been requested to provide a proper selection of Books of various kinds - as a permanent lending Library - for the use of the Troops on foreign Stations. - These Books, however, have occasioned hitherto no expense to the Public; as they have been supplied from a Fund left, for that purpose amongst others, by my Predecessor, Dr. Owen, and which he placed under the direction of The Society for promoting Christian Knowledge. - There has

been in no instance the least hesitation on the part of the Society in acceding to such requests; and I am persuaded, that it would be a very beneficial Regulation, if even at the public cost - such Libraries were established in some of our largest Garrisons as well in this country as abroad. They would afford to the Soldier a constant source of Instruction and Amusement, and would thus be one very effective means of keeping him from places and pursuits, which are at once destructive of Discipline, and of all moral and religious habits. -

But besides the Duties, which have been already mentioned, as attaching to the Office of the Chaplain General, it rests with him to recommend to the two Archbishops and the Bishop of London Persons qualified in all respects to fill the Office of Chaplains to the Forces. Upon this subject, I beg leave to submit for your perusal the Directions, which I received, and of which I have never lost sight, whenever any vacancies were to be supplied. - You will perceive what a stress they lay upon the Qualifications of the Applicant - how strongly they enforce the

expediency of his being "the fittest Person", that can be met with at the time for the Appointment — and with what propriety and truth they observe, that — "zeal in his sacred Profession — much good sense — and gentlemanlike manners are indispensably necessary."

You will, I am persuaded, do me the justice to acknowledge, that I have uniformly endeavoured to recommend to your notice Persons of this description; and I take the present opportunity (the last perhaps that I shall have) of repeating my fixed opinion, that the best interests of the Army are essentially involved in the selection of Clergymen for the Office of Chaplains, who are really capable of discharging with ability their important Duties, and whose character & conduct cannot fail to command attention and respect. —

It may be proper to state, that as the Office of Chaplain General has a

reference to so many different objects, and to every place where Troops are stationed, either in large Bodies or in small Detachments, there has been from necessity much correspondence; and this, it must be evident, could not be carried on, without allotting to it a large portion of my time, and, in particular cases, much consideration. —

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble Servant,

G. Hodgson, D.D.
Chaplain Genl.

To
The Right Honble
Sir Henry Hardinge
&c &c &c.

War Office.

P.S.

May I request, that, unlesp you have any wish to retain them, the Directions from the Prelates may be returned to me.

Clothing Ireland

Dublin 4th Decr. 1828

Sir

Although I am convinced that I need not apologize for bringing under your Consideration any subject directly connected with the Finance of the Army, yet perhaps an apology is necessary on my part for venturing to call your attention to the Regulations now in force relating to the Clothing and Equipment of that part of the Army stationed in Ireland. —

In the prosecution of my Enquiries arising out of the Investigations now going on, I have had occasion to converse a great deal with many Persons in different Trades connected with the supply of the Army; and their Representations have led me to push my Enquiries further: — The result of those Enquiries is a firm belief on my mind that the Regulation giving the option to the Colonel to send Clothing from England to his Regiment in this Country has been the direct cause of incalculable Distress to Thousands of industrious Persons in Dublin and in the other large Towns where the Articles required were mostly manufactured namely, Cork, Waterford & Kilkenny. —

From the information which I have received on this

subject

subject, I think that it can be satisfactorily shewn, first, that it appears, that since 1818 from Eight to Ten Thousand Persons have been thrown out of employment and reduced to a state of abject Poverty by the operation of the Regulation: and next that by making it imperative on the Colonel to have the Clothing and Equipment of his Regiment manufactured in this Country, he would not only not be a loser but would actually be a gainer besides adding greatly to the Convenience of his Regiment. —

I need not however trouble you with any further detail until I know whether you are of opinion that the question is one which is open to be reconsidered. —

I can have no hesitation in stating that I think the strongest grounds for giving it serious Consideration are, Policy and Humanity. —

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient &

Most faithful Servant

W. Anderson

Right Honorable

Sir W. Harding K.C.B

&c &c &c

Refer to

① Letter of
Lord Gower
Oct. 16. 1828

and

② Document
27th. 11. 28.
a memorandum
on a paper
transmitted by
Lord Gower
16th Oct.
1828

Refer to

① Letter of

Lord Gower

Oct. 16. 1828

and

② Document

27th. 11. 28.

a memorandum

on a paper

transmitted by

Lord Gower

16th Oct.

1828

Private

Should not fail to bear in mind Y. recommendation

Stanwell Place
Plaistow Decr 7 1828.

My dear Sir Henry

I have long been anxious to introduce to your notice a cousin of mine (Mr Herrick Bacon) a Clerk in the War Office. This I should have done before but I not thought it unfair to trouble you with any application on your first accepting the Office you now fill. In my recommendation of my young friend I feel assured I do not solicit for one who will disgrace it, or shew himself unworthy of any kindness you may do him, and I shall only add that if at any time you can be of service to him I shall consider it a great obligation conferred on myself. He was some years in the Customs before Lord Palmerston gave

him his present appointment and I believe has altogether been ten years in office

I remain
Dear Sir Henry
Ever very Faithfully
Your Obed Servt
J Abbott

The
Rt Hon
Sir H. Hardinge
&c &c &c

My dear Sir John

I have received your letter ~~bearing~~ of yesterday begging introduction to my noble friend, ~~in behalf of~~ Mr. Bacon of this office.

I am afraid there is not much chance of his name coming before me, but whenever ~~it~~ an occasion ~~occurs to me~~ ~~may occur~~ ~~it occurs~~ ~~fairly~~, I will not fail to bear in mind your recommendation in his behalf.

Sir John Gibbons

8/12

Maurice Town Dec 15th 1828

Wm Stratt C22

Honble Sir

I am requested by my father who has been unwell for some time, and Beg to acknowledge the Receipt of your Letter of the 26 of November, respecting the soldiers being supplied with beef of an inferior quality your Honour will be pleased to observe, in the first place, in all fairs and markets within a great distance of this place, Bulls Bull Stags, Stirrers or unsound Beast are frequently Bought by the troop Contractor Sub Contractor or their agents, at very Low prices in fact at their own price as there is no other person to purchase them, they not being good Enough or fit for the market and only for a few years, this sort of Cattle was not half so plenty as they are at present, for why, the practice was to work, the Bull Beasts for a year or two get them poor, then Casterate them and fatten them, they want to Become good Cattle the reason is there was no one to buy them, my father had the Honour of Being the Contractor for devon in the years 1816

3. Jany 1829 Respect with Papers on Contracts for beef

during six months and I am prepared to
moove, nothing of the kind Either Bull or
unsound Beast was ever Killed during that time
for any man of Respectability, would attempt
to purchase such Cattle as is frequently taught
by these people, the navy Contractor Cannot
Price any such Beast, for why, all Cattle
is inspected by a person deputed for that
purpose Before it is slaughterd, and if a
Beast is refused, after so slaughterd
the Contractor is fined 2 £ for Each Beast

I Beg also to state to your Honour as a proof
of the above statement that a number
of Bull hides is sold to the tanner every
week, and it is well known the Beef is
not sold in the market, as there is inspectors
to superintend, it must be detected, and
what is moore if a marketable Beast
is slaughterd by the Contractor all the
Best pieces is sent to market and the
Coarse pieces Cut up and served to the
troops with the Quarters of the inferior
Beast, alluded to, now After informing
your Honour all these absolute facts
I Sincerelly hope and trust you will
be pleased to take the same into your

Serious Consideration and be pleased to direct and allow the Soldiers to market and have the Laying out their own money under the superintendance of their officers as was always the Case in former peace Establishments when meat was at a Low price, the Soldier would be much Better pleased and Better served, the tradesmen in all Large towns in this Kingdom where troops are Stationed would feel very Grateful for such Just act from your Honours as there is no other Source from whence such Benefits Can derive for the Soldier and the Tradesman as at present, all the Soldiers money Goes to one Individual —

I am with all due Submission
Your Honours Most Obt and Very
Humble Servt Wm Foot Junr

To the Right Honble the Secretary
at War &c &c &c

22297
4

22297
4.

22297

~~Dept of Satwar~~
up 18/12

15/12/88

Sat 20/12

The information
affected further
contained in the
Chart the services -
Notary Cha Department -

My dear Hardinge -
I have been tasking my
memory with some self
reproach lest you might
suspect me of a tone of
disappointment with
that of Respectes faction
with your agency. In
fact, lest I should have
appeared unjust
towards your Kindness,
and Friendship, but
believe me no result
can impair my confidence
in the Zeal of your
advocacy, or Love

of the Objections I see
from Exertions —

The Affair rests with
the Duke — In one Quarter
of an hour, from the
Influence he so eminently
possesses, and deserves,
He can accomplish my
Object, and make me
as happy as he, but a whole
Family happy & grateful
now depending upon
the Issue — Fortunately
it quite cits that his dot.

I am assured my Reputation
never should be affected
by a Hand in which

the Bronx of England's
Chivalry is pleased, for
tho I flatter myself I
have not suffered in
Character this estimation
under those suspicions would
be more grievous to me
than by any other work.

Very faithfully yours
Ever

Oct. 23. 1861

Thanks for the Paper
which is a Document
of historical value
people writes to Parson.

Private

Lin R. Wilson

Dec. 22

Eleventh

With Report on Pensions for Wounds —

(18)

Horse Guards

December 24. 1828

My dear Hardinge

I return to you the papers which you transmitted to me on the 29th. Ultimo respecting pensions for wounds.

Lord Hill has given the subject his best consideration and is of opinion that in restoring to the Regulation its original limit and thereby confining

The Right Honble.
Sir Henry Hardinge Bart

the grant to Officers actually wounded on the field of battle, you will render an essential service to the Army, and mark in a conspicuous manner the desire of the God and the Country to distinguish the Exertions and alleviate the sufferings of those who risk their lives in it's defence.

Yours very faithfully

Ellsley Samuel

~~Doc. Copy~~

Documt referred to 1828
— List of cases sent herewith
to shew the effect of the present
System of granting military
pensions —

London Sept. 2d & 3d 1828

My dear Bandinge

I have received your Letter and return the original Letter from Sir Robert Wilson & yours.

I cannot express to you the pain which it gives me, that I cannot bring my mind to the conclusion, that I ought to do that for Sir Robert Wilson which you and other of my friends wish.

The ground upon which I acted in 1826 was that the King and the Duke of York as the head of the Army wished

Col. Sir Henry Bandinge KCH

that Sir Robert Wilson should be
restored to his Rank. This fact was
stated first by Lord Dorchester and
repeated by Sir Robert Wilson; and
I recommended to Sir Robert Wilson
the course which he should follow
in order to approach the King.
But in both the conversations which
I had with Sir Robert Wilson that
a General Officer of the Army and one
of the King's Servants could not
recommend his case to Her Majesty;

although if his Majesty or the Duke of York should think proper to restore Sir Robert Wilson & his Rank in the Service I should not object.

It turned out that the King had not an idea of recalling Sir Robert Wilson & his Service nor the Duke of York of recommending that he should be restored; and there the matter dropped.

Since that time Mr Canning became the King's Minister, and we know well that he was much aided by Sir Robert.

Wilson

in the means adopted of averting that situation. I need not tell you that I don't complain of Mr Roberts conduct on this occasion. On the contrary I think he did what he had a right to do, & ought to do. But I mention the fact to show that he had claims upon Mr Canning.

Why did not Mr Canning recommend him & the Army that he might be restored to his service? He had the command of the Army, and of every thing else. Because Mr Canning knew as every Man in

authority

must know and feel that Mr Robert Wilson's conduct had been fatal to Discipline; and that to recall him & the Secretary must be attended by the same Act in respect to others, and must shake Bits' foundation the Discipline and subordination of the Army.

I am now the Minister; I the General of the Army the Maintainer of its Discipline, subordination, and the Supreme Law and Authority for years; I who have written more orders upon these subjects

there would fall a police Colonel, I am
to be called upon to do that which
Canning did not dare to do although
as I above pointed out feeling himself
under personal obligations to his Patron
Wilson; and I am to do this contrary to
the Principle laid down by myself for
the guidance of my own conduct in the year
1826!
If the King thinks proper of his own accord
without the interference of any Minister,
or if the general Commd. the Army in Chief
thinks proper Recommend to His Majesty

that Sir Robert Peel should be restored to his Service I certainly will not make the smallest Objection. But I cannot recommend the Measure.

In respect to the Portuguese Affairs you see that I was well informed. I never was informed that Sir Robert Peel was concerned in it; and as for what he says I cannot believe that he lied. But I confess that I did believe he lied; as I knew that these Gentlemen had a Motive considerable enough to effect their purpose; and as they are but lately very first in Merit I concluded that they

would not have allotted this Money if they had not been sure of their Man. But that is deduction and not fact; and the conclusion must vanish before the Word of a Man respecting whom we are inquiring whether he should be restored to the Service.

Relieve me Your's most truly

Wellington

(Copy)

Wildernesse

Private

Sevenoaks Dec. 30. 1870.

My dear Wilson

When I last saw you I told you that I had sent your note to me to the Duke of Wellington, & that I hoped to be able in a week or ten days to give you an answer.

I have just received an answer from the Duke – it is very unnecessary for me to express the pain I feel that my anxious wishes & advocacy as an old Military friend of yours should not have had a more favorable result –

Any rumours or reports of your interference in Portuguese affairs during the last summer have been completely set at rest, the instant your assertion to the contrary was known - but I fear however annoying the Declaration may be to me, that my interference to be useful cannot go further; - any hopes I may have entertained have materially subsided, & I make this communication the instant I have received that painful conviction -

With regard to your having a personal interview with the Duke I cannot recommend it -

I can now only assure you on grounds of old Mutly friendship & personal esteem, that I yield

my failure in yr cause, & that I am My
dear Wilson, with sincere regard

Yrs very faithfully

A Hardinge

Sir Robert Wilson

Lt. H. Hardinge to

Lt. Robert Wilson 30/12/28

Informing him of Comr. from

D of W. —

Surgeon Waring
Wilderness
Dec. 31st. 1828

Private

My dear Lord Fitz-Roy

This case of Surgeon Waring's presses itself upon me as a case of great difficulty – because it involves most seriously the principle on which ½ pay should be granted, & the pay list conducted.

We have in favor of this unfortunate man his former good Services, & his attachment to his Wife – but we have also to contend, ~~with the~~ against the fact, that his misfortune for drink arises from intemperance –

That by a convenient compromise, we convert ½ pay to be the reward of misconduct & full pay the punishment of ~~the~~ good-

conduct, by forcing unwillingly into the Service, some
retired Officer to replace the unfit Officer —
We are thus made to disregard the act of Parliament by
which unfitness alone arising from public
Service can justify the Sec. at War in granting
half pay — but we have sanction ~~a principle~~ ~~in the~~
~~[illegible] attending [illegible] concerned in protecting the Public~~
a principle so objectionable ~~public interests~~, that I have for some
time past considered it would be a most
proper measure, to issue a positive prohibition
against any exchanges from full to h/p pay, arising out
of the misconduct of the individuals, so as in fact
to prevent the ~~very frequent~~ mis-appropriation
of the h/p pay into an easy mode of getting
rid of a disreputable character —

[The alternative I wd. propose, between the extreme measures
of dismissal or granting h/p pay, wd be half the price
of the Comm.; ~~for if the Officer be unfit for~~
~~H. M. Service on full pay from misconduct~~
~~he is equally unfit to be on h/p pay~~, & by giving

him f/r the usual compensation, ~~you consider~~
his past Services, are inadequately considered whilst you purge the Army
of inferior subjects —
[When I look at the Med. f/r pay, which has seemed decreased in 15 yrs
of Peace
several Officers in the prime or maturity of life
receiving their half pay, with short full pay Services, because
they have not indeed thumbs, —
when I have now before me a same Papers for the
dismissal from the Service of a f/r pay Med. Off.
who refused, the other day, to go to Gibraltar — ~~[illegible]~~ whence Dr. Short
(of Wellington Street)
Case, now brought forward for re-consideration,
who ~~[illegible]~~ was dismissed a year ago for offering to
serve, after the most active & meritorious
professional conduct, on foreign Service ~~because~~ he ~~offered~~ considering he
was selected whilst others whose term of duty
it might thence have been were ~~[illegible]~~ excused, & because
the ~~return~~ to full pay was ruin to him, having
established himself at g. exp. in Edinburgh
feel that ~~we~~ in this ~~Dep.t~~ branch of the Army
we are foreign
nurturing the able & the good officer, by ~~the~~
& because he is ill qualified to the private fortune ~~if~~
option of ~~leaving~~ his ~~f/r pay~~
& hereafter ~~or~~ if he Serves, or if he does not, of losing his
f/r pay, whilst we gratify, & encourage the the conditional Off.

by ½ pay & idleness, being the premium for misconduct —

I have therefore a proposition which I hope to be able to bring forward on my return to Devon, by which Recd. Offs. should have an alternative, between rain if they serve, or loss of ½ pay if they do not — the principle of which is, that any Recd. Off. when called upon to serve should have the option either of ~~[illegible]~~ stopping the cash or of receiving a sum of money in proportion to his ~~[illegible]~~ pay & his years of full pay service ~~in the Army~~.

~~A~~ This proposition ~~is~~ brought before ~~forward~~ the Journey I shall give it according to my position the benefit of his sitting & that of all the Recd. Offs. & their Fd. Hills generally ~~[illegible]~~ to benefit the Service — our object being the same, ~~[illegible]~~

[For these reasons I wd. suggest, that a Sacrifice from the ½ pay may provisionally take Dr. W. Ruth, say a Staff Surgeon, without being gazetted, & that ~~his~~ Dr. W's case should lay over, till the plan be decided upon, & if it succeed, I will give him his compensation on the ground of past good Service —

H. A.

Extract of a letter from Lord Fitzroy Somerset to Mr. Sullivan on the case of Surgeon Waring dated 25th Augt. 1829.

"In regard to the latter part of your letter, I am desired to request that you will state to the Secretary at War, that it has for a considerable time been the practice in this Department to decline to recommend any Officer to His Majesty, for Half Pay, whose conduct may have been such as to prevent his remaining on full Pay and that Lord Hill is determined to persevere in that course and decidedly to oppose the Half Pay Establishment being made the refuge

of those who may have proved themselves unfit to serve his Majesty.

/signed/ Fitz Roy Somerset

12. Mr. Wood – Bar Coast

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Hen. Guard

Dec 25. 1818

My dear Hardinge

I cast your eye over the inclosed papers.

Considering Mr Waring's length of service, and the very favourable opinion entertained of his former exertions by the

The Right Honble Sir H Hardinge

HWB

James McGregor. I am inclined
to think him fairly entitled
to a retirement; but I am
unwilling to submit that
opinion to Lord Bute,
until I am made acquainted
with your sentiments upon
the subject.

I am very faithfully
Your obt. Servant
Pitt