

Oct. 29 1782

Sir

I have receiv'd Your Majesty's com-
-mands in your letter of the 6.th of Aug. to place his
Pr. H^{ts} with L^d. Hood who is luckily still here &
will, (I make no doubt) pay every attention to
Prince William possible but I doubt whether
his L^d.ship would willingly pay quite so much
attention to my instructions if he c^d. separate
them from Your Majesty's as he w^d. have done
before the very great & merited credit he has
got; particularly as we have differ'd in opin-
-ion about a matter too common to differ about
(I mean private money) But I have the greatest opinion
of his Ability's as an Officer & I think him a very am-
-iable man in private life, and very much attach'd
to Your Maj^{ty}. - as I have wrote very fully to
General Bude, it remains only to inform Your
Maj^{ty} that upon considering Mr. Majendie's
situation wth. Prince William in every respect, I
think it as well he shou'd separate from his Pr. H^{ts}.
now as that he shou'd attend him to the West
Indies, which quite corresponds wth. Mr. Majendie's
Ideas. But I s^d. have judg'd Mr. Waddington might have
been of use a few months longer. However I thought

it much better to yield to Lord Hood's great av-
-ersion to receive him: Particularly as I bele-
-ve his Captain is a good Mathematician; But I
have positively insisted (Tho' much contrary to
Lord Hood's inclinations), upon Captain Rapier's
attending his M^{ts} as I think it of great con-
-sequence that some person sh^d be with him, for
some time at least that had known him be-
-fore and I c^d not think of any Lieut: fit for
the Charge whose views of quick preferment
w^d not have made it difficult to reward him.
Captⁿ Rapier is out of employ, having lately
been taken by a French Frigate, is a Man of
Family, a steady Firm Man & a Man of honor,
has lived much in my Family & is the fittest
Person I know at present to attend R^s W^m
and is not unpleasing to him, notwithstand-
-ing he will not give way too much. This
I hope Y^r Maj^{ty} will approve, as I can as-
-sure You Sir I have no motive but his
M^{ts} & H^s well doing, and nothing but my firm
opinion that this step was of consequence
to it, (particularly as Your Maj^{ty} seems to

intend he shall return to one) w^{ch} have made
me take it, as I think it of no small conse-
=quence that L^d Hood sh^d be satisfy'd. And I
flatter myself, when Capt^m Napier is a
little better known to him, He will be of
my opinion, Tho' I rather think he will
not rest till he gets him removed, Your
Majesty may therefore think it prudent to
anticipate his desire in which case I have
only to hope that your Maj^{ty} will order Capt^m
Napier to be promoted to the rank of a post
otherwise it might fix a stigma upon his
Character in the Service, as long as he lives.

I have made no provision for Capt^m Napier's
being paid, but as he was appointed a
Master & Commander I shou^d think that
The natural provision wh^{ch} he remains
wth his M^{aj}ty. I cannot conclude my
letter without repeating to your Maj^{ty} how
much I am oblig^d to Mr Majendie for his
unattainable attention — As your Maj^{ty}
will soon see him, I shall leave it to him
to represent his M^{aj}ty's little Fribles, and

Dangers and indulge myself with assuring
you, Sir, that he is at present a very
fine young man, fond of his Profession to
a degree, and with more knowledge in it
than most Officers in y^r. Service, of a
Temper to make an excellent Officer,
& spirits to go thro any thing, yet per=
fectly ready to comply wth any rules or
advice I have ever given him, tho
in many respects not so prudent as I c^d.
wish, But I shou^d be ungratefull if I did
not feel great obligation and Affection for
his M^{ty}. H^{ts} for his great attention to me.

I must still be pass a little longer upon
Your Maj^{ty}'s time first to recommend to y^r.
Maj^{ty}'s Favor Captain Elphinston who will
be the bearer of my dispatches, and with whom
as I have mention'd in former letters, I thought
proper to entrust Prince William of which
I have no reason to repent. Had I receiv'd
any instructions from your Majesty relative
to his M^{ty}. H^{ts} before the winter set in, I
propos'd to have sent him again under his
care & was fitting L^{ieut}. the Warwicks

prise for that purpose & had appointed Capt.^l
Elphinston to her intending, that after
cruising some time with another Frigate
or two under his command He should have
gone to the West Indies to water & refresh &
to have return'd in April, and if it sh^d be
thought hereafter that it w^d be an advantage
to his M^{ty} to serve in a Frigate I know no
Captain I sh^d so readily entrust wth
that charge, Have therefore both in man-
-ning & appointing this Frigate look'd
forward to Captain Elphinston's returning
to her. But Events of some kind or other
may probably produce other Views

Your Majesty's very
Faithfull and very
Dutyfull
Servant
J^{ts} G. Fitzroy

New York
Oct. 4th 29th 1782

Duplicate