

[1790]

44869-70

To
Portsmouth.
June 22.

Dear Brother,

I arrived here last Friday and wrote
to you. but in my hurry of waiting on the Admiral I totally
forgot the letter and it being so strong that I did not return
till it was too late to save post: from that time to this I have
been so very much employed in reviewing and stationing our
men and marines that I now contrive the very first leisure mo-
ment to write. indeed situated as I am it is impossible to con-
vey any news: we are two and twenty miles off the land at Spit-

head tolerably fit for sea: but thirty hundred men average
- site before we can sail for any good purpose: in the Talent
I want forty seven seamen and nine marines: very few
of the ships want less than unity: in short, we ought not
to sail for some time: a fortnight is the soonest we can sail
to do any good: what can be a just & firm as a discipli-
- ned fleet short thirty hundred men: let me know whether
we are to have war or peace: this state of suspense between
both is exceedingly unpleasant: the instant you can tell
for certain write: I shall be very much obliged to you for
the information.

Before you come to Portsmouth, let me know your deter-
- mination of being either publicly or privately received.
Barrington commands and being of the old School would

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Think it his duty to name you as Prince of Wales and you
express your desire to the contrary: but if you do, he is the last
man on earth to trouble you as he hates us every.

Adieu tell me next.

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Yours sincerely,
P. M.

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H. P. N. the Duke
of Hannover

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