

[? Sep. 13 1804]

44922.3

Buckingham House.

Thursday

Night

Dear Brother,

You will recollect I was

never in my heart a volunteer but was original-  
 -ly desired by Dae and others to take the com-  
 -mand of the Legion: you are too well acquaint-  
 -ed with the folly of the late administration  
 -on and with the still more extraordinary mea-  
 -sure of defence adopted by Pitt for me to  
 say any thing: the disposition therefore of the  
 volunteers cannot be a matter of surprise to  
 you: the officers have no power to make the

men attend exercise and the men will not come  
out without authority: in this part of the world  
the late election has been an additional cause  
and I shall at present say no more except that  
I cannot without power bring the men out as they  
desire they will not attend.

Thus situated I am an idle man and consequently  
I intend paying you with the Duke of Suffolk  
a visit when he returns from Weymouth: we pro-  
pose being to dinner at Brighton on Monday  
the first of October and staying there: I shall  
then have an opportunity of explaining every  
thing which is always better than by letter and  
indeed the story is too long and uninteresting to

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write.

The fact is Talents will not and cannot exist.  
 The minister must know the fact and ought  
 therefore to be called to the severest account for  
 leaving the United Kingdom without defence  
 against the most powerful enemy.

Piano I have none: I was yesterday in town and  
 saw the Princess Charlotte, with the Duke of  
 Sussex: she looked uncommonly well and play-  
 ed on the Piano Forte like an angel: she has de-  
 sired me to see her dance next Wednesday which  
 with your leave I mean to do.

As for Weymouth the papers sufficiently indi-  
 cate the state of things which of course will not  
 be improved either by this hot weather or by the

intended partition of Germany which is evi-  
dent and I am afraid not to be prevented.

My best wishes and Compa-  
-ments attend Mr. Piquet who I sincerely  
hope is quite recovered: I say nothing of your  
health as Mr. W. Piquet told me yesterday  
it was nothing of consequence and that you were  
in too very well: advise tell me next: God bless  
you and ever believe me,

Dear Brother,

Yours most affectionately

W. Pitt

W. R. H. The Duke  
of Clarence