

Portsmouth 9th June 1811.

My dear Lord

I am this Instant favoured with your Lordship's Letter of the 7th June and must confess it has given me considerable pain, after having been selected to carry over the King of France and then receiving universal Applause, and now being equally called upon to bring to this Country the allied Sovereigns (which Service I will affirm has been most completely executed) I cannot but feel most tenderly the Order now hanging down my Flag being still persisted in: I will relate the Facts.

I received ~~the~~ Their Lordship's Order to send without loss of time the Ships to Portsmouth: The wind is fair and blowing so strong I cannot land, I therefore proceed with them my Flag flying, and of course being senior to the Commander in Chief there, he shows

me

me his Orders for the Naval Ceremony
Under these Circumstances I must and
cannot help feeling but as the
first Flag Officer in the King's Service,
as the Brother of the Prince Regent,
and as knowing the allied Sovereigns
will also be present, at this very
moment to be Obliged to haul down
my Flag.

I send my Servant express with
this to your Lordship, and another
to Col. Mordaunt, breathing I can
assure your Lordship the same
Sentiments: I trust and hope the
Answer will be to continue my
Flag flying, which I shall not haul
down till my Servant returns.

I cannot conclude without
pointing out to your Lordship that
at the moment when I ought to
appear in my proper Station as
Admiral of the Fleet, in my Brother
the

the Prince Regent's Suite, I am
 positively ordered to have down my
 Flag, when my own Flag Ship is
 kept the great leading feature of
 the whole, and I see Ships arriving
 every moment for the Ceremony:
 such a thing must and is most
 severely felt by me.

I am remain

My dear Sir

Yours sincerely
 J.

1814

Duke of Clarence
to the Duke of Devonshire

[Faint, mostly illegible cursive handwriting covering the majority of the page, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.]