

Lord Melville

[Enclosure]

45119-20

Copy

Admiralty

10 June 1814

Sir,

I had the honor of  
receiving last night when out of  
Town the letter which Your Royal  
Highness took the trouble of addressing  
to me in the Morning from  
Portsmouth, and I perceive with great  
regret that Your Royal Highness  
has felt uneasy at the order which  
the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty  
had given, conformably to the  
intention of the Prince Regent, that  
as soon as the Emperor of Russia  
and

and King of Prussia were landed,  
Your Royal Highness should come  
ashore. — On the subject of that Order

I can only refer Your Royal Highness  
to the Communications which You  
have already received from the  
Admiralty, to which I have no doubt  
Your Royal Highness will conform,  
More especially as they are in  
Compliance with the arrangement  
sanctioned by the Prince Regent.

It was His Royal Highness's  
pleasure that in order to shew every

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proper degree of respect to the King  
of France on His Majesty's departure,  
and to the Sovereigns who were to  
arrive in this country, Your Royal  
Highness should hoist Your flag  
and accompany their Majesties.

I also understand it to be the  
Prince Regent's pleasure that on the  
event of His Royal Highness and  
Their Majesties visiting Portsmouth,  
and on Their Majesties's return to the  
Continent, Your Royal Highness's  
flag should on both those occasions  
be

be again hoisted, and for the same  
reason as before; but have had no  
intimation from the Prince Regent  
that Your Royal Highness was to  
carry on the Port Duties in the Downs  
or at Portsmouth, or to Command  
any portion or the whole of His  
Majesty's Ships in the Channel or  
on any other Station excepting  
for the purposes I have mentioned.

I have no hesitation in stating  
distinctly that under all the  
inconveniencies of such an arrangement  
I should

I should not feel myself at liberty  
to submit it to the Prince Regent. —

But independently of any Considerations  
relating solely to the details of the  
Service, I should object at any time  
to a person holding the high Situation  
of Admiral of the Fleet being  
employed on any subordinate, and  
Comparatively unimportant duties,  
wholly / according to my Conception of the  
Case, unbecoming that Rank in the  
Navy; and when Your Royal Highness  
is pleased to state as an apparent  
instance

instance of disrespect Your being  
directed to strike Your flag on  
returning to the Downs, I can only  
aspure Your Royal Highness in the  
first place, with perfect truth, that  
nothing was farther from our intention,  
and in the next place, that if a  
different course had been pursued  
from some indispensable necessity  
that had occurred, I should have felt  
myself bound to apologise to Your  
Royal Highness for imposing such  
a duty upon You.

As the Imperial Russian

Guards are expected at Cherbourg on  
the 14<sup>th</sup> Inst., and as all the Ships  
at Spithead, including of course the  
Invincible, will be wanted to  
bring them over, though I am  
afraid they will scarcely be  
sufficient for what is required, Orders  
for their immediately proceeding to  
that Port are sent today to Sir  
Richard Rickertson.

Your Royal Highness's Servant  
has been detained here ~~more~~  
~~longer~~ longer than would have  
been

been necessary after his receiving letter  
from Col.<sup>e</sup> McMahon, which I regret  
very much; but the frequent  
interruptions which I have met with  
in writing to Your Royal Highness  
from business in the Office which  
could not be deferred, have rendered  
it unavoidable. - I have the honor  
to remain with great respect &c.

Melville

To the Duke of Clarence

10 June 1814.

His Royal Highness  
The Duke of Clarence