

Pegasus

B. P.
in Honour

April 19. 1706.

Sir,

As this is the first day I have had it in my power

to write to Your Majesty, I now take up my pen to return my most heart-

ly & sincere thanks for the late honour conferred on me. How little I dur-

-ed it, I am fully sensible of: it shall be the utmost of my endeavours to

follow the rules Your Majesty laid down for me when your gracious in-

-structions were first made known to me concerning my advancement in

the service. I shall have the liberty of asking Lord Howe for the regulations he

gave when he commanded Dartmouth: after I have made the compilation for

desir'd for the Pegasus. I shall transmit them to Lord Howe & desire him to give me
his opinion & wherever any thing occurs unusual in the service. I shall always
take the liberty of writing to his Lordship as I am thoroughly acquainted
with Your Majesty's sentiment concerning Lord Howe. With respect to
Your Majesty's observation respecting my conduct towards the Officers of the
Pegasus. I am fully sensible of the necessity of keeping them at a proper
distance without pride & care with truth say they themselves know the
propriety of this & will on their part adhere to it. They are all of a certain
age & behave with great propriety. My cabin is the plainest in the ser-
vice: the chairs are all of wood painted green. Every necessary matter
I have begun & shall continue to keep my accounts with regularity.
The first fitting out is always expensive: I have endeavoured to keep
to what will be only absolutely necessary.

I must once more return my thanks to Your Majesty for my promotion. I
 feel that while in Germany my conduct was not such as to merit my
 parents' approbation, nor that one is very much altered: being in com-
 -mand. I must beg regard to my behaviour; & shew myself worthy
 of Your Majesty's esteem, for which purpose I shall most endeavour
 of that persons shall be exerted,

who is,
 Sir,

Your Majesty's most dutiful
 and most affectionate Grand Subject,

W. Pitt

Prince William
19: th April 1786