

James Chalmer to Lord Northesk

[Enclosure]

44935

(Duplicate)

My Lord

I had yesterday the honour of your Lordship's Letter of the 25th Ult^o.

The Laws regulating the Elections of the Scots Peers allow those who are out of Great Britain on his Majesty's Service as you are just now to Vote by Proxy or by List or Nomination provided it is Certified that they have at any time before taken the Oaths to qualify themselves.

It is more eligible to Vote by List than by Proxy, especially at the Election of a single Peer when the Peer knows certainly which Candidate he means to favour, because as a Peer can hold but two Proxies & must necessarily be present at the Election there is a risk of the Vote being lost in different ways.

I presume therefore that your Lop. will chuse to Vote by List and I inclose the proper Instrument leaving it to you to fill up the Peer you favour as thus - After the Words Right Honourable "James Earl of Leicester" or "Thomas Earl of Kellie" - fill up also the day of the Month on which you sign - and after the word Witnesses, fill up the description of two Gentlemen present as for example "A. B. and C. D. Esquires both Lieutenants of his Majesty's Navy and at present serving on Board the Britannia". ^{or see the parchment} Your Lordship will then sign your Title at X and after it affix your Seal on Waa at O - On informing me that you have done so I will obtain the Certificate of your having qualified on the last Occasion and transmit it to any person you name to me, in Scotland, to be produced at the Election. - Your Lop.

2894A

Lop. may either send the inclosed when executed to me - informing me at same time to whom I should transmit it - Or you may yourself send it down direct by Post - perhaps the best way would be to send it to me that I may judge if it is all right. —

I am told at the Admiralty that this Letter will go well and safe by being put into any General post Office - I shall however trouble your Lordship by sending a Duplicate some days hence. —

I am respectfully
My Lord

Kingdom Street
Westminster

4 Oct: 1804. —

Adm of Northesk &c &c &c

Your Lordship's
Most Obed. Hum. Servt.
Ja. Chalmer

I have omitted to say the Witnesses must sign their Names at the Marks [^] each adding the word witness after his Subscription. —

And after what I have said above of your inserting the Names and designations of the Witnesses, please to add "The name & Title of my Nominee" "the Day of the Month and the Names & descriptions of the Witnesses being" "written with my own hand." —