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Lisbon May 23. 1810

My Dear Ferguson —

I am much dissatisfied with Figueiredo, he does not get on at all and what he does do is very incorrectly finished — as to the translation and ~~transcript~~ with great pains I shall have it to endeavour to do — but that is a matter of which I am not at all anxious, as it is so incorrectly made that you cannot use it — on that account our friend Bayeux (to whom opportunity I gave much in this business) promises to let us have one of his doing. You will therefore have both. The poor old fellow was quite in a rage when I mentioned that his translation was very inelegant, and in many places contradicting the sense of the original — however as we are not much pushed in the way of business, we shall get on I hope.

A person has been made recommended to me as an Amanuensis for you. he seems rather a genteel fellow — speaks French fluently (by the bye I believe he is a Swiss) understands English grammatically, though he does not speak it — and wants a good hand — wages 7/6 per diem —

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another Packet by which you write receive in this a letter, and a cobbet, together with the orders of the day - The news from England is of little importance, there is a very strange story detailed in all the Papers, of an attempt to carry off Ferdinand VII, by a fellow employed by our Government, Guaranteed under letters signed by the Sovy and countersigned by Mar. Wellesly - the man says he ~~carried~~ intended himself to the D. of Kent, and by him to the Sovy, &c - the story is positively true, it has been mentioned in the house of C. and not denied by Ministry - I never read or heard of such folly as in one case the fellow is indisputable an Agent of B. has pulled the country out of a good fortune (fortunately) and given an opportunity of the most admirable description to B. to impose on the credulity of the Spaniards, by making them believe from the aspection (said to be) made by F. that his interference is perfectly his own choice and that we do every wrong in using his name in attempt to destroy the prospects of his throne !!! I am state very unwell and to add to my distress I have an eye nearly closed up, and a hand nearly lame from the bite of Marchetto's - there is no letter for Halliday - write you do me the

fundamental to say to his wife that if she does not write me, I shall breake open her trunks, spoil all her things, and steal the tea pot – Brian is considerably better – I had a letter from Holloway from the surgeon Mar 22 Regt. at Cabes. about Medicine, and representing the conduct of his off. which to me looks like the effect of insanity – of course I wrote to him saying, that if the person is ill, that of course it is his duty to do every thing he can for the recovery of his health, but that if it is his opinion, that his unfortunate conduct proceeds from any other cause in that case, it is his duty to represent the matter to the officer Com.d the Regt. and take his orders respecting it – reporting the result – as to Medicine the Physician Mar, will order them to be forwarded when he sends them a list of what he requires, I have also directed that he should continue to draw the rations for the sick in Hospl. and in every respect to conduct the business as he has hitherto done by your instructions

You have certainly done no more in what you have said to Col. Mahon, than

what I am at all times ready to do for
every British officer, and any other
of your friends — by the bye — I would
advise you to forward Arbuthnot, about
our Portuguese frigate — I can have no doubt
that the rest of the Army, either have
got it, or will get it immediately — of
course we look to you — The following
are the surgeons examined yesterday —

Antonio Joaquim Da Silveira actg. Surg. Nos 6. Pt. Infantry
approved of

Antonio Joaquim D'almeida actg. Surg. 1st Pt. Cavalry
1st actg. Surgeon

Jorge Joaquim Dos Santos — civilian — rejected —

The confirmation of the two Frigates they say
has taken place & Dos Reys will I presume
set out to morrow — I have no thing else
to write you of — in your next let me hear
what I am to do about your Secretary, I mean
the Swiss — Mother great regard — Freemen.
Most Sincerely Yours H Robertson

To
Wm Ferguson Esq.
&c &c &c

May 25th 1840

My Dear Ferguson

I have duly received yours of the 23rd to which I shall now separately reply. In the first place in justice to the Physicians I must state that you blame him without reason in the business of applying to the Marshal about an Commission. I assure you he did not do so in contradiction of your wishes on the contrary I am confident he felt as you do, your welfare and the good of the service to be interwoven with his power. I know no doubt that you will entertain the same opinion if he could not in this have acted by reflecting that you second letter contradicting the first, received from another by accepting facts one arrival having intervened between, and on that day he wrote to the Marshal — you must perceive that he wrote by with the intention of counteracting the opinion he has heard all Dr. R. received to form of his intriguing spirit of the worst nature at only before he has presented an circumstances

What you say of the Hospital is not so in astonishing the abuses in their management is only to be corrected by what you have very justly recommended and but I strongly doubt the most support or unanimity amongst ourselves the most pernicious reputation will not arise to cast from this impression more particularly I wished to guard you against any thing that might be the cause of disparage

fore in the business to which I allude, I could certainly feel less than any other person of the Marshal's staff — but I solemnly assure you that I certainly would not willingly serve in any department, where I am informed there has been employed any person possessed of an intriguing spirit, or who is incapably knowing himself forward or possessed of superior abilities to his colleagues. ~~from~~ Your experience of the world teaches you to know that neither ~~a~~ eminent talents, or zeal can offset such abilities and I should be extremely sorry if such should be the case amongst accoucheurs — With respect to the orders to which I alluded in my last I only mentioned them from memory — but I remember very well that the Marshal said he would write to the Physicians thoroughly respecting the proper arrangement particularly as to cleanliness — Convalescent Hospitals (the certainty of the wards and the unfortunately of allowing patients with slight complaints to lay indoors &c &c) of course I shall inquire if the Physician has read them and let you know what perhaps the best way of getting the whole at once will be to apply to the Bd. I find you a copy of the final orders issued respecting Hospitals

during the months of December and January last
I am sincerely sorry to hear so melancholy
a description of poor Thomas's health. I think
you ought to keep him tolerably re-
-conciled, he is (I expect you always) a most
worthy amiable man. I can say nothing of
his Mr Cantrell to the operations of every
one I told you without I knew well you
would soon discover when on the spot
that he threw every obstacle in the way
of poor Thomas's petitions which I suppose
you have been perceiving, we have all
been acting under the support of our
immediate suspicions expect lamely, and I
have no doubt the effects of these contradic-
tions have at least added some to his illness
perhaps this you will have to exhaust
and [illegible] which you require, provided
[illegible] does not unwarrantably make
holy days during my absence. [illegible] the time
I am satisfied to find the removal goes
on so swimmingly. Mansford told me that
Mr. Hartpole Waters who came and with
us had recd it. and Inglis say that the Tory
who did not leave England for a month
after, was got the allowance. I wish you
letter has been heard to the removal

I feel happy to acquaint you that Wm is better. I feel also relieved these few days - my illness does not I think proceed from obstinacy - ness. A Lady and I drink a bottle of old Picpoul daily - I am always moving about - and in other respects temperate - but I believe I caught cold - Geo. Spencer and Carson were arrived the former set off for the army to morrow. but Jl Carson has been ill and I mean if possible to advise him to remain for a few days longer - by the by I regret that we are separated at present - I could shew you a babe the consequency of Jonathan alone, reached by Home one of the great supporters of the impossibility of Pay arising from that dedicate, but strange to tell, after trying every stratagem he could long after the clasp had disappeared & he was obliged to buy Mercury upon the use of which the patient considerably hesitated - it is now all gone & a tendency about the body. & a trifling eruption & a female satisfaction in the latter for the cure of which I believe the patient will have to taste more Mercury - It is Good Stewart's Brother - Poor Julius seems been much hurt to day by hearing that my P. Abd Cochrane has been apprehended. I believe either coming in upon another a clasp to his head was found cut from his body -

Friday June 1st 1810

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My dear Sir

I feel assured that you are not offended in your feelings of indignation in the business of the Portuguese Pay. We have perfect confidence in your exertions and trust that a fresh representation of the business to the Marshal will have its proper effect in getting for us what I cannot but consider is our right. By the bye, perhaps I have got a clue which will enable us to explain the circumstances in which we have been lately placed. On inquiring at Robethwaite if he could explain to me that part of the official letter, written in answer to the application for my leave of absence, he stated the Marshal directly bid him to say that if any of the other have been disappointed in their expectations on coming to join his army, that he is willing to write home on the subject. Now Robethwaite thinks the meaning of the above is that the Medical Board not having acceded to the nomination of Gentlemen whom the Marshal pointed out for his Staff, that he is unacquainted

with the nation as our appointments, ex-
-cept having seen our names in the
Gazette and from that circumstance
alone, he retains us with his army
having no other authority for doing
so. In these circumstances should the
Marshal persist in excluding us from
the pay list, perhaps it would be advisable
for you to make a representation at
home on the subject. In the mean time
I have made requisition for a copy the exhibit
~~page~~ a letter from me to you, containing
the substance of what I wrote to you
last week on the subject, in which
I have mentioned the terms, upon which
I joined the Portuguese Army, and which
as I said before give us an additional claim
if you think it can serve our cause
to lay the statement before the Marshal
you know it your best judgment, there
is no doubt the Marshal will put us all
on the same footing but every thing that
is individually my, I write serve the whole
may have you heard any thing of our
Memorial? ale your letters are in the Post
office - at last I discovered the letter you
want, laying below requisitions arm after
he solemnly swore me it could not be

found, and I was tired looking for it – I sent him, with a card to the Town Adjutant requesting permission for him to copy the order you want – I am of opinion that your representation should contain as little extraneous matter as possible and I really would not urge any other grievance of the many we have under our present claim stands on very good grounds independently of every other circumstance –

There is no occurrence worth noticing I have received a card from Mr Clarke and also one from Shaw, which I shall send with this, if on reperusal I find it necessary – The surgeon of the Regt at St – has appeared to day at the Board making a representation for medicine notwithstanding I directed him to do so in writing, he told me there was no opt with his Regt – upon learning this, I gave him a very pretty set down on his impropriety of leaving a Regt without any Medical officer who could attend when to an accident were it to happen – I ordered him that instant to join, on the pain of being tried by a Court-martial – a gentleman must pass away before you can make these people do their duty like other men.

It is now twelve o'clock, and I have not got into the house, nor have I an immediate prospect of it – the papers all are ready, but Brown's clerk has run off, and Brown is out and the door locked. I am perfectly provoked, and disarranges the plan of a busy day. We have had four candidates this week, but of course I am uncertain whether I can send you right.

Poor Drummond after nearly recovering from a dangerous affection of the lungs, has within these few days had regular ague fits, which of course have debilitated him most alarmingly – accordingly I requested the assistance of Dr Buchanan, whom I promised to meet for the 2d time to day at one o'clock. I am very much afraid the wife sinks under it – Gulliver will leave this on Monday if nothing occurs – Of course I have experienced some sort of difficulty about Keating's Bank money – in consequence of his not filling up the land in his own hand writing and – powering me to receive his money – the Bank Consul must do it at his expence, I also requested him to sign his name on half a sheet of paper so that the receipt might be filled in above it – this has not been done, and I should not be surprised that we do not get the money for some time – it is from the difficulty of getting these matters properly executed that I feel so reluctant in engaging in this kind of business – I have ordered Lafontaine to go in by a ladder and send off the letter and any Extract – Yours always H Robertson

My Dear Ferguson — Lisbon May 28th 1810

Your commands in regard to the papers your respected should be most strictly obeyed - I sail will set off to day if the weather permits, I have actually paid him three dollars, and I suppose an additional nine, making in the whole 12 with the sum sufficient for the expenses of his journey - another Packet - but only one letter from you, I have received Dr Keatings letter, and will most readily attend to any business he requires to be done here we were all paid up to the 24th of last Novr of course he has only sent me ~~[illegible]~~ receipts for his pay to the 24th of Decr and for his 200 days Bete ou Longe money - he must therefore let me have duplicate receipts for his Pay from Decr to Feb and a similar form to receive it from February to Apl last - I trouble you with all this matter lest I should not have time to write to him only by this post with respect to his Pay & Money - I may write explain to him how he did - which was by a receipt to the Treasurer General

for 70 fees allowed by the P. Agent for the purchase of a Horse and Mule — This must be written twice on the bottom of a sheet of paper, at the same time he must send to me a card addressed to the Treasurer Genl. authorising him to pay it to me or order — With respect to the cash what am I to do with it? does the Dr. wish it to be sent up to him, or only part, and the rest for which to defray?

With respect to the Partizan Ranger I certainly do agree with you that we are very ill treated by the exclusion — it was a surmise of this kind which made me give you the hint in my last — I have since found that the business has been entirely effected by Memorial on the part of the officers, and I have been recommended to advise you to pursue the same plan, this indeed becomes more necessary, if you find after addressing the Marshal on the subject that he does really not to be allowed the same advantages of our Brother officers in other departments of the service — With respect to myself (and I dare say our sentiments are unanimous)

I do not consider myself entitled as a right to any extraordinary allowances for my services in the Partizan Army, above what is granted to officers of similar rank in our own service. but in the present circumstances whereon every other description of rank and office, in the same service, receives this additional remuneration I must consider the exclusion of the Medical Staff, from a participation of these advantages, as a very ungenerous and, a marked disapprobation even. and certainly by no means calculated to encourage our cordial and zeal. With respect to myself I volunteered to serve under the Marshal's command, in my present situation, when I might have had the same appointment in the British Service; and at a time too when I had an early prospect of getting a higher step. by coming to this country my promotion has been impeded, the Staff act as an individual it would not have been indelicate on my part even in other circumstances to have claimed an additional reward. But it it is admitted on all hands that the Staff Surgeon is the meanest paid officer in the department, and that act as

he might also naturally look forward to remuneration, especially as it is granted to officers who have much less claim to it. And for this reason alone I cannot believe that it was the original intention at home, that we should be excluded from the benefit alluded to. There is another thing Col Arbuthnot they pretend to say our number is nearly Brevet. putting it upon that footing alone, we ought to receive it. I put these observations together in a very loose manner for your consideration, there are many others which I have no doubt will occur to yourself.

It is for you to determine whether to address the Marshal by letter or memorial first; the latter with the most perfectly drawn up by you and signed and presented by yourself in the name of the whole — I received Col. Mc'Mahon's letter with its enclosures which I shall take care of — With respect to my Memorial I do as you and Thomas and Manson who came out with me advised me of what I have stated, be first in the presence of Wellington — and Inform this day week told me that he had read Other people of Note and Importance he came here if they are in error I shall be informed by the most respectful letter to

I have shewn what I have written on the subject of Portuguese pay to Messrs. Hume and Calleander, who do not seem to have any thing to add to what I have said. They seem to think that a memorial is the most effectual and the most respectful way of addressing the Marshal. I am convinced that our General possesses every good quality of mind which you have perceived, and I think on the subject being properly represented to him, he will see the impropriety of excluding a part of his Staff from any advantages; especially a department who are so inadequately provided for, whose services are so essential to his Army, and (speaking personally) who are men of education and gentlemen do him much credit. Therefore under all circumstances of every necessary consideration, I shall deeply regret that from an idea of economy a damper should be thrown on the zeal with which we are so earnestly actuated to pursue the service to which we belong, a service which I need not say to you is fraught with difficulties and hazards, which the officers in L. N. have not to encounter.

the three have agreed however that the Memorial should not contain one word on any other matter — in your next of course you will tell me what you have done. While Sequieira says carving at the transcript work, I shall give you a case — a Capt.n of the Army who has been under the care of Murray for Hepatitis, returned by last fleet to join his Regt. — he never had the venereal disease, but since his arrival he has complained for the former complaint — he has ~~been~~ occasionally pimples on his thorax, abdomen and inside of his arms, and even on the skin of the Penis, a few very minute pimples, which after suppurating disappeared in a day or two — on looking there was one of these pimples, at the period of micturition, seated near to the root of the penis, and in this state he unfortunately had connexion with a Woman of the Town; the consequences of which are that he has got a violent clap — and moreover the pimple puts on every appearance of a venereal ulcer, accompanied with a tumour in the groin which rapidly increases — what is very odd the woman has no appearance of disease evident here — although there can not be any doubt she has given him

disease to my friend - Now am I to consider this case as some proof that the cause of deaf ness is identically the same only differing in the symptoms which it exists in consequence of the difference in the functions of the organ to which it is applied? or am I to consider the rapture of the woman, who fainted away half full of weary vanity of evil? - Remember me to all my friends - and believe

Most sincerely yours

J. Robertson -

To

Mr Ferguson Dr M

&c &c &c

Figueroa thinks you must have taken with
the letter in question to your Lord. Wh-
as neither he nor I can find it —

Lisbon – June 4th – 1810

My Dear Ferguson –

Some annoying occurrences have taken place since last post, of which I shall proceed to give you an acct. I have experienced since my arrival in this country, with a disobliging disposition in certain members of the Medical Staff of Ld. Wellington's Army, in consequence of my advice being requested by officers of rank coming to this place for acct of the health – knowing that my attendance in such instances might cause ill blood among us; before I prescribed for any one but my friend Drummond, I mentioned the circumstance to Mr Botton, and had his approbation for doing so – Lately I have had General Anson and some others under my care, and in one case, I was under the necessity of threatening to complain to the Commander, before I could get my prescription made up – this passed, and I imagined there was no more of it, when on Saturday last as I was walking with the Consul, a soldier came up & delivered me into the possession of Dr Gray, whom I saw a little way off, & made no reply but walking on with my friend, and meeting the Dr – say he, Sir I have an order to show you, that you

ever not to send your private prescriptions to be prepared at the San Francisco, my reply was, (I confess not under the influence of the most placid state of mind) I never did send any private prescriptions to the Hospital that sometimes sent orders for Officers in the British Army, and if they were not to be made use in future, it was a matter of indifference to me; the Officers themselves must see to it – on returning home, that there should be no reason to say that I refused to be informed of their Hospital regulations, or of my conduct in general I wrote to Mr Bolton, of which the following is nearly a verbatim copy – "Sir. I was Gratified my staff in the shell by Dr Gray (in a manner not the most gracious) to communicate to me some Hospital regulations which you judge expedient to point out, and which I presume concern me as some of the Medical staff to which I belong." From the Appointment I had in the Portuguese Service I do not consider that I can entertain positively receive directions from Dr Gray; I therefore confess myself to you on this subject and assure you that I should be very happy to receive any communication you may think necessary to make however to me either by a direct information, or through my superior officer. To this I have

no reply nor do I expect any, what I have done, you will I flatter myself think justly the bye I signed my name "Member of the R. M. I." (!!!) – Herewith you a letter from Mr Barmeister which sufficiently explains itself nor will I take any pains to excite your feeling on the subject, but if such proceedings take place in matters, our pressure into the Portuguese Army will be worse than useless as our own professional character will be thereby ruined – With respect to Genl Hamilton his motives even I dare say very pure, but I think a moments reflection would be sufficient for any man to see the impropriety of taking such a step without consulting upon it at Head Qrs to Mr Barmeister, he is certainly most to blame, I should think it was his duty to have met the proposal on the part of the General, with a remonstrance, and refusal even, this he has not resorted; indeed our Brethren of the British Army are evidently desirous of every opportunity of shewing themselves off to our disadvantage – it was over calculated within myself but feels more completely; unfeigned civility of your representation to Head Qrs on the same subject – I should rejoice that Lawrie has solicited a court of Inquiry on his conduct – I should have written to him, and to Col Campbell also on the subject, but it is better that it should come from you, I hey you will let me know your proceedings in it, as it is

business in which our respectability as professional men is deeply involved — Mr Clarke has written for a copy of the Hospital regulations which I shall have, he also inquires what comparative rank he holds in the Portuguese Army; so as to regulate him in the choice of posts and billets — for of course I shall write to him that, the matters are arranged, he must take precedence according to the date of his Commission as Major — Mr Mapp's letter is an explanation of what he has done, and later Mr Clarke complains that the officers who came here for exercitation, have not yet joined, they I hear are about immediately — in the 4th and 16th Cavalry — Mapp 8d — their Wages are 3/- a day — in Clothes — 10d —

I received Keating's letter, which is too late his money is out of my hands, and I hope he has got the two first bills for it — I shall write him if possible to day, but I wish to get his money first — pray has your Lent arrived — if you are rich be so good as pay to Keating 12 Dollars for me, but not without your are very rich for these last two months in consequence of a fallow at home, I have been sailing in the winds eye in regard to money — but I hope the left pocket will quiet my pains in the head — yours ever most sincerely

H Robertson

My Dear Ferguson —

I received your two Packets of the 2 and 4 of June — but feeling again an attack of Headache I was merely able to acknowledge the receipt of them. I enclose your five letters which came by the packet — no news — the two candidates yesterday — are —

Joaquim José Marques Junior Leiria
Recommended for Surgeon Mar

Manoel Bertoldo Pinto Cota — Ass. Surg. Polin
Rejected

With respect to my patient, there can be no question that he has got a clap a venereal ulcer, and now an open Bubo from the same Woman, very I believe in consequence of one coitus only — so that the matter should be fully ascertained I delayed as long as I could with propriety, to give Mercury, at last finding the sore spreading rapidly, with the other characters of a venereal sore, I administered that Medicine, since which time a progressive change to the better

has taken place; Indeed the case is so helpedly as I have described it, that the Members of the Medical Board who examined Capt. Cox yesterday, very delicately suggested some improvements in my practice of the case, such as rubbing in Jam — now as I have peculiar notions on the nature and treatment of the bend Disease, and not being specially a noviciate in the practice of medicine I have treated such hints in the manner they deserve — I am the more inclined to do this, as I know my patient has implicit confidence in my proceedings — but let them be spoken of in reputation of such conduct —

I shall send you a hasty sketch of a Memorial, which I draw up for the inspection and correction of Minto and Cullenden — but whether it proceeds from want of time, or any thing else, they seem to think it will do very well, now as I am not in a state of mind capable of deep reflection to day — I shall forward it as it is, and you may have it as you think fit — Let me however convey to you that whatever you do in this business do it immediately; otherwise he observed you will fail — but I

upon entering upon that a preliminary letter to Head Qrs is the first step that should be resorted to but whom we have no time the thing is certain that we can at present explode it is of little consequence from whom you have your information —

I have given away an immense number of Mil recs and can procure a bill for it payable to Keating at Cawnpore I shall probably enclose it in this — for I have much to write, and am in a very and offensive plight for that purpose

Yours in every respect sincerely

H Robertson —

June 9th 1810 —

Lisbon June 19th
1816

My dear Ferguson

I have just received a card from the Physicians Hall, summoning me to attend to morrow by Eleven at the Grilles. I sit down to record every thing that occurs worth communicating but I should not be in time for the Post tomorrow.

In the first place we have had some candidates to day who upon the whole are much qualified young men they are all recommended for the appointment of 1st Lieut Lawson a list of their names will be inclosed. A letter was shewn to the Board this morning received from the Marshal in which he handles us pretty tightly for interfering in the appointments of the candidates who appear before us, now I am convinced the Marshal must have taken up this idea from wrong information, I as one

of the Board declare for myself (and I may safely do so for that others as Members of the Board) that I have never had a thought or a wish to intermeddle in such matters. I consider our duty to be to examine and report on the qualifications of the several Officers who come before us; their appointments according to our report, examination resting entirely in the Commander in Chief's hands, this is the purport of the Marshals as I understand and I am unconscious of ever having exceeded these powers in any respect.

The origin of this reprehensible letter is owing to some particulars which have happened in the appointment of Joaquim Ignacio Valente who appeared before the Board as an Asst Surgeon of the 10th Regt Infty. but who was afterwards on being reported qualified appointed Surgeon Maior to the 3d Regt Infty. notwithstanding all this he is still detained by the Commanding Officer of the 10th who alleges for doing so that he has the authority of the Junta. The Physicians

Mor has written to the Marshal on this affair, disclaiming having had any interference in it — As you will probably hear of this business from Head Qrs I hope you will have the good nature to make a similar appearance on my part —

By the bye the Prefeito Mor is very fully pleased at what they say you have been doing at Figueira, which he seems to say is contrary to the law of the Prince — and that accordingly he has drawn up a representation to the Government a copy of which is to be laid before Lord Commander in Chief — I feel deep regret to see things coming to such a crisis, because as every one must be aware the injury it does to the service, by all these cavillings and little jealousies — in the attempt to reconcile matters in the present instance I cannot offer any advice as neither you nor the Physician Mor have given me the particulars — I only know that you were both in a confounded rage about some thing & that Figueira is the field of action

but I must say it would be more desirable for you to consult each other in any material step, and to go hand in hand in promoting the general good, than by keeping aloof from each other in your common operations, have every now and then to refer to superior authority to decide between you — It has just come to my recollection that the Surgeon above mentioned as the person who addressed himself to you soon after your arrival at Coimbra, I got it translated and sent to you; but which you immediately returned directing that in future all such applications should be given to the Physico Mor — if this is the man I remember perfectly that the Physico Mor said as he has done on every similar occasion, that the business is in the hands of the Marshal — I shall see to morrow whether or not that letter is in the office, or remains with the Physico Mor, I rather think it does — yours rather sincerely

A Robertson

June 27th 1840

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My Dear Ferguson

I received your Packet this morning, and its enclosures are safe in the Post Office. With this I send you two letters which came by the Steam from England last night, as also the names of two Lieutenants who appeared yesterday in my former letter I believe I omitted to acquaint you that the Brigade Surgeon of Lambeen has been examined and approved of — Yesterday we had another letter from the Marshal, requesting that the names of the Members of the Board should be affixed to every Report we make to him — which has uniformly been the case except the accts. the proceedings of the Board which is sent to the Adjutant General and signed by our Secretary — As a matter of respect to General Rowan, I consider this order as highly proper, but I strove to banish from my mind every idea, that could induce me to suppose that it is intended

as a check for our regular attendance; for I do most solemnly assure you, I have had no reason to find fault with my colleague on that score, and the written documents in the office will vouch for my zeal.

This is the season when it would afford great pleasure to a general Hospital Deputy, there were presented at the Board yesterday 47 men of different regiments, sent by order of the Lord Commissioners here for my examination and report upon their capacity of sending them to Caldas, they is the tenor of our instructions, and I believe one even presented himself with the express order of Forgas the Secretary of State to go for the benefit of his health to that place, and another had a document of the same nature from the Chief Justice authority. Mr Baird is now decided of my opinion respecting Caldas, and if I have not made converts of the others I have certainly shaken them for the if the contents of these writers in Rheumatic cases. I proceed yesterday upon the same grounds as in my State report, no men have been sent to Caldas when I had any alternative. Several have been

dismissed her service, others sent to their Regts. some allowed to stay see battling for a short space, and others go to the Hospital to get cured of her venereal Disease - I have the promise of the Physicians that she shall be reported to Fire Marshal, but I take care by informing you of it that no Dancing boys at my Door - The majority of hospital slight cases of Rheumatism with other Regts - becomes daily more evident to me; I wish you would state this to Fire Marshal as my opinion, probably your own experience may have taught you the same thing - I believe the Physicians at the Grillo, are now handing their patients to day - previous to the construction and report of the Board - that establishment is certainly no discouragement of indolence and the arts of malingering -

I have had a letter from Ebb to day, wherein he communicates to me the very afflicting intelligence that Poor Thomas has had a paralytic Affection; you know how much I regret

any misfortune that happens to that Gentleman, and I remain your sincerely most sincerely in his destiny —

Yours always sincerely

D Robertson —

Dr Robertson's Letter

My Dear Lagnifica — Setubal July 3d 1846

We reached this place too late on Friday to do any business — I could not help myself, as my companions could not proceed without their usual Siesta — and next day very little was done, Lieut Parke being completely knocked up, — consequently the whole burthen of the Inspection fell upon Lindsay and yesterday — there are nearly 500 recruits, of whom there are but fifty effectiveable men. these I examined a second time, and there being several representations of incapacity by individuals of the Battalion, the Lt Col. and I thought it only right to keep the whole in review — as Parke is really unwell, we rest here till the morning when I propose to return to Lisbon if I can possibly manage it; meantime a clean copy of our report is preparing for the Marshal, which I must make to carry with me, as by doing so it will be conveyed some days sooner to its destination

I have repeatedly visited the Hospital of the Regt. which is in point of cleanliness, and apparent comfort to the patients, is very creditable - but the Surgeon in point of energy and Reputation is a very Poor-person, in fact I think he labours under a total stagnation of ideas, not in what is strictly professional treatment, but in the detail of management which is no less necessary for a Regimental Surgeon to be acquainted with - of course I have spoken my mind pretty freely to him, on this defect of energy, and in consequence of what I have suggested, an order has been given ~~to~~ pointing out other duties, than those confined within the limits of his Hospital. With respect to Dos Santos his Assistant Surgeon, I don't know what to think of him. I must however say that if he is really deranged, there is also a great deal of obstinacy and insolence in his disposition. in fact I have hinted that he is treated too leniently whatever may be the affection he labours under. I am inclined to think his temper is not naturally good, but that it has been rendered more irritable in consequence of the late disappointment he experienced in the result of his examination; and

especially as in consequence of his appointment not having been notified at the Treasury, he has not received any pay for a length of time, this is very hard. Col Walling has actually mentioned it to Arbuthnot, to which no answer has been returned. I wish you could interfere. The whole weight of the business rests with the surgeon, and considering that the Hospital is at a distance from the Town, it is really necessary that he should have two assistants one to reside in the Hospital. If you find employment for Dos Santos, at Figueira or Coimbra where he might be kept under, it would be better for his advantage, at present he does nothing. The surgeon is receiving the medicine contained in the chests, not having been able to procure any from the Physical Boards, who refuse them to send his patients to the Misericordia or the Apothecary Shops of the place, or to procure an order from the Marshal to have the necessary quantities issued at Lisbon.

I have no complaint against the soldiers and they are in number not exceeding the proportion you have specified to the surgeon of 15 sick besides lame, and Clarke Col. Wilkes has that he found it absolutely necessary to alter the plan upon which the payment of the servants was laid down. by taking

away their rations, of course that ~~sick~~ weather they
and by requisition to the Juiz de Fora, others
were sent in their place, but who are not
paid from any Regimental or Hospital fund
this is a considerable advantage, the Colonel
tells me that the rations for the servants
employed according to Halliday, please
amounts at one time to the allowance of an 40 men
independently of the money (& with) allowed
to the Cooks - this is I believe the plan according
to the old Portuguese custom, but certainly there
needs no argument to prove the propriety of
avoiding as much as possible even the
slightest inlet to abuse; for this reason the
fidelity of one of the medical staff residing
in the Hospital is manifest, and who should
be held responsible for every thing that is done
there, and see that the patients duly receive
the Medicine, Diet, and other articles provided
for them - These are the particulars which
it is necessary for you to know - the Hospital
will be moved this day to the Franciscan
Convent, where this is more room than in
their present situation - I understand Thomas
left Coimbra for Lisbon some time ago -
- Yours always faithfully

H Robertson

Lisbon July 6th 1810

My Dear Sir Stephen

I received your yesterday enclosing Col. Arbuthnot of the 18th June informing me that the Marshal had refused the prayer of our Memorial respecting the Bat and Forage for 200 days last year, the grounds upon which the refusal is formed, do the highest credit to the Commander in Chief at the same time I still remain of opinion that according to the strict letter of the law we are entitled to it. His Majesty's ministers say that the allowance is to be given to officers who were absent before the expiration of the time, now we did so, and for the correctness of the statement I shall vouch. I refer you to Halliday and Keating I do not desire you to consult them, as if you suspected I would deviate from the true state of the matter, but I wish you to do so, that the whole onus of the case should not lay upon my shoulders, and after you have heard what they have said perhaps it would be proper for you to lay

before the Marshal, not with the expectation of inducing him to alter his opinion, but to vindicate our conduct in making the application - if you agree with me in opinion you will of course take whatever channel you think most expedient. I am as confident as Keating is that there are some who think the Medical Staff are too much upheld and had the business been properly laid before the Marshal when we came out, the trouble might have been saved and we some power or other - how to vary story - Keating and I left London on the 5th of September, engaged our passage on the day after our arrival, and at last after a thousand trifling delays, we embarked on Saturday the 16th after a wind bitterly fair, however we were obliged to come ashore again and at last in consequence of a threat I made to write to the Secretary at War respecting Keating's treatment we finally sailed on Tuesday the 19th which I have heard is the last day of the time allowed for paying the 200 days Bale and Forage, and before next morning we had made a considerable progress in our voyage. Now grounding our pretensions to that allowance upon the circumstance of having been on the wing on board some days before, and having

actually sailed on the 19th I mentioned that Lord Wellington's staff had received the allowance, not merely as a hint for the Marquis to act in regard to us, but to shew that they had ~~been~~ allowed it, as having said upon the opening of the trade specified and upon those grounds that naturally thinks conclusive as to the same. Now you will observe that Sir Marcus's argument is that part of our Memorial altogether, and confines his remarks merely to the collateral arguments of our Memorial. I have received a letter from Holliday, inclosing a note to a Prisoner which I sent off. In every letter from ~~St Helena~~ I make to mention that there is some Hospital razzy, but the poor devil the surgeon has no more idea of military duty than I have of that of the Chancellor of England, he takes snuff & gossips with every one he meets, no doubt he thinks I am a terrible savage, the man-hunt, Moloch may be proper to business and imitate the temper of Job himself. The Physician thinks proper to answer for the Prisoner. this I believe has prevented him applying to Secy of State about the Sequestration business. I had a blow up with the whole Board to day, having deposed from what in hand so, in a case of what they called in official

Normal as also in the cases of a Colonel of Militia, and a Major of the L. L. Legion, both of whom should have been sent to them out, or at least to reside at the Head Qrs of the Regt. - Several weeks ago, from ——— I personally know they have had but a short indulgence of leave of absence and to try Sea Bathing - I was pained to find that any report from Setubal will not go off by this post. However the date is assigned, the Marshal will therefore be able to judge what may have been doing - I send you a list of his candidates - By the boys being hurried yesterday, it has since occurred to me on reflection, that as Arbuthnot's answer was communicated to you, that you are the most proper person to reply to it - and I am persuaded you will not refuse to do so; Your interference will at least have this effect, that it will do away any unfavourable impression of such does respect respecting our application, and the documents which you can be furnished with in Short letter, may also be the means of getting us the Money; besides it will show that you think our pretensions good - I believe I have had the hottest week since my return from St Ubes - Yours most sincerely

A Robertson

Lisbon July 11th 1810

My dear Ferguson –

I send you a Cabbet and a private letter which came by the Packet on Monday – I have also rec.d a return from Mr Gibb with a letter which I ~~send it already~~ transmitted there is a serving in his Brigade Martial of 29 Feb 10 – the number of sick 89 – yesterday we had but one cand.date

Marcos Henrique Da Silva Lavanda asst surgeon 1 Regt – rejected

By Lawrie's report there are sick 141 – Dany thing complete – in Mr Clarke's Brigade there are 26 sick – in Mr Prosser 97 – Fat.s complete – I have no other particulars to write you or nor am I much disposed to day for that sort of employment being in a good deal of pain from an accident I met with yesterday in seeing Col Drummond aboard ship; Da taking

my leave, I had my right foot not very gently crushed between the side of the Boat and the landing place — this accident had almost made me forget to inclose you a letter addressed to you from the Asst Surgeon of the 22 Regt — which I think justifies the opinion I have already given — there is a method in his madness — he has been certainly ill used in having his pay witheld from him. but at all events he ought to be looked after in fact he should be made to do his duty even tho' under the direction of a decided character, but his superior is by no means calculated for management of that sort — I once thought of sending the letter to Col Watling, however you are the best judge how that should be —

Yours very sincerely

A Robertson

Dr Robertson's letters
whilst my absence from
Lisbon — 1810

Relating to the charges
against him

Lisbon Aug 8th 1810

My Dear Lieutenant —

I received your very kind letter of the 8th from Vimeiro, and should I want the money belonging to you which is in my possession, I should certainly embrace your kind offer. But you must not suppose that any deficiency of funds induced me to change Harness for my professional attendance. I did so in order to prevent further insults, which he seemed determined to pursue, and I assure you I consider it a very great misfortune that I should ever have occasion to pursue so disagreeable in common understanding, and sentiments of honor. I shall

trouble you with the last note I had from him before I made my charge, and the other after he had written to you; a circumstance I only knew the day before I read your letter on the subject - and in that part of the business nothing was allowance for irritation. Hartness seems to wish to do me an ill turn - as I said before Hartness on our first page entence was extremely civil; it was from a reluctance to hurt his feelings that I accepted of his letter of indication for my wife, which seem was meant to be made use of, as my intimate friends well knew - it had been thrown into the fate of some brown keeper, and forgotten by me, but as soon as he claim'd it, I returned it, with my own

particulars he desired I complied ~~with~~ - I can ~~only say~~ ~~but~~ that it was ~~by~~ for the reason I have stated I made the change, but after I had done it, had it been withdrawn there would then have been a better hold of me, and a cause of vexation; for this reason I determined to persist, at the same time I agreed to carry the scheme he offered, which was to pay the one half, and settle the remainder by arbitration. this has been done, I don't say that I shall ever call for the remainder to hang over him, it is a check for the licence of his tongue, which I have no doubt has been very busy with my conduct - Hancock at Leeds not seeing they had much effect. I find no particular shyness in my acquaintance, and I have within the few days received some marked proofs of confidence and respect from a Lady, whom he knows by coming

out in the same packet, and whom he has
done every thing in his power to ju-
-ju[illegible] against me — I am admitted
Harbaugh was originally hired to me, and
I solemnly declare I know of no cause
for the alteration of his conduct, but
I assure you — I still consider his be-
-haviour to me unbiasedly, as sufficient to
cancel even the highest obligation from
the most grateful mind — When I reflect
I am ashamed to see that I have
accused so much of your time and
my own, about any thing that
concerns such a scoundrel as that I
have done with him — About three hun-
ago or longer, a friend of mine accounted
several hundred Dollars they were then worth
5/24 I sent him to Harbaugh, who got him
that sum, but he was charged at the rate
of 5/4. on coming to settle the acct. I be-
-lieve my f[illegible] of the f[illegible] his dissatisfaction I also de-
-ny I sometimes think his ill behaviour com-
-menced about that time —

I have received a letter from Mr
Lawrence, which I refer to herewith, after
which you can only decide. I therefore
endeavour to – as effect a return of
our last days examinations – I have
delayed answering Holiday's letter
but I shall do so soon, when it only to
give him a blow off for recommending
such an idiot as this unknown
whom proper to send on this last
I hold, a letter to day from Secretary
Cobham I add chief of day book at
Thomas Hunting. He was there
master for Bonjean – his letter to me
does him the highest credit as a
Gentleman and a man of science and
I regret to find he is so completely
of my opinion in regard to Holiday's
former conduct to him – as he never knew
his name, I was afraid they were
state est warmer, and I asked him

if it really were so, or not. and I feel happy to find that they are on some terms. one part of his letter I must quote as it refers to public business and it is necessary you should know it — "Nobody told me that your Memorial afforded a great deal of mirth and entertainment to the little gentlemen in a certain quarter. However it must be allowed that ridicule is but a bad substitute for argument." In the conclusion I perfectly agree, and upon any subject but ~~that~~ of the nature of that in question I could certainly never feel hurt at any thing the little gentlemen should do to say or do. It is not certainly decorous at all events ~~that~~ were it and claim been ridiculous, that it should from have been treated under contempt in this open manner, and I am

perfectly convinced that even if we could not be reached the Kearsarge, they would not venture to do so on any other occasion. I repeat that Admiral has left us when fear this reason for us I ~~[illegible]~~ sent for Commodore, I should have certainly stated this circumstance and in doing so, I conceive that

should be doing
my duty to the
Commander in chief.
Whatever may be the

private opinion of people about him, I know there is no officer who more highly appreciates the importance of a well organized Medical staff. his whole conduct shews it — I can state very large — I go off to Port Royal at 4 to my cruise invalids —

Yours with the sincere respect
H Robertson

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Foreign

To

William Jackson Esqr

Inspector General of Hosps

Barbados

H.M.

HPW
HB

15

Lisson July 28 – 1810.

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 25th Inst – with enclosures, and I shall take care that the copies of the letters you have transmitted are transcribed into the Bombay Book if you and Dr Helidy consider it candid and proper to use my private and confidential communications as a public document, without consulting my wishes upon the subject. I think it is but justice to me that the extract of my letter to the Dr which you have sent to Head Qrs should be also inserted. Nay more, I certainly expect, that when my letters to you of the 18th and 21st Inst – come my view into Government

postpone, you will also allow them to be copied with the others, as likewise your of the 22d - just to me acknowledging the receipt of the former - According to my humble ideas of public business, I conceive the bare mention of the contents of my letters on the affair in question would have at least been unpleasant for any immediate purpose. For it is scarcely to be imagined that any person laying claims to common sense or to character, would withdraw his communication on such a subject, and in such circumstances, were there it in his power to do. But although my letters did not contain any charge against Dr Holliday, and you admit that they are not strictly official, nevertheless I would have given their contents to be publicably read had I been requested, as I could not object to have the purport of what I had written communicated to the Marshal - However if

had asked my opinion about sending the original letters in their entire state, I should have said No and if Dr Holliday had said to me that she would send an extract of my letter to him, whether I accede to his proposal or not, as being necessary in clearing up his character, I should have in that case, begged leave of him to correct the passage which he has selected, by the addition of the following words "or "that have been written by any other "person" so as to come in after the words Physic Nos in the original and to provide the words from Lyman First being my opinion on the part of the transaction and the correction, which I have just stated being of importance to me. I hey You wish as on the question to by that before the Commander in Chief

You must excuse me from receiving any further communication before I write regard to your intentions against Dr Barreto, I meet him almost daily and I see him discharge a part

of his duty either calmly and properly. I cannot therefore reconcile it to my feelings to have any thing prejudicial to him, without a fair opportunity of it —

By the last return from St Helena I am sorry to see a considerable increase of sick in the 22d Regt. 101 —

A letter received from Mr Cathcart informs you that the Regiment to which he or others belong, left 3 sick at Santarem to the Hospital, most of them benefited.

I shall enclose to you the two letters from Balaca, respecting the establishment of an Hospital in that place, upon which subject the commissioners solicit your direction.

I should receive the pecunia you order for Mr Halliday by the earliest possible opportunity, but I have wished that you should have every chance for the selection of the article —

I have the honor to remain

Sir

Your

Obt Servt

H Robertson

To
Lieut Genl Lord Lynedoch
&c &c &c

Lisbon July 30th 1810

Sir

I have received both your letters of the 22d & 27th and am sorry to find you dont consider my answer to your of the 22d sufficiently satisfactory on the points contained, as on referring to the copy of that which I sent, it does not seem to require any addition; for it surely cannot be expected that I am to give an explanation of what is merely thrown out as a surmise

With respect to the extract from mine to you of the 19th Nov. which you have transmitted, it appears unnecessary for me, in this stage of the business, to give more than a general explana-

-explanation which is, that I do not see that it warrants you to make the remarks on my conduct, which you did, considering the circumstances in which my letter was written, and also, as you did not think proper to notice it in your subsequent letters to me, which were conducted in the same friendly style for the space of five weeks after

With much pleasure I delivered your money to Mr Lequerica, trusting that you have got a more suitable agent for your private affairs, I beg leave to say that I shall attend to public business with the same degree of attention, which has hitherto divided me in the performance of my duties

At the present juncture when every one will most likely be fully employed, but particularly the Commanders

in Chief, I am therefore unwilling to obtrude myself upon his notice with any offering for this reason, with your pleasure we shall at present conclude our correspondence on this subject, with a distinct and satisfactory understanding that I shall be ready at any period to lay the business before the Excellency or any other adequate authority at a future suitable occasion; and I beg you will favour me with an answer on this point. I have also to request that you will have the goodness to take necessary steps, to procure the original letter which I wrote to Dr Halliday, to be placed in proper hands, the extract from which you have forwarded to Thos Jos, or that I shall be put in possession of an authentic copy of the original

these together with the letters referred to
in mine to you of the 2d inst. I
being necessary to the measures I
propose to take to vindicate my-
self from the aspersions thrown
out against my conduct, and on
account of the disbursements
I have been limited in expressing
my sincere concern for the

I remain Dear Sir

Your very obed. Sr

A Robertson

Surgeon to the Forces

To William Ferguson Esqr
Inspector Genl of Hospitals

Lisbon Sept. 25th
1810

Sir

I have received your letter of the 5th Sept. and learned with pleasure the satisfactory conduct of the Marines to which your letter refers, and which appears on late occasions to have been continued in the service of the Fleet. I have accordingly transmitted a copy of your letter to the Commander in Chief with the intention of taking such other steps in the business as circumstances shall render necessary.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedt. Sert.
D. Robertson
Secy. pro tem. to the Emby.

Capt. W. Ferguson
Inspector Genl. of
Royal Marines &c &c &c

Service

To

William Lawrence Lewis

Inspector General of Postages

Military Hospitals

&c &c &c

&c. — Canada

A Letter from Lieut Col
Arbuthnot about the opinion
upon the difference between
Dr Robertson & Halliday
Head Quarters Cartaxo
December 23th 1810

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A Letter from Lieut Col.
Arbuthnot about the opinion
upon the difference between
Dr Robertson & Halliday
Head Quarters Cartaxo
November 23th 1810

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H.d Q.rs Cartago
23 Nov.r 1810

Sir

His Excellency Marshal Sir W.m Carr Beresford having been so much engaged by the late occurrences, has not had it in his Power to pay earlier attention to the Charges which you have preferred against Dr. Robertson. but he now directs me to say that in regard to the first he thought he had so arranged with you that Br.s Genl. Blunt should not be made acquainted with the circumstances; & it is his opinion, as well as Lord Wellingtons that it had better not be brought forward. —

That in respect to the 2.d his

Excellency

feelings does not see how a matter of such a nature can be brought before any Court of Enquiry, or Court Martial. Dr Robertson had a right to charge for his attendance on Mr Hakings, but what that ought to have been entirely depends on his feelings & cannot be regulated by any other Person.

Respecting the 3d & last charge the Marshal remarks that Dr Robertson will defend himself by saying that he had seen statements which he considered Proofs, & that in writing to you it was the proper Channel, & it will be difficult to

prove

prove any Guilt against him under such Circumstances, & as to what regards what he states to have been the Intention of the Delegado of the Physics Mor, he thinks it most probable that he did hear him say what he states, as the Marshal has had some insinua=tions from that Quarter to the same effect, & you must remem=ber yourself having often stated that in that Quarter, & amongst the Portuguese Medical Men there was a Party against Mr. Halliday, & therefore he did not think any thing could be made of this

Part

Part of the Charge, & in fact the whole wd be extremely difficult of Proof, & under actual circumstances a Court Martial or of Enquiry can not be assembled without some stronger grounds that there wd be sufficient proof to support the Charges.-

I have the Honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient

Humble Servant

Robt. Heathcote

Lt Col -

Wm Ferguson Esq.
Deputy Gnl of Hosp.

Copy.

Lisbon August 25th 1810

Sir

It is with the greatest reluctance I am induced to intrude my self upon Your Excellency's attention at any time, but particularly in the present circumstances, when you are necessarily occupied with most important concerns, but in consequence of a very mysterious letter which I received yesterday from Mr. Fergusson, and of which I take the liberty to send to you a Copy, I have no other alternation but to lay the matter before your Excellency and to claim your interference and protection. In doying so, I declare that I am totally unacquainted with the business to which Mr. Ferguson refers nor am I conscious that any part of my conduct has been such as to affect my own character or the honour and character of any other person, unless it be that Mr. Fergusson alludes to the information I give to him of the peculations which are alledged to have been committed at Figueira by Staff Surgeon Halliday, although even in that business Mr. Fergusson is aware that I have reason to complain of his conduct to me — Relying however with implicit confidence in your Excellency's impartiality and Judgement, I shall not make any comment either on the manner or the motives which Mr. Fergusson has followed in making the present communication, but whatever the nature of the report may be which that Gentleman has thought proper to lay before your Excellency on my conduct, I hope it will not be received under the idea of a confidential

Communication so as to preclude me from ascertaining its purport, with a view to my justification, as an opportunity of doing so is what I most anxiously wish and the strongest motive I have in troubling your Excell.y with this application, with every sentiment of respect

I have the honour to be

Your Excellency &c

Signed Robertson

Surgeon to the Force.

To.

Marshal Beresford

&c. &c.

(Copy)

18.

Horse Guards

22nd October 1807

My Lord,

Having laid before the King the proceedings of a General Court Martial held at Hythe Barracks on the 9th September 1807, and continued by adjournments to the 22nd of the same month, for the trial of Surgeon William Pitt Munton of the Royal South Lincoln Militia who was arraigned upon the undermentioned Charges viz.t

1st "For general Neglect of duty in his attendance "on the Sick and in the management of the Concerns "of the Regimental Hospital of the Royal So. Lincoln "Militia between the periods of July 27th 1806 and "August 12th 1807."

2nd "For disregard of the Orders of the Depty "Inspector of the District of the 5th day of Aug.t last "1807 Calling him to better attention to the Regulations "established for Regimental Surgeons"

Upon which Charges the Court came to the following decision;

"The Court having most maturely deliberated "upon weighed and considered the whole of the

Evidence

M General
Lord Forbes
&c &c &c

"Evidence and matter which has been adduced in "support of the Charges exhibited against Wm Pitt "Munton Esqr. M.D. Surgeon of the Royal South "Lincoln Militia together with what he hath "brought forward in his defence is of Opinion "that he the Prisoner is Guilty in part of the 1st "Charge & in the following instances relative to "the same viz.t"

"1st Having neglected to continue an Hospital "establishment for Ubarraner a private Soldier in "the Royal South Lincoln Militia when he ought "to have done so at the time the Regiment marched "from Hythe to Dover in December last, 1806, by "which it appears to the Court that he Surgeon "Munton neglected the patient Ubarraner in this "instance & also in not visiting the said patient "regularly during his illness"

2nd "Neglect of duty in the Case of a "Patient named Harrison private Soldier in the "Royal S.th Lincoln Militia as it appears to the "Court that Linnen was required for that patient "which he the prisoner misappropriated by "making four or five yards of the Hospital linnen "into Towels a purpose to which the said Linnen "ought not to have been applied, but from the

"small quantity of the Linnen, the trifling value of the "same, & the declared purpose on part of the prisoner "to apply it for Hospital Towels when he ordered it "to be taken from the Hospital, the Court are lea to "acquit him of any intentional improper applica= "tion of the said Linnen"—

"It further appears to the Court in respect "to the 1st Charge that he Surgeon Wm Pitt Meuston "did not about the 5th day of August last pay "sufficient attention to the Cleanliness of some of "his patients in Hospital & likewise that he has "not in the instances pointed out to the Court in "the Medical Register of His Hospital strictly "adhered to the Regulations prescribed on that head"—

"The Court doth acquit the prisoner Surgeon "W. P. Meuston of the 2d Charge in as much as it "appears to the Court from the Evidence and reasons "assigned by the prisoner that no blame attaches "to him for not visiting his Hospital at the hours "ordered on the particular days specified in the "Charge"—

"In consideration of the degree of impropriety "that is annexed to the prisoners Conduct in the instances "before enumerated the Court doth sentence him W. Pitt "Meuston Esqr. M. D. Surgeon of the Royal 2d Lincoln "Militia to be publickly reprimanded in the General

Orders

"Orders of the Southern District"—

"Before finally Closing their Observations on "this Trial the Court are Anxious to publickly express "the very high Opinion they entertain of the pure and "beneficial motives for the service which induced "William Ferguson Esq.r Deputy Inspector of Hospitals to prefer the Charges which were brought "forward against Surgeon Menston and which could "only have been exhibited against the Prisoner from "Deputy Inspector Ferguson's great attention to "the Welfare of the Sick Soldier and a most cons-"cientious discharge of the duties of his situation"

I am to Acquaint your Lordships that His Majesty was pleased to Approve of the Opinion of the Court and to Command that the Sentence should be carried into effect—

Signed Frederick
Commander in Chief

Proceedings of a General Court Martial held on Surg.n Menston of the 89.th Lincoln Militia

22 October 1809

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Camp Alburera 7th April
1812.

Sir,

I beg leave to report to you my Lord, joined the Brigade of Portuguese Infantry under the command of Brigadier General Baron Eben on 31st March and proceeded according to your instructions to inspect the Medical Stores &c of the Regts composing the Brigade as soon as the Brigade halted on the march which was not until yesterday. The Medical and Surgical Chests I have found in as good a state as circumstances gave me reason to expect but deficient in many necessary articles for which I have directed the Regimental Surgeons to make out the necessary requisitions. The Bedding of the 8th Regt is at present at Elvas when it was sent on the last advance of Gen Graham's Corps to Llerena, and that of the 12th Regt I find deficient in blankets, Mattresses, and fifteen Pillow Cases, for which the Surgeon by no means can account satisfactorily - the necessary

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number of mules for the Brigade is complete, but the Instruments of both Regiments are not fit for use. Neither Instruments nor Stores of any sort for my use have reached the Brigade, the transport ships for receiving which are made as getting down to the Regimental Surgeons I exchanged Regiments upon instructions. Without them I am most awkwardly situated when called upon. One of the Assistant Surgeons of the 17th Regt is reported to be absent in Lisbon, the 8th Regt is complete in number of Medical Officers. In the present unsettled state we are obliged to send our sick to the rear, but anxiously hope soon be able to establish Regimental Hospitals, and perfect the means of eradicating the Itch from the Brigade in which it is very prevalent. Contrary to the tenor of your Circular letter dated 3rd April 1811 I find each Regimental Surgeon has three Mules allotted to him, one for his Chests and two for the carriage of his bedding whilst there is no provision made for the transport of the Stores of the Brigade Surgeon. But on this point I hope the Brigadier Commanding the Brigade will address you.

I have the Honor to be Sir,

Your great respect

Your most Obedt

Humble Servt

W. Hughes Staff Surgeon

8th Port. Brigade

W. Inspector Genl

Peninsula Connect

Port. Chief Hosp.

Patrick Hughes
Staff Surgeon to the Forces
Camp Abuera 7 April 1812

On Her Majesty's Service

Mr Surgeon Lyon
Royal Guard
Hospital
Calcutta

Appointments as
Surgeon etc

Patrick Hughes
Samuel Dill

Appointments as
Surgeons etc

Patrick Hughes.
Samuel Bell

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Case No._____

SIR,

With reference to your claim dated

_____

*Strike out whichever is inapplicable.

to (payment in lieu of)* { Out-of-Work Donation, Unemployment Benefit

I am desired by the Chairman of the above-mentioned Court of Referees to request you to be good enough to furnish replies as soon as possible to the questions set out on the enclosed sheet(s).

The replies should be written in the right-hand column opposite the respective questions, and your signature should be appended at the foot of the each sheet. When filled in, the sheet(s) should be returned in the enclosed envelope which need not be stamped.

Assistance in filling up the sheet(s) will be given, if desired, at any Employment Exchange.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Appeals Officer.

_____

_____

_____

U.I. 140.

Wt.45234 D123A 40,000 2/19 DSG(54395)

Case No. _____

SIR,

With reference to your claim dated _____

to (payment in lieu of) * { Out-of-Work Donation, Unemployment Benefit

I am desired by the Chairman of the above-mentioned Court of Referees to request you to be good enough to furnish replies as soon as possible to the questions set out on the enclosed sheet(s).

The replies should be written in the right-hand column opposite the respective questions, and your signature should be appended at the foot of each sheet. When filled in, the sheet(s) should be returned in the enclosed envelope which need not be stamped.

Assistance in filling up the sheet(s) will be given, if desired, at any Employment Exchange.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

Appeals Officer.

_____

_____

_____

*Strike out whichever is inapplicable.

U.I. 140.

WtL43234 D123a 40,000 2/19 DSG(54395)

158 Queen Street Pimlico Jany 21st 1812

20

Sir

I hope you will excuse the Liberty I now take in addressing you, without having had the Honor of being previously introduced to you But my Wishes if becoming a candidate for the Appointment of Surgeon on the Staff to the Portuguese Forces when any Vacancy may occur and being desirous of submitting my Name to you as early as possible to prevent any tedious delay will I trust plead for me as an apology. I beg leave to assure you that I shall feel much Pleasure in having the Honor of serving under you on the Portuguese Staff and that I shall use my greatest Exertions to render myself useful and endeavour to merit your Approbation — I beg leave to refer you to Mr Macredie Surgeon 71st Regt with whom I have served some Time who is well acquainted with my Character & Conduct and I have every Reason to hope and believe that he will inform you that it has been to his Satisfaction

I should have done myself the Honor of waiting on you and making a personal Application when I last was in Portugal, but at that Time I was not aware that I ought to have made the Communication of my Wishes to you for the Appointment, which I hope you will be pleased to recommend me for whenever a Vacancy may occur. I beg further to state that I am at present on Leave of absence for the Recovery of my Health and suppose I shall be out in Portugal either in February or March.

Enclosed also I have the Honor of transmitting a Certificate of Mr Balfour late Surgeon of the 71st Regt who is acquainted with me and with whom I served some Time in the Regt.

I have the honor of remaining with the highest Consideration of Respect

Sir

Your most obedt & humble Servt

Samuel Hill

Apothy Surgeon 1st Battn 71st Regt

Ferguson Esqre M.D.
Inspector of Hos.ls
Portuguese Army
Portugal.

A Letter from Assistant Surgeon Samuel Hill, requiring to be admitted in the Portuguese Medical Staff of the Army

Portsea, January 25 –
1812

with the Certificate of his conduct, by Mr Balfour – Surgeon of the 91 Regt. Light Infantry –

I do hereby certify, that Assist. Surgeon Samuel Hill of the 71st Regiment, while with me in that Corps conducted himself with the greatest propriety, and was at all times most attentive and zealous in the performance of his duty.

J. Balfour
Surgeon 5th R. Dn. Bgde.
late of the 71st Lt. Infy.

Fort Cumberland
30th. Jany. 1812

Mr Stokes upon
application to him
made in February
1869 respecting

A Letter from Surgeon
Wm Thomas, about infor
ming on the State of the
Brigade Surgeons, Instruments
Medicines, Bedding and the
Mules —
Mello June 8th
1810

A Letter from Surgeon
Wm Thomas, about infor
-ming on the State of the
Brigade, Surgeons, Instruments
Medicines Bedding and the
Mules —
Mello June 8th
1810

Mello June 8th
1810

Sir,

Sorry as I may appear; I write to you the first moment I can procure, which is much sooner than I can give you any satisfactory information of what is going on, or even mention here — the same backwardness, of secondary any proposition, or arrangements for the Sick still exists which I formerly experienced, and the same neglect and contempt for any service I can render is evident .. every thing seems to be left to the Regt. Surgeons, who as far as relates to themselves have expressed a wish to receive whatever propositions I may think necessary — I have given in a short plan for establishing and regulating a Brigade Hospital two days since but have had not the least notice taken of it — You heard of the Brigades moving some days ago, the very day before I reached this place. They have left about forty Sick, whom I saw as I passed through Goarda, but the Brigadier has not consulted me respecting them. I suppose they will be ~~left~~ sent to Coimbra on the 12th — It is quite uncertain what time may be allowed us here to arrange our plans, but no time should be lost, for if we move before any are made I fear the greatest confusion will ensue — The two Regt. Surgeons seem to have their Instruments, Medicines, Bedding & Water in good order. any two Pannniers I have taken charge of with the Bearers .. They are in tolerably good state but required some attention to secure them from the damp which they were naturally contracting

I am not certain how, or when I can send this as no regular post goes from hence, the Letters are sent to Head Quarters, which is at Sermos a small Village about two Leagues off —

50

June 15th

After writing the first part of the 8th Inst: I waited under the hope & expectation that some alteration would have taken place respecting the Sick, of this Brigade and the Ld would have at least given me credit for my wishes to establish something like uniformity amongst them, but he is silent.. the Sick are contemplated to be sent to Gorea where the General formed his Hospital, they are taken care of by the Medics of the place, & the Regt Surgeons go every other day to see them.. At which I most strongly expostulate, but have no voice in this, or any other concern- I am really distressed at the treatment I meet with, and feel the Profession insulted through me, I throw myself entirely on your Judgement and think something should be done to rescue me from the contempt I receive.

I can give you no reasons, that can be satisfactory, nor can I tell you the reason why the General chooses to act thus —

I have myself been far from well, I attribute much to the anxiety of my mind, for the Journey certainly did me good, I am at least five Miles from Gorea & was order'd to Rattor by the Ld, leaving hospital & Sick to his own management — the Regimental Surgeons are here literally doing nothing —

Staff Surgeon Griffiths arrived at Gorea three days since from whom I rec'd Letters which you were so good to forward to me — in them are Letters for Dr Robertson, & another for Staff Surgeon Brooking, the last of which I enclose & beg the favor of you to forward to them —

I have seen Mr Griffiths at Gorea in consequence of his

being ordered by the Quarter Master Gl. to apply to me for Infor-
mation respecting his Brigade, & the arrangements made since
my arrival, by which it should seem it was the intention that
I should remain at Goveia in charge of both Brigades unde
though it was ~~approached~~, but having dec no instructions about
them I did not interfere, especially as I could not even
interfere with my own — Goveia is the Depôt for the
Sick as they are sent from the different Brigades with
the Army to pass it Coimbra, where they are ordered to be
taken care of until the whole are assembled, & every fort
night forwarded as usual — but our Brigadier instead of
an hospital at this place has kept me at Goveia, in the
accomodation designed for the passing Sick, & the bedding
supplied by the Juez de Fora, appropriated to his own sick —
all this is wrong — and if you think proper I hope you will
send me a peremptory order to establish a Brigade Hospl
at a more convenient distance, where I may be able to sat-
isfy the establishment, and where the Regt Surgeons &
their Assistants may be properly employd in the care of their
respective Sick .. I understand they have lost seven Ren.
since they quitted Coimbra in Tears — they are as far as
I can find in general healthy, I get a Report from each
Regiment daily, but as the Sick are at Goveia I remain
answer for the correctness — all Reports should pass through
me, but the Brigadier, has not said one word to me on
the Subject, but receives his Reports & opinions from the
Regt Surgeons .. this I hope you will correct, or withdraw
me from the Brigade, for I had rather resign my station
altogether than suffer myself to be thus treated. I understand
he made a very pressing application to the Marshal for a
Staff Surgeon, and now he is present & willing to do his duty
he is the only obstacle, and I must add, I think his measures
absolutely subversive of the Intention for which we were

appointed —
Ready as I have ever been & still am when it is in my power to do my duty, I feel it particularly hard to have been exposed Six Months as Deputy Q. Master to the operation of the Brigade on a much more onerous & responsible station, and now again labouring under similar interruption — my Mind and Body say my health in consequence has suffered materially and I am confident You will, Sir, properly interpose and do me that Justice which is requisite — I even fear the impossibility to act may be construed into neglect, unless fairly stated to You as I have done — I have not heard of any other Brigades who has their appointed their Staff Surgeon — but I am told Brigadier Campbell does it in every Department where he is concerned — of this I do not presume to comment but I only beg that as far as I am concerned I may not be considered as responsible.

The Reports here are that we may expect to have Desp[illegible] — Lord Wellington is said to have had gallantly thrown in Ammunition to Rodrigo wh. is strongly invested, in face of the Enemy who fired in two Columns supposing he meant to Attack them — The Montal head Quarters are at Sierra Six Miles from hence —

I have candidly explained myself to You, and beg Your will excuse any thing which may appear irregular in the expressions I have used, I have been actuated by a sense of Duty, for the purpose of doing good, & from no other motive whatever — I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most respectfull
Obedient Servant
Wm Thomas

Wm Ferguson Esqr
Inspector General
&c &c &c

A Letter from Surgeon Robson
about the State of his Brigade
Badajos April 18th
1812

A Letter from Surgeon Robson
about the State of his Brigade
Badajos April 18th
1812

52a

Badajos april 18th 1812.

Dear Sir,

I intended to have done myself the honor of addressing you long before this time; but after my arrival at Elvas I was so constantly occupied with inspections of sick & infirm in the brigade, and visiting convalescent hospitals, as they are called, and having little satisfactory to communicate I deferred making any report to you immediately. We received a hasty order to march from Elvas, two nights before the storming of this place, and were under arms all that eventful night, near our camp on the other side of the river, & witnessed the whole terrible scene at a safe distance. Some of our caçadores, indeed who were engaged in firing on the tête du pont were severely wounded. On our arrival in this garrison, we took possession of a large empty house for a brigade hospital

where there is at present a good many sick, particularly of the 17th Regt. which is very unhealthy; but as we have no means of procuring comforts, even necessaries for the sick, I am obliged to send off all the acute cases which do not immediately yield to our first practice to Elvas. Genl. Power does all ~~in his power~~ to be can to facilitate our means of managing the sick, but circumstanced as the brigade ~~are~~ is, and exposed to much duty of fatigue, & weather, there is a great susceptibility of acute disease. I would have mentioned all these circumstances & much more a week ago, but in addition to my labours with wounded officers in the Portuguese service &c, I have suffered & do at this moment suffer so much from paronychia in the right thumb, that it is with the greatest effort, I can guide the pen. Thus much in excuse for the almost illegibility, I fear, of this writing. After much trouble, I procured by Wynne's assistance, at Elvas

last sunday, was ~~pancreas~~, but I was obliged to write a portuguese letter to Genl. Bower requiring a mule to carry them, which he transmitted to the Adjut. Genl. – The Commy. genl. having refused me one, on the General's & Wynne's requisition. Respecting the medical officers in the brigade, there is a surgeon, and I believe four assistants in the 5th regt., but none of the assists. have been passed by the Junta at Lisbon. The surgeon seems to be a respectable man, but my means of communication with him are small, as he only speaks portuguese. The surgeon of the 8th died at Elvas before our departure: his son is the only asst. surgeon in the regt., but there is one from the police guard of Lisbon attached. They are both intelligent young men, and speak French fluently. As there is great want of a surgeon in the regiment, & also of assistants, I would beg leave to recommend to you the asst. surgeon as a successor to his father.

In the 11th Caçadores lately attached to us, there is at present only one medical officer, an asst. surgeon, the surgeon being sick at Coimbra. The surgeons are supplied with instruments, medicines, & hospital equipments according to the regulations, but at present we can procure no straw for beds nor cooking utensils &c. I have some expectation of procuring some the latter soon.

Dr. Forbes, the Senr. Medical officer here, as they are breaking up the general hospitals here, & sending the wounded as fast as possible to Elvas & Lotriency. There are a number of British officers here severely wounded, I have seen many of them with Dr. Forbes & my friend Guthrie who has performed ~~some~~ operations.

Maclagan is gone forward with the army, I had a note from him, a week ago, he was then in camp much engaged with the wounded. Taylor is here with General Campbell's brigade.

I am very sorry to hear from Major Carrol of the deposit, that you have been confined with ~~an~~ ophthalmia, but I hope you are perfectly recovered before this time. We were taught daily for some time to expect your arrival at Elvas, & afterwards it was said your ~~[illegible]~~ destination was to Lisbon, but I suppose this letter will still find you at Lisbon.

I shall be glad to receive your commands & instructions, and have the Dear Sir,

Your faithful humble Servt
W. Robson

Wm. Ferguson Esq.
&c &c &c

A Letter from Surgeon
George Morse inclosing the
Brigade Sick Return &
Inspection Regmt
Goyal December 16th 1810

A Letter from Surgeon George Morse, inclosing the Brigade Sick Return & Inspection Report Royal December 16th 1810

3a

Tejo 4th December 1810

Dear Sir

Your Letter from Lisbon of the 9th Oct. I only received the night before last, owing, I imagine to its having been sent to Head Quarters & from hence by the first opportunity that offered. — I have enclosed the monthly sick Returns & inspection Reports taken from the books of the Hospital for October & November, & have to apologize for their not having been sent at the usual time, but the circumstances in which we have been placed from continually marching about (which prevented me making my Reports regularly) will, I trust be a satisfactory explanation to you; I was always aware of the state of the Hospital Instruments Equipments &c. & made arrangements for supplying any deficiency of medicines &c.

Hospitals were established whilst the Army remained at Lomas & on our advance to S. Antonio de Tejo were broken up & the sick sent to Lisbon (29th Oct.) on the 30th we recd. an order to march to Lisbon & embark the next morning & at the place of embarkation the General ordered all convalescent & dismounted men to remain behind at the Deposito at Lisbon these are not therefore included in my Report as sick sent to the Genl. Hospital. — We remained at Salvaterra some days & established a Hospital there for the sick & tho' that order of the General was given yet some convalescents & men unfit did come & their march made them ill again as they

had to carry their own accoutrements. Knapsack bag. Sword. Cartridge
&c which is a heavy load. On our march to Almeirim they were
sent down to Lisbon under the charge of the Qr. Master Sergt.
of the 6th Regt. who took with him the old bedding of the
4th Regt. to get exchanged. besides a requisition for medicines
the medicines we have had some time. but the bedding
is not yet come. At Almeirim we continued some time
(four days) and as the soldiers were much harassed here
by Picquets, night marching. turning out regularly at 2 & 3 o
5 o'clock in a constant state of readiness - in a low marshy situa-
tion exposed to the rain & moreover the provisions not being
so good or so regularly supplied as by the Commissariat
but a few became sick & were sent from thence to Lisbon when we advanced
to Abrantes. At Punales, on this side the River, we remained
two days. We then crowded into filthy stables & houses which
were occupied by the Spaniards, convalescents from the garrison,
miserable poor people who had sought refuge here from
the Enemy. We then crossed the water & remained in Belasem
a few days during which time I was much employed in
constant attendance on Gen.l Crane & other British officers who were
extremely ill - On his getting better I accompanied him
to Chamusca & returned the next day to Santarem where
I joined the Brigade which had returned from Abrantes.
This was at the end of the month & I found many men
of both Regts with ague & slight low fever & therefore
established Hospitals supposing that we might remain
here some time. but the accommodation was bad & I
had determined upon sending them to Lisbon had we re-
remained here, but as we rec.d an order to move on the
4th Regt. on some secret service. I arranged accommo-
dation for the sick of the Brigade to go down to Lisbon

under the charge of the Surgeon of the 60th Regt. I would take upon me the especial management of his Regt. during his absence. Why I sent him was, not so much to accompany the soldiers whose cases did not require medical aid on the March, but to accompany a Captain of the Regt. who had been wounded by accident through the upper part of the thigh, a ball having lodged thro' the dorsal muscles but without injuring either the bone or femoral vessels. He was then both: having entered anteriorly of the Trochanter major ~~at the~~ near the insertion of the ~~Tendon~~ Gluteus femoris, lodged under the Sartorius thro' the Geminalis, adductor longus femoris &c. & lodged out under the Gracilis. Then through the Perineum into the other thigh & out again, not merely thro' the integuments. In most curious course the ball took & made 8 wounds. He was doing extremely well. no symptoms of irritation, slight fever, appetite good & rested well. This was the 5 or 6 day after the accident. He was so well as not to wish to go to Lisbon. The Surgeon tells me I left him recover his Regt. however alone with Madeira. He was provided the same day, but he chose as I have since learnt to be attended by a Surgeon of the place & when the person who told me of the circumstance left him he was extremely ill having had an attack of Pleurisy. These sick are not noticed in my Reports as they are only up to the end of Nov. & it was my intention to have made a general report of the 3 Months at the end of this.

Within these few days some soldiers have joined the Regt. particularly the 4th a few from the fatigues of so long a March & having so heavy a Knapsack

to carry

are extremely weak & unfit for service. Several of the horses
fell sick on the road & it has been at other times the
case that they go back again which the surgeons or
even commanding officers of the Regts. do not know of &
more arrive at the hospitals of Lisbon than appears for
our Depots have been sent here:- we have always
more men than horses & of course a dismounted Dragoon
especially at our Outposts is taken an encumbrance than
useful - On the contrary there are above 200 horses from
each Regt. at the Depots at Alcantara & Luz. & I suggest
whether it would not be as well for the Dragoons when they
come out of hospital to be sent to the Depots of their
respective Regts. & when the horses are able the healthiest
men be selected to accompany them to their Regts. They can
marches, not having any burden to carry, may arrive
there fresh & unfatigued, & fit for immediate service.

Permit me to express my anxious
wishes for your health & happiness & to assure you
that I shall ever remain Dear Sir

Your faithful & obed. Serv.

Geo. Grove

Surg. to the Portuguese Service

To Wm Ferguson Esqr
Inspector Genl
&c &c &c

A Letter from Surgeon
George Morse about the
State of His Brigade
Extremos May 29th
1810 –

56a

A Letter from Surgeon
Geory Morse about the
State of His Brigade
Extremos May 29th
1810

56a

Ethemos May 29. 1810

25

Dear Sir

Still within this last week the number of my sick has not exceeded 60 of each Regt. & the cases at present, I am happy to say are slight. Many of them will be discharged from the Hospital before this report reaches you — it will be a source of gratification for you to learn that we have had no Deaths in the Brigade this month & only one in the last & the preceding one died at Lisz without my leave. The few sick we have will not afford the number of servants laid down in Dr Halliday's plan & with me they have long been discontinued in the 4th Regt. I have allowed only 1 Sergeant who is Almoxarife Enfermeiro & Commandant besides two other Serts. In the 16th I have allowed a separate Enfermeiro as the Surgeon has no Assistant. if my sick increase I will then increase the number of servants according to the exigency. & I trust this arrangement will meet with your approbation.

We have been marching constantly this month & the Brigade was not formed till about the 6th of the month. we have now however a considerable detachment at Leon — a distance of 25 miles — it will be impossible to remove the sick hence should there be any; tho' I have none at present. Therefore I suppose they must be attended by the Surgeons of the place in the same manner as before the late regulations — The acct. of the last month I never expect to be finally arranged as the Regt. was without money a considerable time & the only part of it we the pay of the Soldier could not be received. but the Hospital has not been in debt; whatever was wanted since the Rebellion was supplied by the Commissary, & I suppose charged to the Government the acct. of the last month have therefore been arranged by Colt Campbell in the best manner, & I assure you it was with difficulty I could get any acct. of them in the hurry & confusion

proceeding against the enemy — which we did also without a fortnight to load. We left our sick & heavy baggage & after 3 days return again here — no endeavours have been wanting on my part to give efficacy to the mode of arrangement you have introduced & should there have been any deviation from it in the last month, it has proceeded from too great a liberality on the part of the surgeons in diet & extraordinaries, they not having been able sufficiently to explain the necessity of few extraordinaries being allowed, now perfectly understood & I trust that it has been conducted this month & will continue so to be with as much regularity & arrangement as any English Brigade or Regimental hospital. As our Commissary does not purchase the rations for the soldiers but gives bills on the Government for what is supplied to the Regt. — and is not supplied with money he cannot pay for any rations which the Surgeon might not find necessary to draw — therefore I have directed that the whole rations due to the soldiers in the Hospital should be drawn, what is not wanted sold, & the money put to the Credit of the Hospital & whatever is wanted above to be purchased out of the Baggage. We have a small surplus this month. — Where there are 800 sick in a Brigade Hospital much may be done from the savings of so great a number of men — to keep up the effective strength of the Brigade is the leading object of my attention & regard. I endeavour to preserve the health of the soldiers keep him out of the Hospital by attention to cleanliness both in his person & quarters & a regularity of diet as much as possible in which arrangement & endeavours I have been much assisted by Lt. Col. Campbell. — The Surgeon appointed to the 4th Regt. some time since, has not joined which is very necessary that he should do as soon as possible — neither is there any Assistant Surgeon to the 4th. I trust this alteration & report will meet with your approbation & I remain Dear Sir Your faithful & obed. Servt. Geo. Prose
Surg. to the Forces.

26

Aronches 4th February 1812.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit to you the Monthly Return of sick of the 2nd Brigade Portuguese Infantry from 1st to 31st January 1812.

The Brigade during the last Month having been continually on the March, or in such situations as not to allow an accumulation of sick, such as appeared of a serious nature I have been obliged to sent to General Hospital, the greater number of which, were such as fell sick on the March. One case of Small Pox occurred early in the Month. Vacuum Virus has been furnished to the 14th Reg.t: we are now on the March to this neighbour to our original Cantonments, should it be the case the earliest opportunity shall be taken to vaccinate such Men as do not appear to have had the Small Pox. I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your Obed.t humble Serv.t

J. Lawson

Surgeon to the Forces

Lt. Colonel Fitzgerald
Brig.r Gen.l of Portuguese Troops &c.

C. J. Laisne
Abbeuches 4th February
1812

about sending the Sick Return
& Vacinate the men who not appear
to have had the small pox

27

St Eulalia 4th March 1842

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit to you the Return of Sick for the Month of February of the 2nd Brigade Portuguese Infantry. The Men of the 2nd Regt who remained in Frontiera were all in an advanced state of Convalescence; otherwise they would have been sent to the nearest Mily Hospital, & are daily expected to arrive at the Regt.

Of the Number of Men sent to Hospital of the 14th Regt are included 11 who were sent while the Brigade was on march, previous to its arrival at our last Cantonments.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Obedt Humble Servt
G. J. Laisne
Surgeon to the honorable

Dr W. Ferguson Esqre
Inspector Genl of Portr
Mily Hospitals
&c — &c — &c

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A letter from Surgeon
C. J. Laisne, sending the
Return of Sick of 2d. Brigade
Portuguese Infantry
February 1812

Army Medical Board Office
August 13th 1806

28

Dear Sir

Your Letter of the 11th, announcing your removal from the District by General Simcoe's order, did certainly excite much surprise, as little agreeing with that regularity and order which I should ever expect from such an experienced & enlightened Officer as General Simcoe.— Colonel Gordon, on my interview with him an hour since, in some degree explains the circumstance, by taking blame to himself in not notifying to this Office that you were allowed to accompany the General.— If your own Letter of explanation had not done away any appearance of irregularity on your part, I should not have been hasty in imputing it to you.

I have had great reason to be satisfied with your exertions in the Western District, & I gladly take this opportunity of expressing my best thanks to you, both Officially

Officially & Personally

" With every wish for your future credit & prosperity

I remain

Dear Sir

most truly

Yours &c. &c

F. Knight

W. Ferguson Esq
Deputy Pr. of P.G
Post Office
Plymouth

13th August 1806

The Inspector General,
relative to Mr. Ferguson's
removal from the
District by Lieu Jameson
&c

W. M. J.

W. Ferguson Esq.
Collector of Customs
Port Glasgow
Glasgow

General Simcoe on the 27th day of August last on board of his Majesty's ship Hebe via in the Tagus, requested a sufficient quantity of Calomel, for a dose to take at night with Jalap and Manna in the morning, narrating that having arrived from England two days preceding, he supposed he had not been sufficiently sea sick on the passage, his stomach being overcharged with increase of Bile to which he was disposed, and had always used the medicine he now requested, when formerly in a warm climate, (the West Indies) with such advantage as to make him solicitous of repeating it - but the attendant difficult respiration, with, opposed pulse led me to recommend in addition the use of a blister to the Breast, and taking a Saline draught with ℥ss of Ether Sulph & D.R. Opii night, with the Calomel below, when in conversation with the General I learnt that he had been ill about a week preceding, that he supposed fever was hanging about him, and since that period was liable to Asthma which he thought some paintwork performed on board the Frigate on her passage increased not having had any rest whatever the preceding 2 or 3 nights; for in no instance could he bear to lie near pitch-paint. but his bowels had also been disordered by Diarrhea a few days preceding although

contrary state then existed which he was desirous of removing by the remedy he requested.

In the night being called for a time at the Inge I found the General had on his landing from the ship, been attacked with spasm and that it had recurred about 10 in the evening his breathing when I saw him was much oppressed, the Lungs apparently overcharged with Phlegm, the Pulse irregular and indicated perspiration, prostration, and inability to lie down, but no pain, or other uneasiness was complained of except a sense of repletion of the stomach; when an Emetic of 20 grains Ipecacuanha with 1gr of Antimonial Tartar was exhibited, which produced quick but mild vomiting, but within ½ an hour of its ceasing to operate, the spasm again returned threatening in appearance the momentary extinction of life, the Pulse being not to be felt at long intervals, recovering itself but slowly, and when arriving at a full vibration instantly again intermitted, the countenance livid, the extremities cold, the breathing most laborious, and at intervals apparently exhausted, with loss of sense, and the surface of the body bedewed with cold sweats. — This alarming state occasioned express to Lichfield, for every possible additional Medical advice employing the interval of time by using the warm bath and a domestic Enema — To these symptoms succeeded, the General complained of momentary acute pain in the throat, some broken sleep followed and expectoration which I understood to be habitual took place (except only that the Phlegm was ejected with difficulty and streaked with blood) but the breathing continued laborious and the Pulse much oppressed, when in consultation with Mr Morley the Surgeon of the Staffordshire Hospital (who first arrived, but not until after the Spasm might be said to have some time ceased) the Calo and Manna were exhibited with additional Calomel, applying a Blister to the Back —

Some hours subsequent Drs Newman and Pope visited the

General / the latter of these gentlemen continued to attend during his stay in Portugal / prescribing for him and expressing an opinion that from the plenitude of habit, together with Paralysis it would be desireable to bleed from a large orifice in the event of return of Spasm which threatening on the night of the 28th the lancet was used relieving the symptoms and followed by increase of rest: in the interval of this date the 2d September the Calomel purge was repeated and the Tincture of Squills taken in Emulsion, the General appearance rapidly to improve except that the pulse continued to be irregularly interrupted this thought less so since the bleeding than before, and the periods of sleep in a horizontal position extended to 2 or 3 hours at a time, using a fair proportion of nutriment, but on going to bed on this date sudden increase of difficult respiration came on with greater irregularity of pulse and total deprivation of rest which Opiates failed to procure, and after the second or third nights continuance of this state, Diarrhoea also came on, the latter rapidly encreasing to Anasarca of the whole of the lower extremities and since followed by Ascites on an external examination of the chest about this date, strong rapid pulsation of the Right Carotid Artery was noticed not in unison with the pulse of the wrist —

The Digitalis was exhibited and continued for a few days after the Generals arrival at Cintra and a blister kept open in the thigh. — The Hydropic tendency encreasing with a paucity of Urine, but little or no thirst and frequent returns of Paroxysms of difficult breathing / minute degrees of Spasm / Spasm by Carotid were made below the Knee and within these last six days scarifications above the Ankles; the Digitalis not producing any apparent effect on the Kidneys, it was changed for the Squills in combination with Bitters and Nitre, and during the Paroxysms of oppressed breathing drops composed of Spt Ether Nitrat & Liquor Ammon Fortior have been taken with temporary good effect

The General while at St Jose once or twice, and
and in his chaise and at Cintra also, on exertion that
was productive of fatigue yet he bore the journey to
the latter place on the 9th Inst, from thence to St
Jose yesterday, and this morning removal on board
the Albuhera for a passage to England much better
than was expected.— But since the renewed attack
on the 2nd scarce even three days have elapsed at a
time without a return of the Paroxysms — more
or less severe, when a removal from a recumbent
position is always instantly necessary and the in-
creased or diminished interruption of the pulse
marks its accession and remission — but the
irregularity thereof throughout even on those days
when the Paroxysms have not recurred, tho' always
more or less interrupted, has been strikingly ob-
servable — when the vibration of the Right Arte-
rery (except in degrees of force) have been un-
form and in a degree of quick, tho' have been
sometimes thought to be in union with some
continued palpitation of the Heart, which latter
tho' sometimes described by the General as a sense
of an inward fluttering, has not been clearly as-
certained on any examination by me.—

J. B. Hoyle Surgeon

R. N. S. Albuhera off the Bar of Lisbon 12th Feb 1816

Medical Report
Genl Moncrieff's Case

Lisbon. 22. Feby. 1810.

30

My dear Friend

I have not been for a long time more pleased than by the appearance of your well known hand on a letter once more addressed to me; and rejoice most heartily at your escape from that gang of our countrymen. By this time I hope native air will have restored both you and Mrs Ferguson to yourselves & your friends.

First to business. I had the same call from Mr Bell — but by competent advice refused to answer it, by giving duplicates of receipts which I must already have given in triplicate. He then asked me for a written acknowledgement of having no more claims upon him. This I did in the following words.

"Being called upon by Mr John Bell

Dep-

65

Deputy Superintendent of British aids, at his request I hereby certify, that as far as I at present know, I have no further claim upon the Office of British aids for the period during which I was entitled to draw my pay & allowances from that office".

(Signed)

This receipt having satisfied him, and as the refund is the worst of all funds, & most to be guarded against, I shall withhold your receipts untill I hear again from you; but as in so doing I run some little risque of blame for delaying Mr. Bell's settlement of his accounts (tho' in the interim he is enjoying full pay & consequently in his own person not over anxious) (& on the other hand Mr Dawkins sent by the

thea-

Treasury to settle them is getting £5000 per an. 'till it is done) – tho' on this score I believe I am pretty safe, from the Parties concerned considering these circumstances.

As to my self – I am admitted of the Edin.h College of Physicians, Surgeon in Ordinary to the King of Portugal with R$ 1000$000 p.r an. Surgeon General in Portugal under the title of Deputado with R$ 80$000 per mo. Have taken & furnished comfortably a snug little house & have brought out my wife and four children (one born here & the other while in England after the War). My eldest girl made her first appearance at the Marshals Ball at the Birth day & passed pretty well. I have done up the Forico Mor & all his General Hospitals – even that of Lisbon – one only remains at Peniche w.h is unavoidable as the garrison consists of detachments – but it has only 16 sick in – and is under my care. I have established regimental Hospitals with the most perfect success. The last half year the deaths were 1 in 119. While in St. Jose at Lisbon they were 1 in

1 in 6. & in the General Hospitals for 1815 & 1816 1 in 39. out of the Soldiers pay we have now a surplus of 5.061.299 $\frac{438}{2000}$ R^s and have reduced the monthly estimates of the Contador & Fyzico Mor, (which were last year from 23, to 24,000,000 R^s) to 3,000,000. I send you inclosed a circular of my state-ment at the end of June. The Fisico Mor's clerks are reduced from 23 to two - the same number as I have - & the Contadors from 42 to 7. These things I mention because I know they will gratify your ancient animosity to these rascals - not from self vanity - Tho' I think I am better qualified to deal with them than you were. The noble generosity of your high honorable feelings could not have patience with them - but tho' a hot taffy, have inspired them too much to get into passions. My forbearance has enabled me to pay them to their hearts content - & even to my own - which a little wd. not satisfy. I am pressed for time - next letter shall be more satisfactory. I cannot read over what I have written therefore pardon it - Ever yours faithfully

Woodbyne.

Private

Castella de Vede —
Mch. 12. 1810.

Dear Sir,

The Transport Com-
-missary has this evening
only brought the slowly
travelling & much wanted
supplies of medicines and
instruments; but they are
very complete & sufficient,
and I thank you for your
attention to my wishes res-
-pecting them: if I have been
too pressing & urgent, or
indeed troublesome to you,
about them, I hope, when
you consider my situation,
that you will pardon me.

He has delivered to me
four leathern regimental
cases, and two setts of
instruments for myself,
both re-sett by Stodart,
but in good condition:— I will
take care to transmit the
regular receipts for them

as

Wm Ferguson Esq
Inspector General Hs.

as soon as possible. It is now late in the evening, I have some hours of hospital duty to perform, & the commissary goes at daybreak in the morning; it will therefore be impossible for me to enter into the subject of your letter. But you will find my communication of the 2d. inst refer to most points of them.

I have read over your rules, & think them very excellent: they can hardly, in my opinion, as far as they go, be improved, but if any thing occurs to me, when I shall have had time to consider them, I will freely communicate my thoughts to you, as the candor & good sense of your letters convince me I run no risque of offending you by ta-

taking the liberty to do so.

Do you think two Physicians can be of much use? But do you not think, in general, & particularly in the field, that Surgeons are more useful being competent to the duty of physician as well as their own? An additional Deputy Inspector would probably be of more real use than half a dozen physicians - but this I submit with the greatest deference to your better judgment. Your opinion & returns proves that you are not a mere theorist: every man who has been plagued with them must be convinced how much they embarrass more essential exertions. But it would be vain to consider the subject now, as time will not admit of it; but I really think what you have written is so perfectly good & well adapted for the ser-

[illegible] that if I had [illegible]
so much time, I could
not point out a single
improvement. Some few
additions, which you number
will complete them.

We have only one medi-
cal officer with the 10th &
two with the 4th Regt. and we
three are unexamined as-
sistant surgeons - but on
this point I shall address
you officially in a few
days. Our sick are rather
increasing, but we lose none
I think if you could see
the state of our Hospitals
you would approve it, as
we are going on very com-
fortably & well.

Accept my thanks for
your free communication
and believe me, dear Sir,
your most obedient and
obliged humble servant

W. Gullyeen

Wm Ferguson Esqre
Inspector General &c

Monday night
½ past 7. —

(private)

Dear Sir,

I hope the enclosed official statement will in some degree meet your wishes. It will give me the greatest pleasure, at all times, to attend to your further commands.

All the English Medical Officers, in the Portuguese service, find great inconvenience in their letters being delayed & lost in consequence of being sent to the British Head Quarters – there are five of mine, dated in January, now wandering about, or perhaps lost. It is so great a comfort to have from one's friends, that it would be a most desirable thing if any plan could be devised to obviate the inconvenience – such, for instance, as your having, in the Portuguese staff at the Post Office, & with Mr Bolton, (to whom they might be sent by mistake) & directing them to be sent to you, when your clerk might enclose them to our different stations which must always be known to you. It would be rendering us a very great kindness, & I, for one, should be happy to recompense the clerk for what extra trouble it would occasion him.

Should you see Mrs Campbell soon & Col. & Mrs Abbott may I request you to present my respectful compts to them?

Believe me, dear Sir,
your obedient & faithful humble serv.
W. Lagan.

Wm Ferguson Esq

Do [illegible]al Serviço

William [illegible]pson Esqre

Inspector General

of [illegible]guese Hospitals.

Lisbon.

Letter of Joaquim [illegible]

Wyhm.

1810.

Penicha 5th Nov. 1810.

My dear Sir

I was favored with your letter of the 21st July a day or two ago. and was truly astonished at the wonderful feeling and consideration of the Regency which has so ~~[illegible]~~ ought the chastisement of a British Officer but have never considered the death of 600 of their Recruits & the daily consumption of their force at Peniche – an object ever of enquiry – I am not able to judge what the means of the Govt. may have been – but no doubt can be entertained that our malady is occasioned by our want of clothing and the mortality in the Hospitals from the defi= =ciency of means to administer to the necessities of the sick – had this ~~[illegible]~~ been offered to go or without a word of representation – I should have been alone blameable. but I have not been silent, yet the misery continues – no effort has been made to relieve it – what was at first the mere effects of bad diet, Prisons & want of clothing & bed would have given way in proper Hospitals to Med: Care – has now become a contagious disease, even Physicians are ill – the inhabitants are dying proportionably with the troops & I should not be surprised in a short time to see communication with us was prohibited ——

My force is daily diminishing & the few called healthy respect the wretched state with which they are surrounded.

I am now in the 5th month of my residence & I believe three months of strong representations have elapsed — I no longer visit the Hospitals which however are attended with as much care as circumstances will permit — with 130 cut. & bedding but for half the number however I have procured 200 cots from Cadiz & hope for 100 cots more from Obidos —

You will credit therefore that I am not able to do anything in this quarter — yet we have obliged the enemy to change their foraging parties & act with more caution — Fenwick whom I have established at Obidos, has been an incessant pest to them, cutting up their parties & attacking with great boldness — he has put the true spirit into his little Garrison & they now have shook off all their timidity — I learnt from another Officer — That in one of his attacks Fenwick & another Officer were hoisted in at a Window (the door being secured) bayonetted the two Sentinels — let in their Party & secured 20 Prisoners — he has deprived the Enemy of vast resources in Cattle, Wine, & Corn. but I fear these little enterprises will not be considered when the world can only contemplate events of the highest magnitude — A squadron of Dragoons has now been sent to Obidos but I fear we shall not be able to derive the benefit from their services which we should certainly at the commencement —

Mrs Blunt has retired to the vicinity of the Peninsula for some time past — she is very well & seems to be particularly unencumbered — I rode over to Obidos three days ago & felt the effects considerably — I am anxious to look about, but the distances are so great — that it would be attended with considerable inconvenience to me — I however still think in spite of Mr Robinson that if I could see Mr Brown he would supply the Brushes — & I should ~~[illegible]~~ be tempted ~~to the Corps~~

We have no news I have not a line from Hd Quarters since the 22nd Ult.o — believe me my dear Sir Yours very faithfully

R. Blunt —

A Vessel was sent here to take away our sick which it only carried to — two others were said to be at Sea but have not been seen — we have sent about 1200 from Coimbra — of nearly 5000 joined at this Depositi 1500 only remain fit for duty — a term very ill applied. —

1810.

Gen.l Blants private letter
Dated Peniche 5.th of Nov.re
on the Situation of his
health, and the State of
the Depot.

Ill.mo Snr Inspector Geral dos Hospitaes
Portuguezes, Ferguson

Lisboa

Penich 22nd Decr 1810 — 37

My dear Sir

I have but just returned here which will account for the delay of the inclosure — you will perceive the Mortality among the inhabitants has very much exceeded this year the number of the last — & our sick yet continue at 1000 in spite of the deaths — I shall continue to send off as fast as I can all who are healthy & capable & that I hold permission for that purpose — the Measure they are stationary, they fall sick — while moving about the country few suffer — near 200 Men been out 10 days & sent in but one Man. —

I have recd no very good intelligence lately — the Enemy a foraging as far in their front as they can with safety — but I believe our communication with the North is again open — I am here for a few days & all my force will be assembled in two or three days to be clothed — they have now sent me sufficient for twice my remaining numbers. — Mrs Blunt desires her compts & I am my dear Sir Yours very faithfully

C Blunt

W Ferguson Esqr
Dep. Gen. Portuguese Corps &c —
&c &c

1810.

Genl. Blanc's official letter relative to the State of the Garrison —
Dated Peniche 22d Decemb.

Lisbon 2nd Jany 1811 –

My dear Sir

I am just favoured with your letter which certainly surprised me, but I am accustomed to misrepresentation & false intentions however good, are no security – as to the arrangements they must speak for themselves – for the Marshal never can be so unjust to the public as to neglect the opportunity of a complete chastisement of a country man accused of so great an atrocity, as destroying the troops committed to his charge by the severity of his punishments – suspected of such an act of infamy as subornings Evidence – & stated to have destroyed the number of beings committed to his care by cruel, excessive labour – do not I entreat you urge, or express a desire to have a portion of such a charge withdrawn – The subject must be investigated – The Marshal could not employ me under such a statement – Nor could I serve without a justification – at least so I now feel – to shelter the support he is now receiving Sir W. C. Beresford, the Poison is insidiously spread – Lisbon will be full of infamous falsehood – The Marshal reproach & my name will be – You are scarcely aware that without being personally known, I have not escaped in that city the most unchecked censure – Intrigue has been there exercised against me with great activity – In fact I am not convinced but the Marshal must sometimes doubt, if he has justly appreciated my character. –

Such a combination claims enquiry – it would be imprudent to

Wm Ferguson Esq.
S.G. Portuguese Hospitals

suppressit — It is due to the rank of The Prince Mor —
To The Commander in Chiefs impartiality — and my justification
The first impulse was to forward your Letter to Sir W C Bere
but on reflection I have considered it better to await your further
sentiments. —

The report mentions the naked state of the people, want of
linen &c — I believe that only applies to those under his
superintendance — chiefly the Convalescents — The invalids
under the care of Respectable Tenents at Alangua were generally
clear — The Artillery at Peniche & healthy Recruits at the
lines were not subjected to that censure, nor found so impoverished.

I earnestly entreat you my dear Sir, let the Prince Mor
exhibit his disreputable system of enquiry — & do not urge
an act of justice, which he will interpret tenderness & will
forever stamp me a murderer in the eyes of his worthy Portuguese
equally with the malignants — A Calumny once published — if
suppressed is invariably believed. I am my dear Sir

Your very faithfully B Blunt

1811.

Genl. Blanks private letter Dated Oviedo 2d. January.

Copy

No 6 Maida Hill Paddington
11th December 1845.

Gentlemen

In conformity to your order, which I have just received, I proceed to give you all the information in my power on the subject of the disease mentioned by Mr Mortimer.

It will be recollected that about 800 black troops were embarked in the four Transports named in the Margin at Sierra Leone – In two of these the Regalia and Borodino, a disease thought to be the Fever of the Climate had been previously existing – the Borodino had been employed chiefly at sea – of her Ships Company, the Mate and several of the Seamen had died – the Regalia had been lying for some considerable period, in different parts of the River Sierra Leone; two of her Crew had died (one I believe after the embarkation of the troops) and several had been sent to the Hospital – the Mortality in the Colony of Sierra Leone was very unusual in its degree this last Year, and the complaint had made its first appearance in both these Ships, at that Settlement – these were the unhealthy Vessels; the Charles was comparatively healthy; and in the Mariner, I think no death occurred – I believe every effort was made, and every care taken, to cleanse and purify the Ships, before

Mariner,
Charles,
Regalia,
Borodino

To
The Transport Board
&c &c &c

before the Admission of the Troops the Boroderie was chiefly employed with the Porcupine, and I know that every part of her, was rendered as wholesome as possible, by white washing, ventilation, and fumigation.

To the best of my remembrance I first went on board these Ships a week after the Convoy had been at Sea. In the Boroderie I found Lieutenant Barry comatose with low muttering delirium, evidently dying, in a disease which had every appearance of having been fever – he had been taken ill on the very day on which the Convoy had left the River – he died the Morning after I saw him. I beg leave here to remark that a signal for Medical assistance, had been established, previous to our sailing; and I could never learn why it had not been ~~made~~ previously made in this instance, further, than that the Officer, embarked with Mr. Barry, did not think he had been so ill – there were also on board the same Ship two Negroes, whom, from the state of the above discharges, the extreme emaciation, and absence of febrile symptoms, I judged to be in the last stage of Dysentery. They had the appearance of having been long ill, and on enquiry I was informed that there were about fifty afflicted with Ulcer, Leprosy, and Dysentery in the different Ships. I was told that these Men had been embarked from the Hospitals; that they had been sent back there, as unfit to proceed, by the Officer Commanding the Detachment, and again returned on board owing to there being a deficiency of Medical Stores in the Colony.

I should imagine that the disease in question commenced among the black Troops, between a week

and

and ten days, after their being at sea; but I cannot speak as to the exact period, because I have reason to believe that I was for some time ignorant of it; that I never in any single instance, saw a man as soon as he was taken ill; and also from other circumstances which I shall immediately mention, I am unable to give a history of the disease, as it existed amongst these people in its earlier stages; but as several white people in the Regalia and Borodino were attacked with sickness after the Convoy left Sierra Leone; as it is more than probable that they had the same complaint with the negroes, modified only by their different habits of life; as I saw some of these early, and can well recollect the commencement and progress of their Complaints; I will endeavour to make out a statement, showing the appearances and symptoms of the malady.

In the first place, with regard to the black Recruits, it should be clearly understood that they were captured Negroes brought together from various parts of the Continent, and strangers to each each other that in many instances, nobody even to speak the Language of the Sufferer, in most, not any Interpreter of it into English, or French could be found; that consequently in by far the greater Majority of Cases, no history of the commencement of the disease, of its progress, of the length of its duration, of the present sensations, of the state of the body with reference to any circumstance, of the effect of the Medicines prescribed, or indeed, whether they had been given at all or no, could be got at; that some had lost the Tickets which

named

them, and were ignorant of the sounds which expressed their Names to them, so that not unfrequently, when a particular Man was demanded by me, the Answer was, that after search he could not be found; further, that, from a want of community of Language, no social feeling existed among them, each was almost indifferent to the misery of his fellow, and would make no voluntary exertion, either to remove him to any part of the Ship pointed out, or to find him for the inspection of those who were willing to assist and relieve him if possible, or to administer his Medicine to him (indeed I was informed by Mr Spurs the Master of the Borodino, that the Medicines sent, were, for the most part, never given to the Sick in that Ship, and I reported it to my Captain, who wrote to the Senior Officer on the subject) under such circumstances, (and I suppose they always exist; but were, here only more observable from the prevalence of disease) to whom could the sufferer apply? – his misery was no doubt endured in silence, until at length, it was somehow made known that he did not eat, or the advance of the disorder forced him upon the notice of his Officer – It was at such a period I believe that I always saw the Sick amongst these unfortunate people for the first time; some I only saw once, and then heard that they were dead; several who died I never saw, but was told that their deaths had been sudden, it having never been discovered that they were ill – These occurrences rendered me very anxious, and very desirous to inform myself better of the Nature, and State of the disease, by seeing the Men oftener, and if possible more regularly, for tho' I was never one day without visiting some of the Ships, yet, the Regalia and

Borodino,

Borodino, being both very bad sailers, the state of the weather, and the distance of the ship, occasionally, prevented my visiting them when I wished it; and accordingly I submitted to my Captain the necessity of having a Hospital ship, to which every Man discovered to be ill should be immediately conveyed, so that I might have kept a separate Book, in each Mans berth, detailing what I had been previously enabled to make out, with a certainty of the identity of their persons; and he had every wish to have complied with this request had it been possible.

I believe the complaint to have been, bilious Remittent fever; I believe that I never saw those who survived the immediate violence of the attack, until one remission had been suffered; some I saw during this remission — this will account for the variety of states in which I found them, for the difference of the symptoms I observed, and perhaps in some degree, for the disease of the viscera which dissection discovered in those who had survived the attacks of the Complaint for any length of time.

I have said that the Men I did see, appeared invariably to have been ill some time — to labour under great debility; they were languid — had a desponding look — seemed in a considerable degree unable as well as very unwilling to move themselves, or to speak — as far as I could understand however, they complained of thirst, and pains in the head, back and limbs; — of Nausea and frequently tho not constantly, vomiting — some had these latter complaints only in a very moderate degree without

heat

heat of the skin, and with a pulse but very little accelerated; — others had quick and weak pulses — their tongues of a yellow or light brown colour, — their lips dry and parched and covered with a brown crust, and a hot and dry skin — several had with these symptoms Diarrhœa and some severe griping pains, and dysenteric evacuations. — some had cough, but I could never make out, that any remarkable pain in the breast accompanied — some were comatose when I first saw them, with hiccup and Subsultus Tendinum, and in two or three of these, I observed delirium of the low, muttering kind, and it is more than probable, that this was the kind of delirium, which chiefly existed amongst them, since, if outrageous phrensy, had commonly accompanied the first attack of the disease it would have been spoken of to me, and in the cases which I shall presently relate, and which I attended from the commencement, no furious delirium occurred — the only instance amongst the Recruits, in which I saw decided inflammatory symptoms, was in a very stout Man, who had Anasarca dependent on Visceral Obstruction — he had a quick hard and tense pulse, with cough, and difficulty of breathing from the pressure of the fluid — I bled him gave him tincture of digitalis, solution of supertartrate of Potash, and the region of the liver, and the whole surface of the Abdomen, rubbed with the mercurial Ointment — however he became at length despondent, sunk into a low state, and died — some perished also from chronic dysentery — I believe the disease in

question

question to be always inflammatory in its onset; that its accession is always accompanied with increased vascular action — but I believe that debility is rapid in its advances, and intense in its degree and that in proportion to the previous excitement, unless topical inflammation of some vital part occurs, keeping up the inflammatory action.

My treatment consisted in giving the bark immediately, to those who appeared to be undergoing a remission; and in the other cases, in endeavouring, in the first place to clear the prima via by Calomel, in a medium dose of ten grains; afterwards in giving camphorated Mixture with spirits of nitric ether, and laudanum at night, with a view of procuring diaphoresis, and bringing on a remission — in applying blisters to various parts of the body, and in regulating the diet, as far as I could — to those who had disordered bowels, existing with this complaint, I usually gave a small dose of sulphate of Magnesia and then opium by the Mouth, and injection with fomentations to the Abdomen and Blisters.

With regard to this complaint as it existed among the whites, the case of the Mate of the Borodino, which I shall relate to shew the nature of the disease which had been prevailing in her — and that of Lieutenant Morrow of the seventh West India Regiment, who died on board the Regalia during our passage to the West Indies, both of which

I

I will detail, as they occurred day, by day, will be, perhaps, sufficient examples—

The Mate of the Brodeino, whose name I believe was Mitchell, was attacked on board that Ship, just after leaving Sierra Leone River in the latter end of May— the disease commenced in the Evening, I saw him the following day— he complained of great pain in the head, back, and limbs of thirst, ~~&c~~ and of frequent vomiting of a bilious Matter— his pulse was quick and full— his skin very hot, his tongue white, his countenance flushed, the appearance of his Eyes inflamed and watery, and he had cough, but no pain in the breast, he had constantly laboured, I understood, under great fear of the climate, and his spirits were now much depressed, he had felt unwell a few days before at Sierra Leone but having taken about ten grains of Calomel, it had purged him, and he had been completely well ever since— I took from twelve to sixteen ounces of blood from his arm, ordered the dose of Calomel to be repeated, and left him apparently relieved— this was in the forenoon— in the evening I saw him again and the inflammatory symptoms had not then abated, for the pain of the head was great, and his pulse still full and quick— his bowels had not been opened but the vomiting was relieved— I urged him to be again bled but he had imbibed a dread of it, and positively refused to have it done— I therefore ordered him a draught of camphorated Mixture with Spirits of Nitric Ether, and directed his feet to be put into warm water, with a

warm—

view of exciting diaphoresis, and relieving the determination to the head — the following day he was much worse — was evidently sinking — he was very despondent; complained of great weakness, his pulse had become much quicker and was weak & irregular; his skin was still very hot, the pain in his head was much better — that in his back and limbs remained — he had had several stools, but the vomiting had returned and was now urgent — the appearance of the eyes was now yellow, and bilious — he had still cough, but no pain of the breast or dyspnœa — I ordered the cold affusion, and the citrate of Potash throughout the day, with a draught of camphorated mixture, with Ether and laudanum at night; and also a blister to be applied to his breast, and as the cold affusion appeared to have moderated the heat, and to have relieved him, I directed it to be repeated at Noon, and in the Evening, should the heat of the skin increase again — next day he was still worse; the cold affusion had been repeated at Night, seemingly with advantage for a time — he was now evidently sinking — he had almost incessant vomiting and was becoming comatose in the intervals, with groaning, and murmuring — he had had a loose stool a few hours before — I ordered him the camphorated Mixture with Ether, and directed a blister to be applied to the Nape of the neck — From this time he became more and more comatose, with low muttering delirium and subsaltus Tendinum — in the course of the following

following night, he got out of his bed and was somewhat outrageous, but it was probably only the struggle with death for he died soon afterwards.

Lieutenant Morrow applied to me on the sixteenth of August, he had been unwell three days before, but having taken a few grains of Calomel he had been purged and relieved by it - he had now been violently ill about fourteen hours before I saw him - his skin was then very hot, his tongue white, his pulse quick and somewhat full, the pains in his head back and limbs violent, his bowels since the operation of the Calomel costive; with frequent vomiting, as he said of blood, but nothing resembling that fluid was thrown up, during my stay - he complained of great weakness and appeared much dejected - I ordered him ten grains of Calomel in a bolus, with citrate of potash, if the vomiting should continue, and a draught of camphorated mixture with Æther at night - a blister was also applied at night to the region of the stomach - next day I found he had passed a very bad night, having been very restless, with frequent recurrence of vomiting of a bilious matter - he had had one liquid dark coloured stool - the head ache, and pains were still very severe, the skin very hot - pulse quicker and weaker - he complained of being unable from weakness to lift himself up in his bed - I ordered him six grains of Calomel in a bolus, the camphorated Mixture with Æther, and his head to be shaved and blistered - in the evening I found he had had another stool, he had not vomited so frequently - the skin was still very hot. - I repeated the cold affusions

and

and afterwards the camphorated mixture with Ether as before – the following morning, he appeared to be sinking, – was restless, complained of pain all over him – tho the blister on the heads discharged freely, and had relieved the pain there a great deal – the vomiting had become more frequent, and now resembled Coffee grounds – the skin was cool the pulse quick and feeble; the tongue dry, and covered with a brown crust – he seemed to be growing comatose; but was very collected and would answer immediately any questions put to him – he had no more stools, and I now gave him an enema, which brought away, a little fœtid, and discoloured feces – I ordered him the camphorated mixture with laudanum at Bedtime, and allowed him some Wine and Water – the enema was repeated in the Evening with the same effect – on the fourth day he had sunk considerably; his pulse was quick and tremulous – his tongue had become cleaner and more moist – he had several stools after the last injection, dark in colour and very fœtid – the vomiting had ceased in same degree – he was more comatose, but not at all delirious – his breathing was interrupted, and anxious, and his speech not very articulate – he took some wine at intervals; and I ordered his mixture to be repeated – in the course of the following night he died.

From these cases I should infer that the

the attack, was gradual; a remission seems to have been procured in both, by the Calomel.

Several of the Ship's Company in both the Regalia and Borodino, were attacked by Fever — the second Mate of the former, had the Disease most violently. It was rapid in its progress and I did not see him until just before death. The Seamen who were attacked in both Ships after this, had the disease in a much milder form. They had low fever, with quick pulse debility and dejection of spirits — whenever I saw them early, if vomiting had not commenced, and there was no marked determination to the head, I always administered an emetic, and after its operation, a free dose of Calomel, I believe that a remission was generally procured by these Means, enabling me to give the bark — they all recovered.

From a consideration of the whole of the circumstances, I should infer, that the cause of disease amongst these Men was Infection; that of fever, and that of dysentery, being perhaps combined; — I conceive also that the Men were rather crowded, considering the heat of the climate, and their habits of life &c. It is certain that the Regalia and Borodino, particularly the latter, had a very offensive smell — but I am not aware that it was owing to any want of care in point of cleanliness — About thirty died, during the passage and I should attribute this Mortality, to the foregoing Causes, and to the want of early Medical Inspection and Observation, and also to there being no constant, humane and intelligent assistance, which might have been the case, had there been a supply of white, Non Commissioned Officers; and farther, to the

almost

Copy

I hereby certify that the above mentioned service was diligently and regularly performed by Mr Oheir as he has stated

Signed B Harney
Late Capt.n H. M. Ship
Porcupine

Copy

I hereby certify that the above mentioned service was diligently and regularly performed by Mr Oberi as he has stated

signed B Harvey
late Captn H. M. Ship
Porcupine

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almost unavoidable mingling, in such a state of affairs, of the Sick, with the healthy. The disease was doubtless of an inflammatory nature in its commencement, and that it was not better understood, and treated by me, must be ascribed partly, to my limited means of ascertaining the true state of it, and arriving at even the knowledge I did possess, at so late a period; and partly to my conviction that the complaint had its origin in infection, got at Sierra Leone; and I had been assured by the best Practitioners there, that the advance of debility was very rapid, and generally fatal. —

Perhaps I may have omitted much in this statement, which it is my duty to have noticed; and I shall be very glad to answer any further questions, which the Board may think proper to put to me to the best of my power and recollection, and I have no doubt but that Captain Harvey of the Porcupine and all the Army Officers employed, will corroborate what I have already said —

I have the honor to be

&c &c

Signed Joseph Oliver

late Surgeon H.M.S. Porcupine

Copy of a Letter from Surgeon Ollier of the Porcupine to the Transport Board dated 11th Decr 1815

To this Letter is annexed the Copy of Captain Warney's Certificate.

Ill.mo S.r Inspector Geral dos Hospitaes Militares do Reino de Portugal.

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Lx.a 28 de Março de 1811

O retardamento, que teve a Carta, que V.S.a fez o obsequio de dirigir-me, por hum extravio, q sinto infinito, e a demora, q me permittio a reunião de alguns Documentos, q servissem de dar a conhecer a minha conducta, me tem privado athe o presente de empenhar a imparcialidade e inteireza de V.S.a para serem Juizes de meu procedimento.

Os Documentos 1.o 2.o e 3.o q tenho a honra de apresentar hoje a V.S.a se vê qual ente tem sido no Hospital Militar de Mafra, e os 4.o 5.o e 6.o se descrevem qual tem sido a minha conducta anteriormente.

Sinto infinito não me ser possivel apresentar Attestações de todos os Hospitaes, em que tenho servido, p.a V.S.a acreditar então decididamente que não me tenho descuidado hum só momento dos meus deveres, do interesse, q deve tomar pella saude dos doentes, que tem sido confiados ao meu cuidado, de zello e economia pella Real Fazenda, e de vigiar attentam.te sobre as funcções de todos os Empregados. Alguns Documentos, que me faltão presentemente, dirigi-os em outro tempo aos S.rs Delegados do Fisco Mor do Exercito, em cuja mão penso q existem, e elle mesmo poderá assevrar em abono da verdade, qual tem sido a marcha q tenho seguido nos Hospitaes Militares, em que tenho sido Empregado. Eu me lastimo infinito por ver q sou punido por defeitos q ruahem directam.te sobre os Enfermeiros, Enfermeiro Mor e seu Ajudante, e do

bre as privações horriveis q' tem experimentado o Hospital Militar de Mostra não obstante as minhas representações; estas faltas são hum resultado da pobreza actual do Thesouro Portuguez, e aquellas da omissão, rebeldia e procedimento dos Empregados, e querer de me exigir continuam.te sobre ellas, e este os punir severam.te tive comtudo o desgosto de notar algumas vezes a continuação de defeitos. He verd.e q' a falta de meios impossibilitou os aceio e limpeza das Enfermarias, que o pequeno numero de Empregados proporcionalm.te aos doentes, e outras muitas causas retardavão a regularid.e do Hospital, porem a inacção do Enfermeiro Mor e seu Ajudante e a relaxação d'hum grande de Enfermeiros q' devem ser expulsos do Serviço erão quem principalmente fizeravão na demora do aceio necessario. Cu darei a V.S.a huma idea circumstanciada do Estado do Hosp.al se tanto me permittir, mas rogo a V.S.a q' quando não sejão bastantes as Ordens q' aprimeiro queira fazer as mais exactas indagações a respeito da minha conduta, e no caso q' eu seja culpado então receberei o castigo. Posso assegurar a V.S.a q' eu visitava com frequencia o Hosp.al e q' a falta de aceio q' V.S.a encontrou principiou na 4.a Enfermaria seria por mim punida logo q' observasse q' nelle havia falta voluntaria. Nomeado o Hosp.al como mostrão os Documentos juntos conservou-se constante em n'hum Estado de limpeza, e se não chegou a V.S.a passou a sua Jurisdicção com.mo nesses occasiões

Lettre ecrite par vn. Officier malade de l'Hopital de Mafra au Dr. Coelho. Le 29. marz 1811.

Je vous souhaite toutes les prosperités – J'ai deja demandé au Dr. Machado de me realiser mon Alta, pour me voir libre de cet abri horrible de Crimes – Je rends graces a Dieu de me voir presque retablé et prompt pour n'etre pas témoin des desordres qui se passent ici, et vous deves savoir que par votre absence cet Hopital est dans vn plus mauvais etât qu'auparavant – Il n'y a plus de police ni de subordination on se moque du service, et les pauvres malades sont les victimes pour n'avoir pas a qui recourir, et vous manquer pour veiller, aux assassins et voleurs que vous connoissés – ils disent aux malades, que le Dr. Coelho n'est plus ici le Diable l'a emporté. L'Enfermeiro Mor et celui qui lui servoit d'Ajudant, que comme vous saver sont deux chefs de desordre, ont été arraché de la porte le plan de police et de dicipline si favorable aux malades. Cet attentat a produit la plus grande sensation dans le Regiment de Viseu, et j'ai oui dire qu'on allait porter plainte au General en Chefe pour chatier et ôter d'ici les rebelles. Enfin Mr. Je ne puis pas vous dire tout ce qui se passe ici pendant que vous êtes a Leiborne, et je vous prie au nom de l'humanité opprimée de vous debarrasser au plutôt et venir porter remede avant que Mr. le Marechal donne quelque Providence formidable – ~~Ici~~ Je n'ai pas pris plus de remedes depuis que vous êtes parti. Le Dr. Machado

est très maladif, et mortifié de tout ce qui se passe sans pouvoir rien remedier, non obstant les peines continuelles qu'il se donne — Je n'ai pas le tems de vous en dire davantage

Le Dr. Coelho Joint 4. Certificats sur sa Conduite

Le 1er du Colonel

des effets. Il est vrai que le manque de indispensables
a la propreté des Enfermarias, que le petit nombre d'Employés
proportionellement a Celui des malades, et plusieurs autres choses
retardaient la regularéte de l'Hopital, mais c'est l'inaction de
l'Enfermeiro Mór et Son ajudant, et le relachement d'un
grand nombre d'Enfermeiros, qui doivent être expulsés du
Service, qui particulierement figurent dans le retard de
la propreté necessaire - Je donnerai a V. E. une idée
Circonstancielle de l'Etât de l'Hopital si vous me le
permettez, mais Je supplie V. E. dans le Cas que les attesta=
tions que Je mets sous vos yeux ne soient pas suffisantes, de
vouloir ordonner les plus estrictes informations relatives
a ma Conduite, et dans le Cas que Je soie apres trouvé Coupable
Je passerai par tous les Chatiments.

Je puis vous assurer Monsieur, que Je visitais
frequement l'Hopital, et que le manque de propreté que
vous avez trouvé particulierement dans la 4.e Enfermaria,
aurait été par moi punie aussitôt que Je l'aurois observée;

En attendant Je dois dire que l'Hopital, comme
pzouvent les Documents ci Joint, s'est Conservé toujours dans
un état de propreté, Jusqu'au Jour que vous êtes venu faire
votre Inspection; dans Cette occasion par obmission des Employés,
principalement dans la 4.e Enfermaria, Cela a fixé l'attention de V. E.,
mais Je ne dois pas être taxé de Coupable, apres la Continuelle
vigilance que J'avais tant en Cela que sur les autres objets, qui
me motivaient souvent a Chatier, et seulement Je devais être
blamé si Je n'étois pas attentif de punir.

~~Je Prie~~ De l'Equité, Justice et Connoissance
que V. E. a Coutume d'exercer dans tous vos procedés, J'espere
être absolvé par vous du Chatiment que J'ai souffert, et que
vous aurais égard a mes procedés, me Confiant par l'authorité
que vous avez, de la deployer sur les veritables Coupables, sur quoi
Je ne doute pas d'apres vos propres expressions - Je me mets
dessous votre haute protection pour me faire Justice, et J'attends
les plus heureux resultats de mon innocence. Permettez moi de
mettre sous vos yeux, la lettre inclose d'un Officier malade
qui se trouve dans l'Hopital, le quel me fait aller
Connoître •

Mr.

Le retard a recevoir la lettre que vous m'avez faît la grace de m'addresser ~~le 28 de mars~~ et le tems qu'il m'a fallu pour reunir quelques Documents qui devaient faire Connoître ma Conduite, n'ont privé Jusqu'a present de solliciter l'imparcialité et Justice de V. S. pour être le Juge de mon procedé.

Par les Documents 1. 2. & 3. que J'ai l'honneur de vous presenter, il est prouvé quel a été mon procedé dans l'Hopital de Mafra, et par le 4. 5 & 6 vous pouvez voir qu'elle a été ma conduite sur le pavé.

Je suis mortifié de ne pouvoir pas vous offrir aujourdhui des attestations de tous les autres Hopitaux ou J'ai été, afin que V. S. puisse decider et croire que Je n'ai pas negligé un seul instant ~~de~~ mes devoirs, et de l'intérêt que Je dois prendre de la santé des malades Confiés a mes soins, et de mon Zèlle et economie pour le bien de l'Etât, et de veiller attentivement sur toutes les fonctions des Employés —

Quelques Documents qui me manquent, Je les ai envoyés il y a quelque tems au Mr. le Delegué du Fysico Mór, dans le pouvoir de qui Je pense qu'ils doivent être, et lui même peut certiffier, la Conduite que J'ai observé dans toutes les ~~Hopitaux~~ Militaires ou J'ai été employé — Je me chagrine a l'infini de voir que Je suis puni des fautes qui doivent retomber sur les Enfermeiros e Enfermeiro Mór et son adjutant, et par les horribles privations qu'a eprouvé l'Hopital de Mafra, non-obstant mes representations — Ces fautes est le resultât de la pauvrete actuelle de la nation Portu-guaise, et les autres de l'obmission et nonchallance des Employés, et malgré que J'ai veillé continuellement sur eux en les chatiant severement, Cependant J'ai eu le déplaisir de ~~m~~ manquer quelque fois, la Contenuation

por Omissão dos Empregados principaes da 4.ª Repartição, esta foi sem a de reparo de V.S.ª jamais deve ser argüido á vista da continua vigilancia q' eu tinha tanto neste como nos mais objectos e dos frequentes castigos q' eu dava, e penso q' sómente recahiria sobre mim a culpa quando eu fosse descuidado ou deixasse de prevenir o q' em mim não existe.

Da inteireza, conhecim.to e prudencia com q' V.S.ª costuma em tudo proceder espero eu ser escusado do castigo q' tenho soffrido e q' V.S.ª faça justiça ao meu procedimento, e confio tanto mais em q' V.S.ª descarregará a sua Authoridade sobre aquelles q' forem culpados q.do menos V.S.ª me deixa de se duvidar em consequencia das suas reprehensões.

Eu me abrigo a alta protecção de V.S.ª p.a me fazer justiça, e espero tão felices resultados quanto a minha innocencia me afiança. Permitta-me V.S.ª q' eu lhe envie a Carta incluza de hum Official doente no Hosp.al q' dá bastante a conhecer-me.

Ill.mo S.r D.r Ferguson Inspector Geral dos Hospitaes Militares Portuguezes.

Sou com o mais profundo resp.to

De V.S.ª

Subdito o mais humilde att.o Vm.dor e C.o

Joaquim José Coelho Rodrigues

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A Letter from Dr. Joaqm. Jose Coelho Rodrigues, about sending some documents to justify his behaviour in the Hospitals

Lisbon 28th March 1811

A Letter from Staff Surgeon Morse about some Interferences between him & Dr. Tuma who has been ordered Director by the Physico Mot, &c. &c. &c.

Maffra October 13th

1811

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A Letter from Staff Surgeon Morse about some interferences between him & Dr. Quina who has been ordered Director by the Physico Mor, &c. &c. &c.

Maffra October 13th

1811

88a

Mayo Monday night
Octr 13 1811

My dear Sir

I have been waiting a week or
ten days for some answer from the Marquis
of General Blank respecting the business you are
here engaged in with the Legion but as my Cert.
should have still waited a few days longer
had I not received your note of Friday last I shall
be by in a Hour. Several attempts have
been made by the Marquis having referred
the business to you as I should have stated you
would have been done since the Duke d'Abrantes
has been made acquainted with it. Supplied
Defrancis with every information on the
subject he wish more ~~than~~ he could have
stated him than in his former letters for which
subsequent have been stopped by the Marquis
I cannot conceive. Yet you must think it
extraordinary that I did not write to you
but General Blank desired to his place re-

Little he had Dr Barclay in his conversation with him said that he had appointed Dr Dixon as Director of the Hospitals in consequence of his not having received any letter from the Marshal of any being here or indeed any letter from Dr Robertson having returned home of whose health he told him that if Dr Dixon was confirmed Director he would not be responsible for his own Health — Dr Barclay replied that he wished Dr Dixon to see the inspector Regulate the hospital concerns & take the great responsibility off Barclay from him — the General has no objection to his doing so provided he should have authority to instruct the whole arrangements of the hospitals

Lieutenant

this Dr Barclay signified his assent to, as far as I understood the General might do so but was written to the General & Colonel Colquhoun stating this circumstance and signifying his assent to the arrangement if the Marshal approved of it. he said in

official communication might be made to
the Physician here to this effect that he might
give his orders accordingly to the Persons
here whom it concerned — In the mean time
I wrote to our Director here — says the
Captain — & tell the marshal pleasure was
known, & notice was given to Dr Ch: the
Principle &c — It appears that Dr Pierce
since this arrangement wrote two official
Letters to Dr B. which were not copied in the Letter
book as they should be. & yesterday he
received from Dr Ch: ordering him to take the
Direction of the Hospitals. I without communica-
-ting any of the contents to me, gave orders
for the Infermeiro from to send to his house
the Chapeau
of the Hospital for his signature — I was
asked by the Infermeiro how I could he was to
do as he had hitherto obeyed no by the
General's orders should continue as to do
till ordered by him otherwise — & then I
told Chaunt acquainted with the Infermeiro
who immediately gave me an order — Wh?

I suppose you have seen or a copy of it was
sent to the Marshals revoking his former order
respecting the & declaring that any person acting
contrary to it should be arrested and treated
as a person wishing to promote disunion &
difficulty in the Public Service. At the same
time he called the attention of the Marshals
to the officers, the rebellion by Dr Dunn to the
Indian Force as an Intruder & Disturber
of the peace & Dr L. treating the
Indian & the Commissioner with villainous for
having opposed the necessary supplies to the
Indian upon their signature — Joel Robinson
who is himself thought the Marshal would
have been a judge of this matter especially
of the language used in the letter of Dr L. for
[illegible] in every [illegible]
as intruders & strangers — and have given the
opinion & determination accordingly without
[illegible] to [illegible] whom he will give no
[illegible] to [illegible] the Medical Depa
of the Expedition Army — I have been mu

Camp, near Corrigiong, June 11th 1813

Sir,

I should think it necessary to apologize for submitting to you the following hints, so destitute of intrinsic value, did I not suppose that by my doing so, they might become the means of directing towards the subject of them some intellects better formed than my own for accurate observation, and extensive reasoning on the diseased phenomena of mind. The moral derangement, attendant on some cases of fever, that I've met with in this country, has been something differing materially from the common delirium of fever: — from that kind of mental affection, which mistakes the attendants about the patient's bed, which forgets the food taken or the evacuation performed a short period before; which gives rise to the rambling incoherency of discourse, in which the listener can discover no meaning, or at least no predominating diseased impression. The aberration of reason which I am endeavouring to describe is of the nature of insanity. The subject of it knows his attendants, in the common concerns of life conducts himself with decorum and propriety, — talks common on most subjects, for instance on the nature of his disease, with perfect rationality, but some one prevailing hallucination, which no arguments can shake, possesses the mind with all the conviction of external existence; and to this one overwhelming opinion, all his extraveagancies of speech and action can be traced. There can be no difficulty in the diagnosis of this form of disease from common delirium; — the distinguishing features as delineated above are sufficiently strongly marked: — from mania it is distinguished by its not being idiopathic, but appearing as a symptom of fever, existing so long as this exists and declining with it. In my own case when ill of fever, as I approached convalescence, my fancies began to lose their hold on my mind, and when it was established I detected their absurdity; but I still remember them, and I'm acquainted with others, who retain a correct recollection of their disordered conceptions whilst in a state of fever. This is another discriminating circumstance between this and common delirium. As yet I've observed this affection in officers only, and the impression has generally (I think excepting in one case) been of a melancholic kind, sometimes by its horrors impelling the unhappy sufferer to seek refuge from it in death. In this consequence of it consists

the importance of its diagnosis, as by detecting a gloomy morbid state of mind, we may be on our guard against suicide. In the case of a highly respectable and deservedly regretted officer of our own department, from what little I saw of the case, and from the information I collected from one of his medical attendants, I conceive that the hallucination that led to his lamented death was a belief that he was deserted by the world, — that he was odious in the eyes of his fellow creatures, or, as I believe, he expressed it himself: "That all men were changed towards him." It would be superfluous to endeavour to show, how different a state of mind was displayed by the circumstances of this unfortunate event, — by the contrivance, the method attending it, from that existing in ordinary delirium. A man, suffering from this last visitation, might, not knowing what he was about, or by a kind of instinctive effort to seek relief from a sense of heat, throw himself into the sea, as Capt Wright did, to whom we perhaps owe the knowledge of the utility of cold affusion in fever, but he would never go systematically to work to take out instruments and open an artery. In another case (that of a married officer) the prevailing impression was that his wife was dead, and his misery led him to attempt his life by cutting his throat with a razor, at the time that he conceived he heard her voice from heaven calling to him to come to her. This case was attended ~~with~~ by circumstances of cunning and adroitness, in deceiving the attendants, not less surprising than those of the preceding case. It terminated in recovery after great difficulty in treating the wound, which had separated the thyroid cartilages from the os hyoides so as to open the pharynx, or, in other words, had divided the larynx from the tongue.

I may appear to have expressed myself too definitely in referring to one erroneous conception all the symptoms of the peculiar kind of deranged intellect, which I am describing, and perhaps have actually done so; but, at the same time, I have thought in most cases, that

"One master passion in the breast,
Like Aaron's serpent swallows up the rest."

For illustration, suppose the imaginary case of the patient to be the real one of an individual possessed of the soundest mind: — suppose him to be not in fancy, but in reality the object of the wrath of Heaven, and of the abhorrence and execration of his fellow creatures, then, without incurring the charge of madness, he might

suspecting that his attendants had mixed poison with his food, refuse to swallow it; or, his fortitude being overcome by the horror of his situation, seek for death by the commission of suicide. On false premises given, a thousand extravagancies of thought, prompting corresponding absurdities of conduct, may be legitimately drawn as inferences from it. A man, who believes that he carries a long stick on his back, may be expected to stop a little in his gait.

The cases of fever, in which I've met with the peculiar kind of delirium — this limited number of strange conceptions, with correct ideas of surrounding objects and of many of the common relations of life, remembered after the mind, restored to health had detected their fallacy, have been slow, protracted nervous fevers, which might have been termed typhus mitior, or a low form of remittent fever; and restlessness and pervigilium have been prominent symptoms of them.

Were I to attempt to discover the causes of these phenomena, I should seek for them in the temperament, the cast of mind of the individuals affected. Those in whom I've observed them, have been generally, I think, men of irritable feelings, in whom imagination rather predominated over the other faculties of mind; and hence, a degree of fever, incapable of producing delirium in ordinary men, acting on the ardent imaginations of individuals thus constituted, might give to some of their conceptions the force of reality, as the spark, which produces explosion in gunpowder, has no effect on less inflammable matter. The climate, with some occasional peculiarities in the situation of officers in this country, may perhaps aid the disease in overset̲ting minds originally not correctly balanced. The delirium being thus an effect as much of constitutional and accidental predisposition, as necessarily of the fever, the mind is rather excited to partial diseased action than generally deranged, — is capable of attention to external objects and of receiving correct impressions from them; but is led astray by attributing material existence to some of its own spontaneous creations. I offer this reasoning ~~this reasoning~~ with diffidence and distrust of its accuracy, and perhaps, in the present state of my knowledge on the subject, should be more warranted in deducing this peculiar alienation of reason from something specific in the diseases of the country.

I feel how incumbent it is on me again to explain, that I attach no importance to these random suggestions, in which little is

is so far certainly investigated, but, I think, something suggested for the investigation of able men. Should you coincide with me in this last opinion, and direct the attention of medical gentlemen to the subject, might I hope to be favoured with some information of the result of their observations?

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obt. humble Servant,

[illegible]

Cf. hosp. 5th Pa.

Private

To

Wm. Ferguson Esqr.

Inspector of Hospitals &c.

To

Wm. Ferguson Esqr.

Inspector of Hospitals

&c. &c. &c.

CON

INSP

WILL