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HISTORY
OF
THE INDIAN ADMINISTRATION
OF
LORD ELLENBOROUGH.

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HISTORY

OF

THE INDIAN ADMINISTRATION

OF

LORD ELLENBOROUGH,

IN HIS

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

TO WHICH IS PREFIXED, BY PERMISSION OF HER MAJESTY,
LORD ELLENBOROUGH'S LETTERS TO THE QUEEN
DURING THAT PERIOD.

EDITED BY

LORD COLCHESTER.

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P R E F A C E.

THE following letters, according to the desire expressed by the late Earl of Ellenborough, are published without introduction or comment.

The Editor desires humbly to express his gratitude to Her Majesty the Queen, for her gracious permission to publish the letters addressed to Her Majesty from India by the late Earl. He has also to offer his best thanks to His Grace the Duke of Wellington, for kindly permitting the publication of his Father's correspondence with the late Earl during his Indian administration.

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APPENDIX.

MEMORANDUM ON JOINT COMMANDS.

“ Walmer Castle, October 16, 1841.

“ MY DEAR LORD ELLENBOROUGH,

“ I have this morning received your letter of the 15th, but the day is so dark that I can scarcely read it.

“ I shall be very sorry if my absence from London should be any inconvenience to you. I should wish to remain here till after the 2nd of November, as I have fixed for Wednesday the Dover Harbour Court. But I will go to town for a day whenever you please; and in the meantime will diligently peruse here whatever you will send me.

“ I think that I can make out the Instructions for the Commanders of the Expedition in China.

“ It is certainly right that they ought to be preceded by a decided settlement of the political objects of the war and a revision of the Instructions to Sir Henry Pottinger.

“ This is not exactly my business. If required, I will give Lord Aberdeen my opinion and assistance, and in the meantime will reperuse the Instructions which Sir H. Pottinger has now, and state whether, and what, alterations ought to be made.

“The Governor-General has hitherto had the supreme direction of the operations in the China Seas, and he ought to continue to have it as Governor, that is, to point out to the commanders of the sea and land forces the general direction and object of their operations.

“When arrived on the spot, that is, in the China Seas, so much depends upon season, weather, and state of the navigation; and as the army can do nothing without the assistance of and being even joined to the fleet, the supreme direction of the course of operations on the spot must be in the admiral or officer commanding the squadron, he of course communicating freely with, and attending to the opinions of, the general officer commanding the troops. If they should differ in opinion, each is to put his opinion in writing, and that of the admiral is to be the rule of conduct.

“When the troops are landed, the general or officer commanding them is to be the sole judge and director of their operations, he taking care to keep the admiral informed of what they are doing, and where they will lead him, as both admiral and general must understand that fleet and army must not be separated.

“They must co-operate as military bodies; the army must depend upon a secure communication, and even union, with the fleet, for all its supplies of provisions, ammunition, and military stores.

“You are quite right in taking Lieutenant-Durand

as your aide-de-camp. I will consider of the operations in the Punjab and in Nepaul. Let me see Lieutenant Durand's Papers. You could not commence an operation in the Punjab or Nepaul till after the end of the rains, that is, October or November 1842, unless, indeed, the Bengalee troops should have adopted my practice—that of keeping the field in the rainy season from preference.

“I do not know the Major Beresford whom you mention, but if you will show this note to Lord Fitzroy Somerset, he will let you know all about him, and state anything which may recur to him upon my suggestions in relation to the combined operations of fleet and army in China.

“Sir Charles Bagot has a son in India. You had better see him before you determine to take him as your aide-de-camp, though I believe him to be a fine young man, and very well educated. I recommended him to Sir Jasper Nichols, by way of introduction.

“Believe me, ever yours most sincerely,

(Signed)

“WELLINGTON.

“The Lord Ellenborough,
“Grosvenor Place.”

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