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PREFATORY ADDRESS  
TO THE  
CAPTAINS OF THE BRITISH NAVY.

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GENTLEMEN,

THE veneration I feel for the navy of this kingdom, occasions me to observe, particularly, every thing which occurs relative to it. I have long regretted the neglect, ingratitude, and indignity, with which its officers have been treated. On viewing an advertisement from the Admiralty to the lieutenants of the navy, (in my opinion, as disgraceful to the Board from whence it issued, as insulting to the valuable men to whom it is addressed) and a letter, inserted in several of the daily papers as an answer thereto, signed "*Hundreds of Half Pay Lieutenants,*" both of which I shall herein insert, I was induced to publish my sentiments on the subject. To whom could I so properly address myself, on such an occasion, as the *First Lord of the Admiralty*; the man, who from his official situation, and the obligations his family are under to the navy, is, of all others, at this time, the properest person to