

that it could, in our situation, was absolutely impossible.

I apprehend these conclusions to be evident, That no orders can, of their nature, be so positive as not to leave some discretion in the commander appointed to carry them into execution—Your situation required, that you should employ that discretion—and further, If any orders could be so positive, that to act in contradiction to them, however great the inducement, would subject the commander to punishment, it was your duty to have incurred this risk.—But I will proceed to what more immediately concerns your conduct in this country.

You complain very bitterly of the Court etiquette, invented, you allege, upon your occasion, which excluded you from the royal presence. The “ foundation of it in precedent,” I confess with you I am unacquainted with; but the foundation of it “ in reason” I perceive clearly. Where an officer labours under a suspicion of misconduct, and it is thought necessary he shall be tried by a court martial,