

of Kent, has been and is, deeply impressed with the danger which threatens Gibraltar: I know not his opinion of Sir Hew, but, the spirit and propriety of his application, to return to his command, will best appear in the letter which His Royal Highness addressed to you, of which the following is a copy.

SIR,

“The letters received, by the mail just arrived
 “from the Mediterranean, having brought the cer-
 “tain information that orders had reached Algesiras,
 “from Madrid, immediately to make such prepa-
 “rations, in the neighbourhood of Gibraltar, as
 “put beyond a doubt, the intention of the enemy
 “to besiege it. I could not, under such circumstan-
 “ces reconcile it to my feelings, were I to delay a
 “moment in not only assuring your Majesty, of
 “my readiness instantly to go out there, but in
 “earnestly soliciting your sanction, for my resum-
 “ing the duties attached to the commission, I have
 “the honour of holding as Governor of that Fortress.
 “To your Majesty, who yourself possess so nice
 “a sense of honour, it is quite unnecessary for
 “me to represent, that on the result of your de-
 “cision upon this request, which I beg leave in
 “the most dutiful, yet in the strongest manner, to
 “press upon your attention, every thing most dear
 “to me in life, I mean my character as a man, my
 “professional credit as a soldier, is at stake. I will
 “place these in your Majesty’s hands, with no less