

## CULTIVATION OF HEMP PROPOSED

Queenston Feb<sup>y</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> 1808

My Dear Father I was extremely happy to receive your affectionate letter of the 27th Ult<sup>o</sup> and 3<sup>d</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> particularly as I had began to fear from having heard from you very seldom lately, that I had by some means or other incurred your displeasure.

I am not much surprised that that discontented selfish sett at Sandwich are jealous of my holding a Commission in the Militia there, while resident here. I should think it unfair myself, were they embodied and doing duty; but as that is not the case, I would think it very hard indeed if to retain my Commission, I must remain there against my interest, when I Know my Services are not required. So far from wishing to avoid doing my duty, I would be happy to have an opportunity; this I may perhaps soon have, if a report we have here, is true, that M<sup>r</sup> Rose<sup>49</sup> is gone home dissatisfied. Its very well known that many officers of the Army have leave of Absence from their Regiments for a very long time, sometimes years, and draw their pay, while those who remain with it are obliged to do their duty; yet this hardship is not prevented, although there must be great complaints made about it. I suspect one person particularly who would wish me out; because he thinks to get promotion by it, for which he would do anything almost; but I despise him; and in that I am not singular for few I believe who know him; but do. My Commission is dated 10<sup>th</sup> June 1807 as Cap<sup>t</sup>. If my services are required, I shall be ready to attend my duty, as soon as I am ordered; should they be needed you will please let me know; they cannot be I fancy but in case of a War with America, which I must know before you, as we get the News from New York much sooner than you can at Sandwich, therefore I shall be able if there should be a declaration to be up in time [to] receive my orders there.

<sup>49</sup> Sir George Henry Rose (1771-1855) was sent to Washington by his government in the latter part of 1807 charged with a commission to settle the difficulty growing out of the attack by the British ship *Leopard* upon the American war vessel *Chesapeake*, June 22, 1807. Rose's demands were deemed impossible by the U. S. government, and he shortly returned to England without achieving the object of his mission.