

5/11/45
The enclosed account of proceedings at Gaeta
will require a quiet hour to read them.

Private

Pompeii off Paolo ^{to}
in Calabria July 24
1806

My Dear Sir John!

Alas! Gaeta has fallen
by Capitulation. I take my pen with the most
painful feelings of regret and indignation
to announce this event to you, I cannot
meet your impatience to know particulars
better than by sending the correspondence
on the subject (destined for the information
of Lord Poltingwood) through you, open for
your inspection, requesting you to forward it in

like manner open) through Sir Alexander Ball
to Gen Sir John Stuart KC de de de

To be by him sealed and forwarded to Gibraltar
by the packets which I see by the advertisement
are about this time to be established, Captain
Talbot will convey them to Malta, I wish
him to have the inspection of these extraordinary
documents, comments on them innumerable
suggest themselves, ^{but} I suppress all remarks, for,
when one is by situation a judge one must not
condescend to to criticise parts of evidence in
the progress of an investigation. Meet I owe it
to you as a most earnest coadjutor of the

poor Prince of Wales, to tell you see how his
labours have been lost by stupidity, weakness
or treachery, we shall see which prevails most
in this jumble, but I think all the ingredients
are visible, and I fear the French know but too
well how to address the latter propensity in the
degenerate part of this degenerate nation.

I must not let any pen proceed on this score not
to detain Col Lower Courier who however I have
caus'd to wait till these voluminous copies
are completed, - Capt^m Parley having been enabled
to communicate the fact to you before he left me.

From Sir J. Smith
off the coast of
Calabria 24th July
- Reflections on the
Surrender of Gaeta

or can tell you;

Which is all Col. Lowe as yet knows, which
I shall
be able to convey him quicker in the Halcyon
than in the miserable boats he finds along
shore - It is very satisfactory to find that
the road he has travelled from Policastro hither
by land
is cleared of the French entirely - I don't yet know
the extent of the
the extent of my detachment with ~~the~~ ^{the} steps
successful
in their attack on Sapri & Pabianuro, but I
hear of two Officers wounded, ~~the~~ the most zealous
among the party; one by assassination from a
pretended Royalist in his ranks, whom he killed
on the spot. We are liable to this in such a way as
even more so than in Turkey where ^{one hears} I have heard
many shot in a wrong direction. The Corporal & Sergeant is very
motto & then I proceed to the nearest part of the enemy I can find, yours truly
P. H. P. H. P. H.