Rt Honorable Earl Grey

December. 23d 1830

My Lord

I again beg leave to address your Lordship in consequence of my Petition to His Majesty, which I forwarded through viscount Melbourne, as Secretary of State for the Home Department, having been returned to his Lordship without any Commands from His Majesty being signified thereon. If I have erred as to the form of my Petition, which was in the shape of a most respectful and dutiful Letter to His Majesty, or as to the channel through which it should have been forwarded, I have erred in judgement only and it would be hard indeed should redress ~~be~~ not be accorded by reason ~~denied me on account~~, of any informality in the mode of my application.

I have since been advised, that ~~having~~ my Petition praying ~~asked nothing more than~~ to be restored to my Station in the Navy, ought to have been forwarded ~~my Petition~~ through the First Lord of the Admiralty, whom I have therefore solicited to present another Petition, the same in effect, but more brief and in the regular form.

When His Majesty was Lord High Admiral he received a Memorial from me by the hands of Sir Robert Preston, and though it had not the effect of [1] procuring my restoration at that time, because the late Administration did not concur in complying with its prayer, yet from the gracious manner in which I am assured it was received, I did flatter myself that His Majesty would have pleasure in the opportunity, which appeared to present itself when Your Lordship's Administration was formed, of originating a measure which all would consider gracious, and which I at least know, and most ~~many~~ I hope believe, would also be strictly heedfully just. ~~And I am still very far from imagining that His Majesty can be otherwise then favorably disposed towards me.~~

In reference to the Letter in answer to mine, with which Your Lordship honored me on the 12th Instant, and which I cannot but perceive is written with a kindness of feeling which commands my best thanks, I beg only to state, that any opinion of me in regard to the crime that was imputed to me, that does not fully acquit me of all knowledge thereof whatever, does not do me justice.

I was contrived and completed so [2] entirely without my knowledge that I had not the most distant idea of its having been meditated until I read of its commission in the public prints.

I have the honor

Signed, Cochrane

Note. The above Letter was copied and sent by Lord Cochrane to Earl Grey, having been first read and approved by Lord Durham.