

Copy

My Lord

Windsor July 12th 1798

In obedience to your Lordships commands of the 5th inst. enquiry has been made respecting the quantity of Saltpetre in the Ordnance and in the East India Company's Stores, it is found not to exceed the quantity required for manufacturing the annual issue of Gunpowder for His Majestys Service, which the enclosed private Paper will more distinctly explain.

I am therefore to submit my opinion that it would be very unadvisable, & even imprudent to
comply

comply with the demand of the Cavalier
D'Almeida. But I trust the Saltpetre
in the Company's Ships, of which we
have yet no account, may admit of
a small supply being furnished to
assist the Americans without risque to
our own consumption.

In addition to the quantity
annually required for the Ordnance Service
your Lordship will be pleased to advert
to the general consumption of Gunpowder
in the Country & manufactured by the
Merchants.

I have the honor to be

Dear Sir

signed W. Howe

The R^t. Hon^{ble}.
Lord Grenville

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