

as an early and most enterprising benefactor -

I address this letter to you because you were a witness of and participator in all the early steps of this transaction and you know therefore how far this treatment is deserved - As I was the means of introducing the Contractor it is no small gratification to me to find that instead of his having driven a hard and over reaching bargain he made a most liberal and to use the words of the Arbitrator a most "rash and foolish one" - Not only did he do this but he conceded - first - the clause which enabled the Commissioners to take from him a most profitable and honorable contract he ever made and secondly - when it was feared that the contract was likely to be too profitable he on being asked by you consented to leave the profits to be determined by Arbitration while the risk of loss remained for which you by Command of His Royal Highness thanked him in the most handsome terms from Osborne on the 10th December 1849 - and thirdly gave up the Arbitrator Mr. Tyrrell and allowed the case to be settled by one of the Gentlemen on the Royal Commission - All of these concessions were made in the most handsome and ready manner upon being told that they were for the benefit of the Exhibition and that honor and profit would redound to him for such unbounded and unusual acts of liberality - Now that it has been proved that malicious rumours so industriously circulated against him respecting the large claim he had made and the unfair bargain he had driven were entirely without foundation - Now that it is clearly shown that the bargain which by the sanction of His Royal Highness I made with the Contractor was one which placed the Exhibition from the commencement on a perfectly sound basis - and moreover now that it has been proved that the arrangements thus made during the first six months - prior to the formation of the Commission for conducting the preliminary arrangements in an economical and efficient manner and the whole sum awarded as compensation to the Contractor does not amount to more than a couple of days receipts at the Exhibition it appears to me demonstrated that the preliminary arrangements of His Royal Highness were wise and prudent in the highest degree and that the Contractor who acceded to them and to the subsequent modifications of them was not only fair and liberal but