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1039 Sierra Blvd.
Mississauga, Ontario
April 9, 1972

Dear Mr. Hollinsworth: (sic)

My thanks for your most interesting information on the Hollinsworth research. Since our last correspondence I have spent many hours in the search rooms in the Public Record Office in London attempting to trace the elusive parents of my ancestor Henry Hollinsworth. In doing so I have run across the regimental description book for Henry's regiment (20th) and found an entry made when he was a sergeant. The entry gives the usual physical characteristics, plus the revelation that he was born in St. Davids parish, Exeter, Devonshire. My next visit was to the census office, where after probing microfilm records of the 1861 census I found the entry I was looking for, as I knew Henry resided in the Lower Ward of Windsor Castle at that time. Lo and behold, in that census Henry gave the census-taker the information that he was born in Ireland -- What confusion. It must be remembered that Henry was by this time 73 years old and not in good health so the information might have been a byproduct of advancing illness or senility. In any event your information is fascinating, particularly regarding Private Andrew Hollingsworth (St. Paul's, Dublin, Musician - See further - Ed.) I have found by laborious perusal of the regimental muster roll that from his entry into the Army (joined in Exeter, by the way) until his promotion to sergeant - Major Henry was IN THE BAND.

Regarding the lead of his father supposedly being killed at Bostia in 1793, I have gone through all the muster rolls of all the regiments supposed to have taken part in the siege, and no Hollinsworth appears, nor other similar name. I may be spending a day or two in Dublin in late May, I am not sure at this point, but if I do I shall try and follow up your clues. My search continues in the hope that something will turn up; the farther I go with my study the more convinced I am that the answer lies in Dublin, as Henry and his wives and their families lived there.

Once again my grateful thanks for your letter. The best of luck with

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your Wexford (??) Hollingsworths.

Best regards,

(Armand Hollinsworth.)

NOTE: In HR Vol 3, at page 88, we published an article titled "Captain Henry Hollinsworth." This is the man referred to above. After describing his service and death, and his first marriage, we closed with the statement "We believe he belongs to the Rathfryland Family." This statement may yet prove true. If the 1861 census entry is the correct one. His eldest child was named Henry Andrew Hollinsworth, also a distinguished soldier. The following entry discovered last year at U.C.L.A. is what prompted our letter to the above gentleman:

Description Book, saved from destruction. Published in "New Spalding Club," Volume 41, page 242. ('Territorial Soldiering - The 92nd or Gordon Highlanders.')

Private Andrew Hollingsworth, age 39, birthplace: St. Paul's, Dublin. Musician. Previous service: 46th Regiment 26 years.
Dead by 8 January 1796. Attest Nov. 3.

On page 36 of this volume we published our new find of the marriage of one Andrew Hollansworth to Catherine Hamilton, 1 Dec 1794 at Newry, Co Down, Ireland, and mentioned also the Andrew Hollansworth, "alias Dutton," the informer during the 1798 Irish Rebellion. All three of these citations can't refer to the same man, obviously. But the name Andrew - and the name Henry - are very frequent choices of the family - Hollingsworth (now Hollingsworth) around Rathfriland, Co Down.

~~OF HOLLISWORTH (NOW HOLLINGSWORTH), ST. JOHN, VIRGINIA,
AND HIS WIFE, MARY ANN HOLLINGSWORTH, DAUGHTER OF
JAMES HOLLINGSWORTH, OF HOLLISWORTH, ST. JOHN, VIRGINIA,
AND HIS WIFE, MARY ANN HOLLINGSWORTH, DAUGHTER OF~~