

W. H. to Genl. Haldernesse

Apr. 25 or 26 1776

16047

Lord Aldernesse, The part you with so much just applause  
took in public business can easily point out to you that  
the American Affairs <sup>are of a nature fully to</sup> engage my thoughts,  
that I have as it were by stealth collected <sup>at</sup> detached  
minutes <sup>of you, my thoughts</sup> into one point of view  
on the unhappy dispute of the Establishment over which you preside.  
I thought it best to state <sup>it</sup> ~~what has occurred to me~~ on  
paper that you may <sup>thoroughly consider it</sup> ~~fully consider it~~ before we converse  
on the subject, and hope you will again examine  
whether it may not suggest some fresh ideas to you  
after which I shall be extremely glad to have a full  
conversation with you.

I have but one principle that actuates me on this  
occasion the desire of fulfilling what the Duty of a  
Father imposes on me, I wish to have my Children well  
grounded in their Religious Duties without which all  
are but as threads, there is no foundation to build upon  
and their passions not principles will direct their course.

The most essential Article in the forming of young  
minds is the seeing the objects brought before their eyes in  
one

constant light, this can alone be accomplished by a uniform agreement of sentiments of all who approach more particularly those who in any degree are employed in conveying instruction to them.

From the moment I saw the time approaching when my two eldest sons should be placed into the hands of a Governor, it occurred to me that if I could in the Person find the Man of knowledge and of the World that should then be safe that both spiritual & temporal would be attended to.

This immediately pointed you out my Dear Lord as the proper Person indeed the only Person calculated for the trust; but I would allow me to say much more but you ~~will~~ sustain had rather that I should say no more on your personal qualities.

The moment you consented to undertake the arduous task I entirely left the appointment of all your subordinate instruments to you; I thought the man fit to direct the Education was the proper person to know who best could answer the objects required of them.