

Lord Melville to H.R.H.

May 28 1812

A.A. No. 85

19743 — 4

In obedience to the commands
which Lord Melville received from Your
Royal Highness today to state in writing
for Your Royal Highness's information
the reasons which induced him to entertain
in common with his Colleague the opinion
submitted by Your Confidential Servants
on the 27th Inst. that no beneficial result
would arise from any further proposal
being made to Marquis Wellesley and
M^r. Ganning to unite with Your Royal

Richnefs's present servants, Lord Melville.
humbly submits to Your Royal Highness
that though individually he did not object
to act with Marquis Wellesley & M^r. Canning,
he was satisfied that such a union with
the present servants of Your Royal Highness
would not have had the effect of strengthening
Your Government, unless it could be
accomplished with their general concurrence.

But when he observed that for various
reasons as connected with the agitation of

Ed. Melville to H. R. A.

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The Catholic question, or with Lord Castlereagh
situation in the Government, or from both
those considerations, a majority of Your
Royal Highness's servants would probably
solicit Your permission to retire from
the Administration, if any proposal were
made to Marquis Wellesley & M^r. Canavan,
it appeared to Lord Melville to be
hopeless that any beneficial result would
arise from making such proposal, &
he was therefore of opinion that it ought
not to be made.

Park Lane 28th May 1812.

[Faint, illegible handwriting on a folded piece of paper]

Lord Melbourne

20. May 1812