

Let North

Dec. 31 1776

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Lord North has received the honour  
of his Majesty's order. Lord Sandwich, who  
is just gone to London, has in his possession  
a letter sent last night from Bucky, which  
Lord North received from Mr Robinson.  
It is from d'orient, & contains the report  
of the French Frigates being appointed  
to convey the American ships out of the  
Bay. From hence it appears that there  
is such a report in France, & that it

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is behind by others than Mr Wadsworth  
As the intelligence sent by this Gentleman  
is not of the most pleasant kind, Let North  
is sorry to suspect that, as he was the  
first, so he has always been the most impor-  
-tant, & most informer we have had. Almost  
every thing that he has told us, since the first  
fitting out of the Amphitrite at Havre has  
been confirmed, either by Van Jaars, or Les's jour-  
-nal, or the papers obtained by Henson, or by  
<sup>some</sup> the rest. In the present instance, He relates  
what he receives from others, & Let North  
believes truly; Perhaps he may himself be de-  
-ceived. However, in the rest of the most material

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points the convey intended for the ship bound  
to America is confirm'd by the letter in Let  
Sandwich's hands, which was sent to  
Mr Robinson by Mr Johnson a mer-  
-chant in the City, who has no correspond-  
-ence or connexion with Mr Wadsworth  
or his friends. As this is a case to which  
the orders given to Commodore Haad will  
not apply. Let North intends to take  
the opinion of the Cabinet upon it tomorrow.

Bushy Park. Dec. 31.

*[Faint, illegible cursive handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

Lord North

December 31.

Approved 1496