

H. C. to Lord North

2782

Lord North, It appears to me very essential that you should be thoroughly apprized of the language held by Lord George Germain on your plan for opening a negotiation with America, he said this day unto me, that he was convinced the repeal of the Boston Charter Act would not alone bring the Colonies into any propositions, that the Declaratory Act though but waste paper was what galled them the most; that he should not like nominally to be drove to repealing it; therefore if any step was to be taken at this hour he would wish it might such as might not require any farther concessions, he therefore wished all the Acts might be repealed subsequent to 1763. That he would fairly own the taking any step at this juncture might either be conducive to hurrying France into a Treaty with the Rebels, or it might make the Colonies less inclined to treat with that insidious Nation, that he could not decide which seemed most probable

[Faint, mirrored handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

100. 5. 1778
His Majesty