

Ld. North

Mar. 15 1778

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Ld. North has the honour of inclosing a sketch of a new administration; & intreats his Majesty's sentiments, whether he would consent to such an arrangement, if feasible; whether it is feasible or not, he will not pretend to say, but no step can be taken till his Majesty's opinion is fully known.

Ld. North, though conscious how totally unfit he is, in every respect, to cope with the present difficulties of the Country, will submit to his Majesty's commands, but does think himself obliged in conscience

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most earnestly to represent to His Majesty
 that the ruin of his own affairs & of this
 country may not improbably be the
 consequence of his adhering too per-
 sistent & too anxious to the present administra-
 -tion & particularly to Lord North, & of not
 standing for those, whose accession in the
 present moment, though it need only
 for their name, might give a new turn
 to the situation of public affairs, & esta-
 -blish that degree of unanimity which
 is absolutely necessary in times like these.
 Lord North feels that both his mind &
 body grow every day more impaired, &
 unable to struggle with the hardships of these

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 suffer
 so much
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arduous times but he could recruit himself
 to this state of misery as far as affects himself if he
 did not see that his Majesty & the Nation
 were in most imminent danger of
 suffering the greatest evils by relying
 so much on a person who is not equal
 to the execution of the trust.

Downing Street Sunday morn?

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

Ed. North

Downing Street March 15th 1773

[Faint, illegible handwriting, possibly a signature or name.]