

Lord North

No Date
Letters from M^r Thornton
- Toulon Fleet.

Wed. Apr. 15 1778 (d. 2920)

2917

Lord North has the honour of transmitting
to his Majesty some curious letters which he
has received from M^r Thornton by one of the
messengers: If they are true they confirm the
conjecture of Lord North that the French
declaration was precipitated, that they
are not so ready as we have supposed them
to be: From one part of the intelligence,
supposing it to be authentic, it appears now
to be lamented that we could not send out
a squadron to meet the Toulon Fleet while

in the Mediterranean, as their destination
is uncertain; & they may perhaps, sail to
the East or West Indies, instead of joining
or endeavouring to join the West India
= row.

Wednesday 17th