

Ld. North

May 25 1778

2986

Lord North has the honour of informing his Majesty that Lord Barrington has been with him this morning to desire a Stewardship that his seat in Parliament may be vacated, & hopes that his Warrant may be signed on Wednesday; Lord North imagines that the H^o of Commons will not adjourn till Thursday, but will take care to have the Warrant ready either on Wednesday or Thursday as he understands that Lord Barrington has obtain'd his Majesty's consent to his request. During the recess there may, perhaps, be no occasion to appoint a new Secretary.

Ld. North

May 25 1778

at War, but Ld North apprehended that before
the next Session of Parliament it will
be necessary to make a new arrangement
for Lord Barrington, whose long, faithful,
& able services will certainly meet with due
attention from his Majesty.

Ld North apprehends that his
Majesty mistook the intention of what Ld
North took the liberty of saying yesterday in
the Closet; He did, by no means, intend to
renounce his desire of retiring from his present
situation; What he meant was to express, in
the strongest & most explicit terms, his readiness
to remain with his Majesty should he have formed
such an arrangement as he can approve of.

²⁹⁸⁶⁽²⁾
Ld North hopes he is mistaken, but he
thought, with great uneasiness, that he perceived
some mistrust, in his Majesty, with respects
him, & he wished, ~~that~~ if his Majesty had
hathorn'd any suspicions to his disadvantage,
to remove them from his Majesty's breast by
the most explicit declarations. Ld North
can safely appeal to his Majesty that he has
upon all occasions, made it the rule of his
conduct to sacrifice his own private interest
& inclination to his Majesty's service, &
would be much oblig'd, if his Majesty
could now conceive him capable of acting
upon other principles. Ld North hopes
therefore, that his Majesty will forgive

this trouble, that he will impute it
to the feelings of a man, who wishes, above
all things, to stand well in his Majesty's
good opinion, & that he will continue to
rely upon Lord North's attachment, of
which he flatters himself no action of
his life can have given his Majesty the
least reason to doubt.

Downing Street. May 25.

^m
20 p. 12. P.M.

Downing Street May 25. 1776
20 p. 12. P.M.