

H. K. to H. North.
Draft of 3116

3117

New Nov. 14th 1778

on
32 p^h 7. P.M.

It has ever been a certain position with Me that firmness is
the Characteristic of an Englishman, that consequently when
Ministers will show a resolution boldly to advance that, he will
meet with support, consequently Lord North's Report that the
Gentlemen who attended the Meeting in Downing Street last
Night will cordially support during the next Session is what
I expected, and if on the opening of the Session the speech
from the Throne is peevish with promises, and shows no other
and is sought but penetrates to all the branches provided the Empire
is kept entire, and join to all who will cordially unite in that point and in
all other matters which may be necessary for the preservation of the
apposition to us that are the natural enemies of the Country and
the enemies of our Country, the Ministers in their
speeches show that they will never consent to the
Independency of America and that the assistance of
every man will be accepted on that ground I am certain
the cry will be strong in their favour.

I should have concluded had not the letter contained
the following expression that Lord North is conscious and
certain that he neither has the Authority nor abilities required

for the conduct of Affairs at this time; the word authority
precludes me far from the hour of Lord North so hard some
devoing himself on the retreat of the D. of Grafton
I have never had a political thought which I have
not communicated unto him have accepted of persons highly
disagreeable to Me because he thought they would be
of advantage to his conducting public Affairs and
have yielded to measures my own opinion did not
always quite approve of. Therefore I must desire
to have an explanation in writing on what is meant
to be conveyed by that word. As also that a change
might be made to the benefit of My service without
having recourse to the Opposition. This is quite a
new thought and till Lord North has explained what
that means the idea is quite incomprehensible
to Me.

If Lord North can see with the same degree of
enthusiasm I do, the ^{beauty, excellence and perfection} ~~beauty, excellence and perfection~~
of the British Constitution as by Law Established
and consider ^{that} if any one branch of the Empire is allowed
to cast off its dependency that the others will infallibly

H. M.
D
fall
stru
to p
have
dis
not
res
ar
pro
wh

H. M. to H. North.
Draft of 3116

3117 (2)

arduous

follow the Example, that consequently though a ~~difficult~~
struggle that it is worth going through any difficulty
to preserve to latest Posterity what the wisdom of our ancestors
have ~~carefully~~ ^{carefully} transmitted to us, he will not allow
despondency to find any place in his breast but will resolve
not merely out of Duty not to ~~quit~~ ^{leave} his post, but will
resolve with vigour to meet every obstacle that may
arise he shall meet with the most cordial support
from me, but the times require Vigour or the State
will be ruined.

[Faint, mostly illegible cursive handwriting on aged paper, possibly a letter or document fragment.]

28th Feb. 1778
New York
m. A. P. 1778
32 p. 7. P.M.