

Chas. Feulkeson

May 29 1779

3366

Before I left Town yesterday Evening  
I saw Lord Howe & had a very confidential  
Conversation with Him; & I find by  
what he told me that Opposition are  
again trying to negotiate with a part  
of your Majesty's Government; He told  
me that a Person had been with Him on  
the part of the Duke of Gloucester & Lord  
Buckingham, but he did not say who it  
was, proposing that Lord North & Lord  
Buckingham should both give way, & that  
the Lord Howe should be first Lord of  
the Treasury & at the Head of your Ma-  
jesty's Government, - that they could not  
think of serving with Lord North in the  
Station he at present holds, as he was  
so very indolent & inattentive to Business:  
but they had no objection to any  
Honorable Provision, that should be made  
for

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for Him, & that they had told Lord Mo-  
 rington, that His Desire of being in a  
 particular situation must no longer stand  
 in the way of their Forbearance; - that they  
 wish'd for Plans only for a part of their  
 Service, that as they thought the Govern-  
 ment of Ireland very weak, they wish'd  
 the Duke of Portland might go there;  
 that they wish'd for two Bles Ribbons  
 one for the Duke of Devonshire, but they  
 did not name the person for whom they  
 desired the other - that Mr Chas Fox must  
 have a Place, but he would be content  
 with one of Profit only without any Share  
 of Business; - that they wish'd that Lord  
 Gower & the Duke of Grafton should meet  
 & open their Minds freely; Lord Gower  
 told me he believed they suspected that  
 Lord Shelburne was negotiating through  
 some other Quarters; His Lordship told  
 me.

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make this in great Confidence & desired  
me not to mention it to any Body; He  
seem'd doubtful whether He should tell  
it to your Majesty, but said he would  
first consult the Chancellor. I thought  
it might however, that your Majesty  
should be apprized of it, humbly hoping  
that you will not appear to know, to  
any one; Indeed I am persuaded that  
if Lord Gower does <sup>not</sup> mention this to your  
Majesty, the Opposition will try to find  
this way through some other Quarter; The  
Fears of some are alarm'd for what they  
conceive to be the State of Things, & I have  
the personal Dislike of others is greater  
than can well be imagin'd; They have  
tried what Violence could do through the  
whole of the Session; & having fail'd of  
Success they must now try to attain this  
End in some other Method; I have no  
doubt that between this & the End of the  
Session

I suppose your Majesty will hear of Proposi-  
tions from different Quarters. And how  
said he did not know whether he should  
ever be persuaded to accept the Libelation  
proposed for him, & yet he did not seem  
to recollect it so much as I expected; he  
added that he thought his ~~former~~ law  
Lord Curleske was got into a quarrel  
with Governor Johnson & Mr Eden, which  
he remembred.

I hope your Majesty will not  
think me presumptuous in sending you this  
Intelligence; I thought it might be of use  
to your Majesty & that it was proper thus  
to prepare you, which was my only reason  
for doing it.

Adieu  
May 29<sup>th</sup> 1779

Your Majesty's  
Dutiful Subject  
C. Johnson