H. to Ld. North

3390 Queen's House June 18th 1779
m. p. 11.a.m.

Lord North, I sincerely condole you on the loss of your son, had I known of his illness I should not have omitted enquiring after him, as I shall ever interest myself in whatever can personally affect you.

Lord John Cavendish seconding the Address was handsome his party would have stood on very respectable ground had it thrown a veil over over former dissentions and offered to assist at this critical juncture; but the motion to withdraw the troops from America overturns every good the former steps might have done in the public; America cannot now be deserted without the loss of the Islands; therefore we must stretch every nerve to support ourselves, and must run some risks, if we are to play only a cautious game ruin will inevitably ensue.

I have signed the Warrants and by no means press Lord North to come to St. James's when his mind cannot be in a state to make his attendance of utility; I wish to know which day he thinks the Parliament may be prorogued, the sooner the better or Opposition will be making motions to occasion delay, and which in their nature can by no means tend to any thing but preventing the servants of the Crown from being employed where they can be of more use to the Country than in talking in Parliament at this season.

18 June 1779