

H. H. to Lord North

3417

New June 27<sup>th</sup> 1779.

Lord North, The enclosed papers which I return, confirm me in an opinion long entertained that America unless this summer supported by a British Fleet must sue for Peace, and that it would ever have been unwise to have done more than what is now adopted, the enabling the Commander in Chief to put Provinces at Peace, but that Propositions must come from them to Us, no farther ours be sent from hence; they ever tend only to increase the demands. I can never agree to healing over an uncur'd wound, it must be probed to the bottom, if it then proves sound, no one will be more ready to forget offences, but no one sees more forcibly the necessity of preventing the like mischief by America's seeing she has not been a gainer by the contest; yet after that I would know that the Parents Heart is still affectionate to the penitent Child.

M<sup>r</sup>. Harris's letter shows that nothing can with success be gained from Russia, an indiscreet one in the impropriety of having sent M<sup>r</sup>. Eden to Copenhagen, I said so at the time I trust this example will be a reason for not in future taking steps on such very slight foundation.

Col. Luttrell's opinion of the self established corps in Ireland is

is not much to their advantage.

I should think you will see that Lord Weymouth puts a final stop to the intercourse between Dover and Calais, we can gain nothing by the communication, and certainly it enables the disaffected to give much intelligence to our avowed Enemies.

The Council must in the course of this Week issue the necessary orders to the Lord Lieutenants and other Magistrates enabling them to drive the cattle and remove or destroy Hay Stacks &c. if an Enemy should land, the Generals should also have instructions as well as the others how to sign certificates of the damage done on such occasions to individuals that Parliament may indemnify the sufferers. Also the Lord Lieutenants must have letters as soon as the Additional Militia bill is passed directing them to form additional Regiments or additional Companies at their option as the different circumstances of this Country will make most advisable; I trust these several Measures will be so far digested that on Wednesday I may receive notice that all are ready for my final approbation. The Cabinet for communicating the speech must be on Wednesday previous to my going to Parliament.