

Lord Sandrich -

Fortescue 3000

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Admiralty April 20th 1780

Lord Sandrich cannot avoid troubling your Majesty with the particulars of what passed at the meeting of the Committee of Petitioners on Tuesday at Huntingdon, as they seem to contain some interesting matter.

The Committee was rather numerous, but no way respectable, being composed solely of the leaders of the faction, with the consent of their tenants & dependants; whose attendance they canvassed from house to house for several preceding days.

Sir Robert Barnard in the chair proposed the same chain of articles as had been agreed to by Mr Fox & his party at Westminster, which were opposed in a long speech by Lord Fitzwilliam; who declared that he could not agree to annual Parliaments, or to altering the mode of electing the members,

& that he would oppose those propositions
in the House of Lords.

The Duke of Manchester joined with Lord
Fitzwilliam in what he said; the L^d
Sandwich is informed that before they
came to the meeting he did his utmost
to dissuade Lord Fitzwilliam from making
this opposition.

Lord Carysfort and some other violent men
differed greatly from the Duke & the Earl
& were for signing the articles in their
utmost extent.

Not a word was said at the meeting
about the County Election, but at dinner
Lord Carysfort proposed L^d Ludlow as a
Candidate, and declared that if any
vacancy ~~be~~ should happen he meant
to offer himself; but that at present he
did, ^{not} mean to disturb the quiet of the
County.