

ld. Auckland to H. M.

40157-8

Palace Yard May 16<sup>th</sup> 1804

Lord Auckland thinks it his duty to mention with the utmost humility to your Majesty, that he has this day receiv'd a communication from Mr. Pitt, that the arrangements now submitting to your Majesty require that the office of Postmaster General shall be vacated in favor of some other Person. It is the first wish of Lord Auckland's heart, on this occasion, as it has been on so many others, to devote himself implicitly & cheerfully to whatever he must presume to have your Majesty's approbation.

Mr. Pitt at the same time signified that your Majesty

Mejesty

Majesty, in consideration of Lord Auckland's Services,  
in many Missions of the first rank & importance,  
would approve of his receiving such part of  
the Embassy Allowance as may be equal to  
the Salary which he is now to lose. — Lord  
Auckland would have prefer'd the reward  
of active employment: but he will  
gratefully receive this proof of your Majesty's  
acceptance of his long Services (32 years):—  
and in truth it is not unnecessary to him  
under the straiten'd circumstances of a  
crowded family, whose education & expenses  
added to the rank which he has the  
Honor

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40158

Honor to hold, bear heavily on him.

Mr. Pitt being apprized of L<sup>d</sup>. Auckland's particular concern that his eldest son, who under Lord Hobart's protection has shown excellent Talents & singular Steadness, should be withdrawn at present from the Career of public business, has express'd a general disposition to find some occasion to serve Mr. Eden. But Lord Auckland thinks it best in every point of view that his son should not be an Expectant. & He means to decline all pretensions to so indefinite an Assurance.

Lord Auckland in this apparent and

and unexpected retreat from public life,  
would have been glad <sup>to have been permitted</sup> to express to  
person his most affectionate attachment  
to your Majesty. But he is fearful  
of soliciting the honor of an Audience  
amidst the many interruptions of  
business to which your Majesty  
is exposed. —

Edmund Burke  
Paris Jan 16<sup>th</sup> 1764