

back, that I cannot help trusting Your
Royal Highness with a few lines on the
subject. When the answer, which the
Prince of Wales has been advised to make
to the Report of the Privy Counsellors appointed
to investigate the charges against Her, was
laid before the King by the Lord
Chancellor

hd Cirencester to R. P. d. -

40818

Chancellor, His Majesty gave orders to the
Chancellor that a copy should be made
of it, and that the original Book should
be returned to Him. This has caused a
great and unavoidable delay - the Book
is a moderate sized folio, pretty closely
written, and as only one person could
write

with you it at once the copying it has
taken up much time. Owing to this circum-
-stance it was not till the middle of last
week that I received it, tho' I have frequently
enquired for it before. I lost no time in
reading it thro', not waiting even to make
the usual references it requires to the
Report,

40819-20

(27)

Report, and to the previous Examinations -
and I immediately put it in circulation
to my Colleagues, & particularly to Lord
Mentmore, to whom I spoke on the subject,
and who promised me that he would
devote the whole of yesterday to a careful

+

I studied perusal of it.

The paper is of such a nature as to require a very careful consideration of it before any step is decided on; and I am sure I need not remark to Your Royal Highness that the consequence of any false step in this stage of this business

business would be in the highest degree prejudicial both to our own character, and to the still more important consideration which is involved in this business.

I think nobody can doubt, who reads the defence that it is drawn with a view to publication - The question as to
the

the nature of the answer, and particularly
what degree of detail should be entered into
in repeating any of the insinuations, or
controversial any of the imputations it contains,
is one of very great delicacy & importance;
and which I certainly should not wish to
take upon myself to decide without the
public

40821-2

(3)

ful receipt of the assistance of my
colleagues.

I earnestly entreat Your Royal
Highness to believe that in a matter which
cannot but be so anxious to Your Highness
my own are deeply interested. It would be
the utmost gratification to me if I

could

could by any step that could now be taken
whin your Royal Highness's mind from
the anxiety under which it necessarily
labours on this subject. But when there
has been so much industry used to excite
misapprehension & clamour, and where
we may almost reckon upon the
certainty

interests of some attempt to bring the
matter into Parliamentary discussion, I
should in discharge my duty to Your
Royal Highness if I omitted to urge the
necessity of acting with the utmost cir-
-umspection & caution.

Lord Wellesley was in the
highest

highest degree thanks of Your Royal
Highness's condescension & goodness to him.
He had already received too many proofs
of them to have suffered any impression
whatsoever to be made upon his mind by
the shameful publication in question, except
that of indignation at the manner

in

40823

(4)

in which Your Royal Highness's name
had been brought forward.

I have the honour to be

with the utmost respect

to

Your Royal Highness's

Most dutiful

Lord Grenville
Nov: 10th 1796.
and devoted servant

Grenville.