

Wm. FitzGerald to H. R. H.  
Now follows 41063

May 9 1808

(41070-1)

9 May 1808

Sir,

May I presume to hope that it will be perceived to the most humble of your Royal Highness's servants, that he thus continues to attend himself in your consideration: and I pray of your Royal Highness to believe, that I should have feared indeed to trespass on you, were it not that I was aware of the gracious condescension with which your Royal Highness was used to honour my father, and that I am particularly solicitous not to have fulfilled those instructions, which I received, when I received from him his seat in parliament.

Under the circumstances under which I have succeeded to that seat, and with it, to that Division of your Royal Highness's service, which my father has, I may say, bequeathed to me, I submit from him to you signed to accept of and approve, it has become my duty, with all humility to lay before your Royal Highness his anxious wishes &



my own, and on the ground of that countenance  
and protection, which you were graciously pleased  
to extend to him, I presume, most respectfully,  
to entreat of your Royal Highness, to refer  
me with your own hands, as to the line of politi-  
cal conduct which it may be your pleasure that  
I should adopt.

I requested of Hol. W. M. M. that I should  
be acquainted with your Royal Highness that I had not  
had, and should not, until you were pleased to  
direct me, have any political communication  
with any one whatever: and in consequence I  
have studiously avoided it, either with his Majesty  
or with the Opposition. In the House of  
Commons I have abstained ever from giving a vote,  
except on the Maynooth question, and ever then,  
not until I saw some whom I considered as belong-  
ing to your Royal Highness deciding in favour  
of the increased grant.

To abstain from any decided public line, &  
to withdraw myself from all intercourse with any  
of the parties in parliament, I conceived to be my



Wm. FitzGerald to H. R. G.  
Non folio 41063

May 9 1808

41071

First duty as a servant of yr. Royal Highness  
and the Solicitor general Col. M. Baker, that  
was not your intention at this time to use our  
services or exertions, yet without some fur-  
ther intimation of your Royal Highness  
pharise, I hesitated to take any active part,  
because I apprehended that it might not be  
that which might meet with yr. Royal High-  
ness's approbation -

I hope, Sir, I shall meet with your  
favour for thus addressing myself to yr.  
Royal Highness, and in soliciting some  
further communication of yr. pleasure,  
if I err, or have the misfortune to offend,  
I pray that it may be imputed to any  
sentiment, except to a want of that real  
and devoted to your Royal Highness's  
service, which I hope at some future period,  
at least, that I may be permitted to mani-  
fest, which is in some sort my inheritance



and what I may by as my father felt, he  
felt not more strongly than I do.

Pray it please your Royal Highness  
I remain your Royal Highness's

most devoted & most

obedient servant

William FitzGerald

Monday

May 9<sup>th</sup> 1808

1808