

H. H. to H. North

4402

Lucas House Jan. 17th 1782
on pt. 7. P.M.

I send back the two Boxes of Warrants which I
have signed; Lt. North not having yet come to any
decision concerning Ad. P. Germain put me this day
under much difficulty He having put the question
to me whether he was or was not to look on himself
as Secretary of State, and complained of Lt. North's
reception of Mr. Knox when sent to ask him that
question, to which I could only say that as yet
certainly no step had been taken to remove him,
but that I thought I had a right to ask him
whether or not he was willing to remain, to which
He spoke very candidly that if the War was carried
on with Vigour if steps were taken to strike a
blow in the West Indies He was ready to stay, and
that the Separation with America was not
adopted, but that He would never retract what
He had said on that Head. He will be ready to talk
with Lt. North; but He will expect explicit and decisive
language indeed Iegan to blame Him for that; for I
think He cannot with honor continue unless His support
by his colleagues.

