

Ld. North

Jan. 20 1782

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Sir

I hear, that Lord George Germain  
has expected me to communicate some orders,  
which he supposes that I received from your  
Majesty on Thursday last, & from that cir-  
-cumstance, I am afraid that my memory,  
which grows weaker every day, has failed  
me upon this occasion, as I do not remem-  
-ber any particular communication which  
I was directed by your Majesty to make  
to his Lordship. If I had no such orders,  
they come to trouble your Majesty only  
to read this letter, & if I receive no com-

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mand from your Majesty in consequence of the  
 note. I shall conclude that Lord George  
 was mistaken; but if I have neglected to deliver  
 any message from your Majesty to Lord George her-  
 eafter, I humbly request your Majesty to renew  
 your orders, that I may immediately carry  
 them into execution. & I trust in your Majesty's  
 goodness, that you will attribute this omission  
 to my forgetfulness, which grows daily upon  
 me, & renders me totally unfit for the  
 important & active situation, which your  
 Majesty has intrusted to me.

Lord Gifford has, I believe, laid before  
 your Majesty Lord Dartmouth's reason  
 for absenting himself so long from Court,

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of, particularly for not having attended at <sup>St James's</sup> Palace  
on her Majesty's birthday: The truth  
was, that his health, though much  
re-established, was in such a ticklish  
situation, that he could not venture  
himself in a crowd, or a bed room without  
danger. He was very uneasy that this  
circumstance prevented <sup>him</sup> from paying  
his duty to your Majesty & the Queen:  
I am sorry to add, that news arrived  
in Town yesterday from Sandwell, that  
he had just had a relapse of his  
former complaint, & was not so well  
as he had been for some time past.  
I beg leave to subscribe myself with  
the truest attachment & fidelity,

Sir,

Your Majesty's

most dutiful subject

& servant

North.

Sion Hill.

Jan: 20. <sup>th</sup> 1789.

Ed. North  
Sion Hill Jan: 20. 1789.