

Draft
to Ld. North
Lancaster House Jan. 21st 1782
10 p. 11. A.M.

of ch 206

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Queen's House Jan. 21st 1782.
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If Ld. North had opened the two Boxes of Warrants which went to Me on Thursday, and which I returned that Evening; He would have found in one of them a Letter I wrote after having that day seen Ld. G. Germain, wherein I stated all that has past; to this I refer Ld. North, and shall only remark that Ld. North on that day had told Me that Mr. Knox had been with him some days before with a Message from Ld. G. Germain to know whether he was or was not to remain in Office; and that on Friday He meant to talk the matter over with Ld. G. himself; therefore when Ld. G. Germain asked of Me the same question and complained of the reception Ld. North had given to Mr. Knox, I told him Ld. North meant to have a personal interview with him the next day: undoubtedly the strange indecision on the Subject of Ld. G. Germain is not creditable, and the more unpleasing to Me who wish ever to appear fair and open, but who could speak but half words with Ld. G. as Ld. North has chosen to keep this affair above six Weeks in the same state of indecision, which certainly has delayed the preparations for the next Campaign. I shall only add that on one material point I shall ever coincide with Ld. G. Germain, that is against a Separation from America, and that I shall never lose an opportunity of declaring that no consideration shall ever make Me in the most distant manner an Instrument in a measure that I think would annihilate the rank in which the British Empire stands among the European States, and would render my situation in this Country below continuing an Object to Me.

[Faint, illegible handwritten text in cursive script, likely a letter or document fragment.]