

Ad North  
Downing Street Jan<sup>r</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 1792  
Pd. on p<sup>t</sup> on h. M<sup>o</sup> 23

4409

Sir

Having sent my last note to your Ma-  
-jesty from Mr Robinsons I inclosed it in an old  
Box which my key can not open, so that I have  
been obliged to wait till eleven o'clock for the assist-  
-ance of Mr Robinson to open the Box. I never  
had the honour of reading the letter your Majesty  
did me the honour of sending on Thursday with  
the warrants, which, I suppose, happened in this  
manner; a Clerk of the Treasury was waiting  
with great impatience for the warrants  
as soon as I should receive them from  
your Majesty. The Box was brought to me

while I was in company, & as I did not expect  
any thing besides the warrants, I opened the  
Box in haste, delivered the Warrants to the  
Clerk, & shut the Box again without seeing  
any other paper. By this means I was deprived  
of receiving your Majesty's <sup>note</sup> till this moment,  
since I have had the honor of reading your  
Majesty's Letter <sup>of</sup> today. I am very sensible  
how unfit I have always been, & how much  
more unfit I am now to decide in matters  
of nice & difficulty, & if I had not repeated  
aid before your Majesty my incapacity  
& humbly advised your Majesty more than  
once a year during the last ten years to

44  
place  
take to  
blame  
has do  
In  
these.  
the re  
prove  
not do  
many of  
very ho  
I appre  
- gain  
plan  
situa

Ld North  
Downing Street Jan<sup>r</sup> 21<sup>h</sup> 1792  
H. 10 p<sup>m</sup> 1/2 h. M. 23

4409 (2)

I expect place your affairs in other hands, I should  
take to myself a much greater share of the  
blame for what your Majesty's service  
has suffered by my indecision.

In the present case, my difficulties are  
these. I never suggested to your Majesty that  
the removal of Lord Eusebe Lermain would  
prove of permanent benefit to your service  
yet do I think it well, because, although  
many of my principal friends will become  
very lukewarm if he continues in his office,  
I apprehend their objections are stronger  
against his system, than his person.  
When your Majesty consulted me upon his  
situation, you were graciously pleased to

say that you could take no step till you  
heard whether Mr Jenkinson would accept  
his office or not: Mr Jenkinson declined, &  
then I stated to your Majesty how difficult  
my situation would be in the House  
of Commons if there should be no Minis-  
ter, acquainted with the American affairs  
& ready to answer to those points when  
they occur, as they do almost every day in  
debate; Indeed, It will be quite impossible  
for me to go through this additional trouble  
There is no person willing, & capable of giving  
me assistance, besides Mr Jenkinson, except  
the Lord Advocate, but there are great diffi-  
culties in placing him in such a situation

as to enable me to draw from him the support  
I want. Ability, Spirit, Elopence, he has in  
perfection, but how far he may be capable  
of any situation, where he can acquire compe-  
tent knowledge, I am not able to determine.  
Your Majesty sees my difficulties, & Your  
Majesty will perceive that it is not easy  
to remove them. If Gen: Carleton were appointed  
Com<sup>r</sup> in America, & L<sup>d</sup> George Germain  
removed in an honourable & distinguished  
manner into the Upper House, & either  
Mr Jenkinson or Lord Advocate placed in  
a situation that would put it in their  
power to answer to all American Points,  
Your Majesty's affairs would certainly

go on with greater care for some time  
But I am afraid that the difficulties we  
are under will not be <sup>entirely</sup> removed by this  
measure. Peace with America seems necessary,  
even if it can be obtain'd on no better  
terms than some federal alliance, or  
perhaps, even in a less eligible mode. This  
is my opinion, which I have had the honour  
of submitting before to your Majesty, & I  
think it my duty to suggest once more, whether  
if your Majesty's sentiments coincide more  
with Lord George Germain's than mine,  
you would chuse, that he should appear  
to give way to me. Lord George is to call upon

44  
me to  
July, &  
with  
appear  
but I  
because  
wise  
advice  
I can  
him, w  
& effect  
I  
Majesty  
-formid  
out for

4410 (2)

me tomorrow morning, when I will very  
freely & very frankly compare my opinions  
with his, & report to your Majesty what  
appears to me the best course to hold;  
but I shall do it with great diffidence,  
because, in fact, I am not capable of giving  
wise advice in so nice a matter. Lord  
Advocate is not yet come to Town, so that  
I can not tell what I may expect from  
him, but I believe I may depend upon his zealous  
& effectual support.

I have the honour of informing your  
Majesty, that yesterday Mr Wente with me  
informed me, that it was his intention to set  
out for Holland early this morning, & I

Suppose that he is gone

I have just heard that Lord Dartmouth is again on the mending hand, but he has been so uneasy at having been prevented from attending his duty in Town, & so desirous, that I should by his orders help your Majesty, I thought your Majesty would forgive my troubling you on his subject. I beg leave, to subscribe myself, with the utmost devotion & attachment.

Sir

Your Majesty's  
most faithful & most obedient  
& most dutiful subject & servant.  
Dartmouth