

H. M. to Mr. North

4654

Queen's House, April 13<sup>th</sup> 1782.

See  
4652

The List of Pensions paid by Sir Grey Cooper requires no farther explanation and I shall therefore draw out a list of it for the present head of the Treasury.

But I must express my astonishment at the quarterly Account Books of the Secret Service being only made up to the 31<sup>st</sup> of Decr. 1780. consequently that two Years are as yet not stated; I cannot help saying it is a most shameful piece of neglect I ever knew, no business can ever be admitted as an excuse, for not doing that; if every Sum received had instantly been set down, as well as every article paid, this would not have happened; the D. of Grafton never let a month elapse after the quarterly without getting the Book finished and delivering it.

I shall make out also the List paid by G<sup>o</sup>. Robinson to Peers and shall give it to the first Bd. of the Treasury, but I cannot answer whether under the idea of influence there will not be a refusal to continue them; those to Members of the House of Commons cannot be given, they may apply if they please to Ld. Buckingham, but by what Mr. Dawson tells me I have not the smallest doubt that he will refuse to bring their Applications, as well as those of any new Solicitors in that House. This is a natural consequence of the total change which I have been driven to, I pretold the measures that would be expected but Ld. Fox as well as the rest who advised my treating with Opposition would not credit my assertions.

Sir Pa. Cockburn's pension I will set down in the name of his  
Wife

Wife, and Mr. Bowley's in that of Lady Mary. As to Mr. Schryer  
I do not see a possibility of its continuing, he must view it  
like the loss of a place and must look to better days, his  
Memorandum will be kept by me.

I must add that Mr. North knowing for some weeks that the  
Ministry would be changed it is strange he did not make up  
his accounts and bring the payments up to the time; perhaps  
some of us will certainly not think himself obliged to pay  
up the arrears, I see some have 3. quarters, some a year  
and Mr. Northampton 10. quarters due.

As to the immense expence of the General Election it has  
quite surpris'd me, the sum is at least double of what was  
expended any other General Election since I came to the  
Throne, and by the state of the last month proves most usefully  
certainly the £13,000. due to Mr. Drummond I shall probably  
pay off; but I cannot bind myself any further; I think it is  
most likely that on the reduction of the expences of the  
Civil list, I shall be oblig'd to see Mr. Pryn's Case dismissed  
that 12,000. per annum if that should happen I have no  
means of satisfying the remainder now unexpended by me  
to my account of £19,754-18-2. had Mr. North thought but  
necessary he ought during the arrangements to have had  
Secret Service Money to have defrayed that sum, now that  
is impossible; I cannot conclude without saying that I am  
sorry to see there has been such a strange waste of Money,  
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H. N. to hd. North

4654(2)

The letter I wrote the day Lt. North resigned must have  
shewed him that I should think myself bound to satisfy  
no farther sum than the £13,000. to Mr. Drummond



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The Thing to Lord North -