

C. J. Fox

Reply " May 22 1782

Fortescue 3771

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As the Courier for Paris was just ready to set out when Mr. Oswald arrived with the inclosed Dispatch, Mr. Fox thought it would not be advisable to detain him any longer than was necessary for the writing of a letter to acknowledge the receipt of the Dispatch and the arrival of Mr. Oswald.

Mr. Oswald's conversation confirms all that Mr. Grenville hints in his letter, and what induced him to come over at this moment was the desire of impressing your Majesty's



servants with the favourable disposition  
of Dr. Franklin towards peace with this  
country even without the concurrence of  
France, much more without that of Spain  
and Holland.

Mr. Fox is satisfied that your Majesty's  
penetration must see in a moment the  
incredible importance of this object, and  
the sanguine hopes which might reasonably  
be entertained with respect to the ensuing  
Campaign in the West Indies after the  
important Victory which has been gained  
there, if we could come to such an understanding

C. J. P.

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C. J. Fox

May 20 1782  
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with America as to enable us to await  
ourselves of Sir Guy Carlton's Army for the  
purposes of military operations in the  
autumnal Season in the West India  
Islands.

Mr. Fox humbly entreats your Majesty's  
pardon if he has gone too far in troubling  
your Majesty with these ideas which have  
suggested themselves to his mind upon  
reading Mr. Grenville's letter, and hearing  
Mr. Oswald's conversation, from both of  
which he forms more flattering hopes for  
the affairs of your Majesty than he had



hitherto allowed himself to conceive. —

St. James's <sup>m</sup>/<sub>3</sub> past 11. P. M.

21. May. 1762. —

I do not see any thing in the Dispatch from Paris that should make the defining the full Powers prepared for M<sup>r</sup>. Grenville necessary. Till I have seen Ad. Shelburne and heard from him all M<sup>r</sup>. Oswald has related of M<sup>r</sup>. Franklin, I cannot form any hope that he is ready to conclude a Peace without the concurrence of France.

Peace is the object of my heart if it can be obtained without forfeiting the Honour and Essential Rights of my Kingdom; I do not think myself at liberty to hazard any opinion I must see my way clear before

Fortescue 3772

Windsor  
May 22. 1762.  
<sup>m</sup>/<sub>29</sub> W. B. A. Ch.

St. James's  
May 21. 1762  
May 22. 1762