

E. of Shelburne
High Wycombe Aug. 11. 1782

4917

Sir

I have the Honour to send your Majesty
by the Inclos'd Letters from Paris. One
is merely private, but I have great sa-
tisfaction in keeping nothing conceal'd
from your Majesty - I consider the
being allow'd this liberty, as the
most satisfactory circumstance in
an arduous Situation.

I consider the Treaty mention'd upon the
point of conclusion between Spain and
America, as the effect of Mr. Fox's
precipitation on the heads of Independency.

I had a very long conversation yester-
day with the Count de Grasse, per-
fectly open upon his part, his man-
ners resembling those of the plain-
est of our Seamen. He stated his
anxiety about his own situation to
turn more upon the general exe-
cution of his orders, than upon his
conduct in regard to the Achon.

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He is very desirous of laying the founda-
tion of a Peace, and mentioned se-
veral particulars of his orders, which
convinced him, that the French Mi-
nistry look upon the Independance
of America, and the retention of
Santa Lucia and Dominique as
the essential points to be insisted
on, and every thing else as very
negotiable. I assur'd him of Your
Majesty's disposition to Peace, and
of the Sincerity of Your Ministers,

without entering into particulars - that
the great point to be obtain'd was
mutual confidence - I endeavour'd
to give Mr Fitzherbert and Mr Os-
wald all the consideration I could,
adding however that any communi-
cation made to myself thro' any chan-
nel should if requir'd be only known
to your Majesty.

I have been oblig'd to have a
very grave conversation with Lord
Kepple upon the Rebel of Gibraltar
and upon the damp thrown by

The Admiralty upon the Spirit shewn
by the County of Suffolk, the City of
London, and other places - Lord
Kepple alleges the Indispensible
necessity of seeing the Baltic Fleet
home in the first Instance, and the
Futility of any exertions beyond the
very moment. The Comptroller is
absolutely out of Town till Monday -
I shall see him on Tuesday, and
shall have the honour of submit-
ting the result to your Majesty
on Wednesday.

I have the honour to be with
the highest Respect

Your Majesty's
most Dutiful
Subject and Faithful
Servant

High Wycombe

Shelburne

11th August 1702
10 o'clock P. M.