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Copy
 Mr Campbell to Dowry of A
 Gloucester - Burlington Street
 Feb 5th 1805.

[Enclosure]

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Burlington Street Feb 5th 1805

My Dearest Lady Rebecca -

Overpowered as I am with gratitude & surprise at an honor to which I never presumed to aspire, & the various feelings which your letter has excited, I was totally incapable of replying to it yesterday, as I ought & wished to have done. — His Majesty's gracious condescension & flattering opinion have overcome me, & the more I feel His goodness, the more I sink under the consciousness of my own unworthiness of so distinguished an honor. —

You cannot doubt that it would gratify my highest ambition to be useful to the first & best of Kings, & happy most happy should I be to dedicate myself wholly to the duties of so sacred a trust, but misfortunes have subdued my spirits, & a long residence in the various climates to which the service of his country called him on whom my fate depended, has destroyed my constitution & rendered me quite unequal to so awful a charge; my principles will not allow me to undertake any duty that I feel I cannot thoroughly perform, much less one of such infinite consequence to His Majesty & the Nation. —

It is not in my power to describe to you my dear L^{dy} Rebecca

the agony of mind that I now suffer from the dread that
in declining this high situation I may offend, yet surely I see
from a stronger duty in rejecting every selfish consideration
to prove myself faithful to His Majesty — I have prayed for
wisdom to be directed in this most important moment of
my life, & I have reflected thro' a sleepless night, yet still my
Mind is impressed with my inability to fill so responsible
a situation —

To you my kind friend I commit these my sentiments,
you will do me more justice to my feelings than I can myself, &
will express, if words can be found to express, my gratitude
& my profound sense of the honor intended me —

Believe me my dear Lady I subscribe
very sincerely & affectionately yours
signed / Alicia Campbell.