

Draft to L. of Shelburne
Windsor Jan 4th 1783^m p. one

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Lord Shelburne's Attention in acquainting Me of the satisfactory completion
of that part of Mon^r de Vergennes letter which M^r de Rayneval last
night communicated to Him, and that the Chancellor the two Secretaries
and M^r Pitt are chiefly of opinion that Peace must no longer be trifled
with but the final orders sent to M^r Pitt's desk as soon as

the French Copies returned, meets every way with my warmest thanks,
for I was rather desponding as to the success of the Negotiation.

I think it right just to give the heads of what dropped from
the L. of Richmond and L. St. John's. The former said it was impossible
he would continue a Member of the Cabinet after at a Meeting the
Alternatives had been settled, and that Ld. Grantham had been
authorized to offer Tobago in lieu of Dominica by a more intimate
consultation that he had found Ld. St. John and Gen. Conway equally
ignorant of this transaction that he did not mean that he could not
attend Councils he did not guide, but he could not be a Member
of Council and consequently answerable for measures of which he
was ignorant, but that as the taking that step hastily might prevent
Peace, he would abstain from taking this step till that great measure
had one way or other come to a decision that he did not mean to blame
Ld. Grantham whose conduct had ever been polite and ingenious
that he had attacked the late Ministry because he thought they did
not act in concert. that on the same plan he must object to any one
acting as sole Minister that he had no one measure to object to
but

but that the Country would never bear a Prime Minister, and that we
did nothing but yield one point after another to France.

Ld. Sheppels complained of having been cordially slighted that Duty
made him silent till Peace was decided, but that he is
convinced France will not conclude one.

Gen Conway was attentive to his own Department and did not
drop one syllable on the above affair, therefore I am certain
will not join the two others.