R.B. Sheridan to Capt. J. Payne
9 Dec. 1788
(? Regency debates)

Friday past six

Dear Payne,

I have the Honor of the Prince's letter safely, and have detained the Messenger awhile in expectation of having a Note from the Chancellor - but there is none yet come - and I will not stop the Man's return. I beg you will present my Duty to his Royal Highness and as I perfectly comprehend the distinction his Royal Highness has suggested in corresponding with the Chancellor, I will be careful to attend to it. I will immediately acquaint his Royal Highness with the Result.

The Town is full of Consternation & strange Reports - and these are increased

by the silence of the Papers. I have taken measures to have the best information that can be had of the motions of certain Persons, and their probable intentions. The Chancellor yesterday after parting with the Duke, wrote immediately to Pitt. I am not sure whether he saw him or not. but Messengers were instantly dispatch'd to the Duke of Richmond, Lord Moira &c. to bring them to Town. I sent an Express to you yesterday at Brighton understanding that you were there, to beg you to come to Town, as there are some most important con=siderations which can only be treated of in conversation, but which

R.B. Sheridan to Capt. J. Payne
? Dec. 1788
(? Regency debates)

it is of the utmost consequence should be submitted to the Prince's early attention, and I conceive the preparing you with the circumstances would answer every purpose to the Prince's service, without the indelicacy of soliciting his Royal Highness's direct attention to them. and if now his Royal Highness could spare you for a few hours - I think it would be of essential advantage that his Royal Highness should have the means of being so confidentially apprized of certain matters.

We have been anxious also about his Royal Highness's Health as we heard he was bled & very much indisposed. I will detain the Messenger no longer - I am D.r Payne ever yours
R.B. Sheridan

From Sheridan