

Ld. Suffolk

Sep. 15 1772

GEO / MAIN / 1393

Lord Suffolk is induced to trouble Your Majesty in consequence of the Dispatches brought by the Flora, amongst which Captain Collier's Letter cuts no small figure. This maritime Negotiator seems to have been treated with an unaccountable confidence both by Lord Cathcart & Messrs. Drosten: The latter (notwithstanding his curious panegyric on L. S.) certainly was not entitled to the Respect & Attention which the Captain paid to him at the suggestion of
Admiral

Admiral Rommelin. The Project he presumes is
contained in the Letter from Mr Gunning which
were not delivered with those which have been
transmitted to him; and is not a business which
admits of or requires immediate Determination.
The Testimonial which Mr Gunning mentions
in his private Letter is a most extraordinary affair;
and if the Transaction is such as is represented
in that Letter, he is free to call it the wildest
Idea that ever entered into a foreign Ministers
head. The strange circumstances of it are not a
little increased by the Knowledge General Loyd &
captain

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Captain Cellier had of it. Your Majesty has
already observed symptoms of Lord Cathcart,
and Mr. Gunning, being on so very cordial
footing together; therefore, whatever is
insinuated from the one relative to the other
ought to be received with a degree of caution.
But the bottom of this matter may be worth
knowing; and perhaps Your Majesty may be
able to draw the Truth of it out better & more
easily than any of your servants, when
Lord

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Lord Cathcart has his Audience.

Lord Suffolk has conceived it w^d be proper to direct that Mr. Gunning's Letters, which are of a very secret & confidential nature, shall only be circulated to Lord Rochford & Lord North. He humbly hopes Your Majesty will approve of this Direction — and that Your Majesty will think it ^{indispensably} necessary that in his absence, L^d Cathcart shou^d recapitulate all the Transactions of his Embassy, and enter into & explain the whole of his correspondence, making ample Comment upon every individual Letter, to Lord Rochford.

Edford. Sept. 15. 1772.