

S. Perceval
to the
Queen
Enc.

19037_8

Copy

Mr Perceval presents his
humble duty to your Majesty
and has to acknowledge the
receipt of your Majesty's
observations upon Mr Perceval's
proposed arrangement for
the Household during the
continuance of His Majesty's
Indisposition, which were presented
to him yesterday by Colonel
Taylor.

Mr Perceval humbly
hopes that your Majesty will
have

have the gracious Indulgence to pardon him, if before he enters upon any Remarks on the detail of Your Majesty's Papers he feels himself unable to repress the extreme concern which he has experienced from perceiving that Your Majesty has been, even for a moment, impressed with the opinion that the proposed arrangement has been calculated upon Principles of such extreme Economy and Reform, as to render the Plan itself incapable of being carried into execution, with any due feelings of liberality or justice to the old Servants of His Majesty, or indeed with any proper regard to the dignity of His Majesty's exalted Character and Station.

Mr Perceval is persuaded that this impression would never have been taken by Your Majesty, if it had not been from his own fault, in omitting to give such an explanatory view of the result of the Arrangement, and of the adequacy of the means of supporting it, as would have rendered it impossible for Your Majesty so to have misconceived it.

Mr Perceval is so far from
 " being surprised that, with these
 " feelings upon the subject, Your
 " Majesty should positively decline
 " to have any control whatsoever
 " over an Establishment which
 " Your Majesty declares to be so
 " objectionable in principle and
 " detail," - that he is only surprised
 at your Majesty's condescension
 in thinking the Person who could
 present to your Majesty an
 arrangement which your Majesty
 conceives

conceived to be so incompatible
 either with the dignity or comfort
 of His Majesty, to be deserving of
 the notice which Your Majesty has
 been graciously pleased to give
 to him, by your observations on
 his Paper.

But Mr Perceval begs most
 confidently to assure Your Majesty
 that no such Principles of extreme
 Economy and Reform have
 ever entered into his imagination
 upon this subject, nor indeed
 of any reform beyond what
 he is convinced Your Majesty
 would yourself think absolutely
 necessary to be carried into
 execution upon this occasion -

Mr Perceval was so anxious
 upon this part of the subject,
 and thought it so important
 to his own Credit and Character,

5

to remove, as soon as possible
this misconception that he lost
not a moment in furnishing
Colonel Taylor with the Stems
of those Calculations, upon which
Mr Perceval formed his Estimate,
and which he has the satisfaction
of feeling convinced, will, when
explained to Your Majesty, remove
that deep impression against
the arrangement, which, while
it remained would render it
hopeless to Mr Perceval, that Your
Majesty should be ever reconciled
to any part of it.

With regard to what Your
Majesty remarks upon the
arrangement, and the Persons
to be selected to form a part
of it, Mr Perceval begs to
state that the arrangement
proposed

proposed is certainly made under the hope, and with the impression that it was suitable in point of quality, and ample in point of extent, for the purposes, which, in the state to which disorder has unhappily reduced His Majesty, can either contribute to His comfort or to His Dignity.

With respect to the selection of the Persons to fill the respective Stations, Mr Perceval has nothing to say. Were it his duty to suggest any thing upon that selection, he certainly should be obliged to say that he thought that the choice could ^{not} be directed by more correct principles of selection, nor fall upon any Individuals more properly

properly than those named by Your Majesty. — Mr Perceval thinks it necessary merely to advert to this part of Your Majesty's observations, lest the principle of the arrangement should be misunderstood. — That principle intends to leave to your Majesty to select ^{new servants} on the first instance, and to remove and replace ^{them} afterwards, entirely at your Majesty's discretion.

With respect to what is observed as to the number of Pages and inferior Servants, Mr Perceval begs humbly to state that it is intended to be left entirely to your Majesty to determine what number of Pages and Footmen, and Servants of all descriptions, below

that

that of the higher Classes, which
 are specifically mentioned,
 shall be continued, not only about
 His Majesty's Person, but about His
 Household; and Mr Perceval
 humbly submits, but most
 confidently believes, that the Income
 proposed to be appropriated to
 this Service, will be found ample
 for the purpose of retaining all
 that Your Majesty can, upon
 any principle, wish to retain.
 But beyond this consideration,
 Mr Perceval understands Your
 Majesty has had it explained
 to you, that it was no part
 of his intention that any Persons
 should be turned adrift from
 His Majesty's Establishment. Your
 Majesty was to select the
 description of Servants which
 Your

Your Majesty wanted, and the remainder would be to be transferred over, with the Civil List, to His Royal Highness The Prince Regent, to whom it would necessarily belong to consider what Individuals he would retain, and on what terms he would be disposed to dismiss those, if any, for whose Services he would have no occasion.

Mr Perceval in the first instance confines himself to these few observations, and refers to such further explanation as Colonel Tayler will be enabled to give to Your Majesty, in consequence of the full conversation Mr Perceval had with him yesterday afternoon; - and Mr Perceval cannot but entertain a confident hope that the above remarks

remarks, with Colonel Taylor's
 explanation, will reconcile your
 Majesty to a Plan which he
 feels confidently certain will be
 found infinitely more suitable
 to the Station of Your Majesty
 and the King, as well as more
 convenient to Your Majesty,
 than any separate Establishment
 could be, which it would be
 possible to prevail upon Parliament
 to sanction, if, indeed, Parliament
 could be prevailed upon (which
 Mr Perceval much doubts) to
 sanction any separate Establishment
 at all.

J^r Perceval

Downing Street
 1st January 1812

Mr Perceval

to

The Queen

1st Jan'y 1812.

Arrangements for
the Household