

Ld. Wellesley to H.R.H.

A.A. No. 5

19248 -9

Foreign Office 17th Feby
1812 ½ p six P.M.

Lord Wellesley has the honor to acquaint Your Royal Highness, that, in obedience to Your Royal Highness's gracious commands, he saw The Lord Chancellor this day at the House of Lords, according to his Lordship's appointment.

He stated to the Lord Chancellor the whole of the communication, humbly submitted to Your Royal Highness yesterday.

The Lord Chancellor confirmed every
part

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part of the statement, as coinciding precisely with what he had learnt this morning from Your Royal Highness, with one most important variation.

The Lord Chancellor positively declared that he understood from Your Royal Highness, that You did on Saturday last actually appoint Mr Perceval to be permanently Your Royal Highness' First Minister; and that the Government was now formed under that appointment.

This statement is certainly very different.

different from Lord Wellesley's interpretation of Your Royal Highness's declaration of yesterday: Nor would Lord Wellesley have presumed to offer any advice, on the subject of forming an Administration, adapted to the present crisis; if he had understood, that Your Royal Highness had already fixed Mr Perceval in his seat, & had formed Your Government on that basis.

The Lord Chancellor will, under Your Royal Highness's commands, communicate

communicate to Mr Percival the
conversation with Lord Wellesley.

Mary Wellesley

17. Decr 1802