Welbore Ellis

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W. Ellis

Sir

Upon a carefull recollection of what passed yesterday at the audience which Your Majesty was so gracious as to grant me, it occurred to me that I had made use of an expression of a dubious meaning which, if misunderstood by Your Majesty, might lead you to think, that I had proceeded upon very weak & idle grounds in asking that audience. I therefore most humbly request your pardon for this sort of interruption for a few minutes to set myself right in Your Majesty's opinion by laying before you upon paper clearly and precisely my inducements for the trouble I gave yesterday. The expression I allude to was this, "that there were appearances "of my being put again into the Office I had formerly

come from – It struck me that Your Majesty might possibly have understood by that expression, that I was speaking of the War Office & not of the Vice treasurer=ship of Ireland. Of the first there was certainly no appearance, of the last, I beg leave to mention what induced me to think, that there was a probability. It would be highly indecent and injurious to entertain the least doubt of that good opinion, of that good will nay of that kindness towards me of which Your Majesty had condescended frequently to give me assurances as strong as words can convey; they are written upon my heart & I do beg leave to assure you that I was not, that I am not guilty of such an offensive doubt. It was natural therefore when sore with all the same strokes which disgrace usually inflicts to look round for the effects of that kindness & for the means of shewing it which presented themselves. The resignation of one of the Vice treasurers was

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previous to the day of my final dismission, the other I believe came to hand within two days after. Beside these general reasons for applying in my mind Your Majesty's gracious intentions towards me to this object, there were some more particular. On the day of my final dismission Your Majesty among other gracious expressions was pleased to say that you hoped soon to have other orders to give me which if not quite agreable might however be not unacceptable. At a subsequent audience upon the matter then depending with Lord Hertford, you was so good as to return to the subject of my own situation & you was pleased to say that you had Irons in the fire for me, that you should not let your Ministers rest upon that head, & that you should not be easy yourself untill you had put me in a situation to make me happy. At the audience

in which I took leave of Your Majesty to go into Stand.
you was pleased to say that you might possibly disturb
me, but if you should, that it would not be disagreeable
or some such expression of the like import. I hope I
do not mistake Your Majesty's words, indeed I do not
mean it. During all this time there were no vacancy
but the Vicetreasurers to which I could in my mind
direct these expressions, & during all this time the
universal report of the Court, & of the most qualify
these, was, that one of the Vicetreasurerships was
destined for me. I had been too long about a Court &
too long in it not to know the distance there is betwe
the Anteroom & the Closet, but when I lay'd all
circumstances together I was inclined to give credit
to the report. But when it came round to me from
those who had access to your Majesty's Ministers that
some of them had say'd "that good care was to be
taken of Mr. Ellis: & that it had been moved even that

this particular place was destined for me, I no longer doubted but that the report had some substance; for I could not then see any obstacle in the way of those kind dispositions in Your Majesty of which I could entertain no doubt. I had indeed said to myself, if it be intended, why not do it: The revenue continues to be paid to the gentlemen who have resigned untill a new Patent issues which would have contributed greatly to ease the expense of a heavy election & this I supposed Your Majesty to know. In answer to this I suggested to myself that perhaps it would not be declared untill a proper person was found to fill up the other vacancy - Report said that it had been offered to a gentleman then abroad, that his answer at length arrived & in the negative. When I arrived in London I found the opinion still alive that one was destined for me - The long prevalency of this report

indicated the sense of men that it was reasonable, & experience suggested that no instance occurred of a man dismissed from a great office with the favour of his Prince & who was not involved in close connexions with the displaced Ministers, for whom ample provi=sion was not made & full compensation for that loss which was not the consequence of disgrace but to make a more convenient arrangement. These consider=ations confirmed my belief of the probability & thus concluded that it could not be imputed to impatience if after so many months elapsed & within so few days of the Session & under such urgent reasons arising from Parliamentary situation for having some preparation I begg'd to know my fate. Your Majesty has been pleased to tell it me clearly.

I beseech Your Majesty's pardon for this long letter, probably the last presumption of this kind; if I

have made my motives appear clear and reason:
:able to Your Majesty, it is sufficient.
I beg leave most humbly to assure Your Majesty
that I am with the utmost Duty & most
profound Respect

Sir

Your Majesty's

Most obedient, most faithfull and
devoted Subject

Saturday Decr. 7th 1765.

W. Ellis