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Park Lane 26<sup>th</sup> May.  
1812.

Lord Melville having stated to Mr Canning that the Ministers his Colleagues were considering, under the special command of H. R. H. the Prince Regent, how far they could advance to meet the first of the two propositions laid down as the Basis of the Administration proposed to be formed by Lord Wellesley; Mr Canning feels it necessary, before he offers any observation on that statement, to enquire in what situation Lord Melville's Colleagues consider themselves as standing at the present moment.

1<sup>st</sup> Do they consider Lord Wellesley's Commission at an end, and the former Administration as reestablished?

2<sup>dly</sup> — Are the discussions,  
which are now going on among  
them, directed to the ascertaining  
the possibility of the Individual  
Members of that Administra-  
tion, or any of them, acceding  
to an Administration to be  
formed by Lord Wellesley;  
or to some proposal to be  
made by them as a Government  
to Lord Wellesley & Mr Canning.

If Lord Wellesley's Commission  
is considered as at an end, it  
is essential to Lord Wellesley's  
honor that the fact should be  
publicly known. He has  
entered upon communications  
which he could not terminate  
at the point to which they were  
brought, without distinctly

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stating his Commission to  
be at an end.

If what is now in contempla-  
-tion is some new proposal  
to be made to Lord Wellesley  
and to Mr Canning, from the  
former Administration revived,  
then the revival of that Ad-  
-ministration ought to be made  
matter of notoriety: and the  
proposal itself must be distinctly  
stated before Lord Wellesley  
& Mr Canning can form any  
judgement upon it.

Paper relative to a change  
of Ministry

26. May 1812.

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