

Enclosure -

Sir Mark Hood to Ed. Sidmouth

A. A. No. 165

Lord Privy Seal, Sidmouth 20093 Copy 4

Private

Gullion Park
October 2nd 1812

My dear Lord

After the most mature consideration of the subject of our Conversation yesterday Evening I feel that it will be totally impossible for me to withdraw from Parliament, to make room for any other Person excepting for Mr Law - and as in consequence of your previous arrangements, he was the sole Object of your Solicitude, I the more regret, that there should be any change upon the present occasion. Altho I readily enter into all the feelings of Mr Law's friends that his Political Debut should be as free and as unobscured as possible; but as Mr Law will in the situation which has been so graciously offered be as free as Air - and under no other restraint than that which must actuate every honest and independent Mind, no longer to accept of an Obligation than he felt himself perfectly easy under it. Whenever therefore Mr Law feels himself in that Situation, not to be able to give his free and Unbiassed Support - to his R. H. Government - of which yourself and your highly respected Friend form so essential a part - He will be perfectly at liberty to retire - without having incurred one penny of expence. I therefore trust and hope that upon further consideration all difficulties will be removed.

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and that I shall have the satisfaction of returning
Mr Law. to Gatten. It is true that at
the event of my placing Mr Law. in Gatten.
I have received the most unquestionable
assurances, at a very early period of another
seat for myself upon equally liberal and
gratuitous terms; but to make any exchange
or to place any other Person there must totally
change the state of the Case, and I could neither
expect nor ask to return to Parliament myself.
Exclusive of this important consideration after
the enormous sacrifices which I have made
during these last 18 Years (without ever having
received the smallest acknowledgements & satisfaction)
in support of Government, no Minister could
with any conscience ask me, so to degrade
myself - as to retire from Parliament - to
make room for any Man; excepting upon such
an unforeseen and unexpected emergency -
such as that in which Mr Law has been placed
by unavoidable events. It must not be forgotten
that even had I not been unexpectedly called
upon for the fulfillment of a voluntary
offer

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which I made two Months ago - to an illustrious
Personage - / the Circumstances of which so far as
relates to Aldborough - you are not unacquainted
with / and even had every thing remained in
the exact State in which it was at the time I
made you a voluntary offer, yet you could
not have been so unjust as to have expected that
I would have accepted of any Recommendation -
but a Person - whom I could be certain of his
better supporting my own Political friends, a
of withdrawing upon being fully indemnified all
expenses - It is true that in the case of Mr. Law.
I should most probably have dispensed with
such a promise or pledge; as I should just as
soon have suspected yourself - as I would
Mr. Law - of any intention to desert the present
Government, but after the Conduct of Mr. Grey
last Session - Recommended to me - particularly
by the Duke of Portland, as evincing the expediency
upon all matters of business - of having a
clear and explicit understanding.

Scarcely any private Gentleman in England
has made more liberal and gratuitous
sacrifices for the Support of Government
which I have done.

during the last 18 years, and I have the satisfaction
of feeling that altho I have incurred many obligations
I have never received any favor or service from
any Minister or any Man within the King's Dominion
nor have ever provided for a single friend. Had Mr
Perceval lived I had for this every assurance
of providing for every friend in the most handsome
and most liberal manner - which Lord Liverpool
as well as other Cabinet Ministers - are well acquainted
with - but his premature death - has disappointed
the expectations not merely of individuals, but
of the Country & should Mr. Law accept of the
very gracious offer which has been made to him
of coming to the Galtton, I am in course to take
with such time as are the similar situation
can be found; and as the whole of this arrangement
is upon the most liberal and gratuitous footing
as well in regard to Mr. Law as to myself.

Now I must after Mr. Curzon's Will cannot
fail to have to every thinking and reflecting
Mind its proper weight and value

I shall expect a line from you by this Night's
Post - merely to say whether or not the offer
now made be declined or accepted. If accepted,
it will not be necessary for Mr. Law to attend unless it
be a very trifling inconvenience and agreeable to himself
He shall not incur a single farthing of expense
I am My Dear Lord Wm Pitt