

H. H. to Lord North

Mar. 31 1778

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Lord North, Though I mentioned your continuing until the end of this Session, I never doubted that if it should be really necessary to detain you longer to arrange matters in the best manner ^{to} or for whatever event, that you would submit to it, and indeed I am pleased at finding I judged right on that head; indeed that latitude is indispensably necessary, for until I received your letter the last Afternoon, I never despaired of persuading you to continue in your present Employment, though I felt how painful it was unto you, and therefore have never arranged any ideas in my mind, in case that disagreeable event should arise.

As soon as you have acquainted me with the answer of the Attorney General, if you do not chuse to take the part of acquainting the Lord Chancellor of the necessity, particularly at this time of the person who holds that Office attending Council, and therefore of my calling on him to resign the Great Seal, I will readily send for him and tell it unto him myself; I did so in the case of Lord Camden, and perhaps he will like that better. I perfectly agree that any idea of your retiring must be kept quite secret, and I shall from this hour redouble my activity to show the public that no event however unpleasant personally to me can abate my ardour to be of use to my Country

Lucena House

March 31. 1778.

46 p. 7. A. A.

[Faint, mirrored handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

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