In the present dreadful and alarming illness with which it has pleased Almighty Providence to afflict the King, We the Queen and Nine of His Majesty's Children, at present assembled at the Queens house, think it a duty we owe to His Majesty, to our Country, and to ourselves, to state in writing the Reasons which have induced us after having duly weighed the melancholly Circumstances under which we stand

to accept with thanks the Offer which has been made to us by His Majesty's confidential Servants to relieve us from the Care and Superintendence of His Majesty on this trying Occasion —

We are fully sensible that we are bound both by duty & affection towards the King, in our respective situations of Wife and Children

The following words were proposed by the Duke of Kent, but objected to by the Duke of York and the Sentence as it now stands, from "to accept" to "trying occasion" inserted —

to express our grateful satisfaction upon the Communication made to us by Mr. Addington, of its being the disposition and intention of His Majesty's confidential Servants to take altogether upon themselves the responsibility attending the Care and Superintendence of His Majesty's Person during the Continuance of his present Calamitous, and alarming disorder —

* the Duke of Kent from ~~the~~ the moment he first read ~~read~~ this Paper felt a strong wish, that the words between * and # should be altogether omitted, as he was apprehensive they might admit of a construction that would be justly offensive to some of the family, but he felt, judging from himself, a conviction that no such meaning could be intended to be implied, & therefore for obvious reasons, did not start any objections, resolving however to himself to make a private note of the manner in which they had struck him, in case, at a future day, it should be the subject of discussion —

This sentence, from "and lastly" to "call to his Councils" was proposed by the Duke of Kent, was unanimously agreed to, and accordingly inserted.

to fulfil, as far as is in our Power every personal wish and intention of his — But considering the Majesty's public Situation in this Country as King, the Interest which the Nation has in the preservation of his life, & the restoration of his health.* How much its dearest interests, and even the very Existence of his Majesty's Throne and Government may depend upon the Measures which we are now to be decided upon, # and lastly being fully aware, that the Law does not authorise us to take upon Ourselves the arduous duty of determining upon the Means to be adopted for His Majesty's Recovery, We conceive this important Charge cannot rest in any

hands with so much prosperity, as in those of the Persons whom the King has himself been pleased to call to his Councils —

Having thus stated the Reasons which have actuated us under the present dreadful Circumstances, we can only add our fervent wish, that, should the Almighty restore his dignity to us, & to the Country, our Conduct may meet, after full Consideration, with his Approbation, as it does with that of our own Consciences —

Signed,
Charlotte

Augusta — Frederick
Eliza — Edward
Mary — Ernest
Sophia — Adolphus Fred.k
Amelia

Queens House
Wednesday Night
15 February 1804

Declaration of
the Queen, and
none of His
Majesty's Children

with Memorandums for
the Duke of Kent put into
the Prince's Hands Sunday
Feby. 19th. 1864.

His Majesty's illness

36539

15 Feb 1804

In the present dreadful and alarming illness, with which it has pleased Almighty Pro=vidence to afflict The King. We, The Queen, and Nine of His Majestys Children, at present assembled at the Queens House, think it a duty we owe to His Majesty, to our Country, and to ourselves, to state in writing, the reasons which have induced us, after having duly weighed the melancholly cir=cumstances under which we stand, to accept with thanks, the offer which has been made by His Ma=jestys confidential servants, to relieve us from the care and superintendance of His Majesty on this trying occasion.

We are fully sensible that we are bound, both by duty and affection towards the King, in our respective situations of Wife and Children, to fulfill as far as is in our power, every personal wish, or intention of His. - But considering His Majestys public situation in this Country, as King, the interest which the Nation has, in the preserva=tion of His life, and the restoration of His health,

how much His dearest Interests, and even the very existence of His Majestys Throne and Government, may depend upon the measures, which are now to be decided upon, and lastly, being fully aware, that the law does not authorize us, to take upon ourselves the arduous duty of determining upon the means to be adopted, for His Majestys recovery, We conceive this important charge cannot rest in any hands, with so much propriety, as in those of the persons, whom the King has himself been pleased to call to His Councils.

Having thus stated the reasons which have actuated us, under the present dreadful circumstances, We can only add our fervent wish, that should the Almighty restore His Majesty to us, and to the Country, our conduct may meet after full consideration, with His approbation, as it does with that of our own consciences. –

Queens House Wednesday Night 15th February 1804

(signed)

Charlotte

Augusta
Eliza
Mary
Sophia

Frederick
Edward
Ernest
Adolphus Frederick

Copy.

Paper relative to the Indisposition of His Majesty George 3d. signed by the Queen and Nine of the Princes and Princesses

15th July 1804.