

C. J. Fox to H. R. H.

38065 - 6

4 March 1783

Sir.

I should have written to your Royal Highness last night, if Mr. Townsend had not undertaken to see you at the Marquess's, & to acquaint you with all the particulars of what had happened. - Lord North wrote to his Majesty this morning, to let him know that we had absolutely declined acting unless the Duke of Portland was appointed to the Treasury. The King desired to see him, & Lord North waited upon him accordingly this evening. His Interview

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with his Majesty was short, and the substance of the conversation was merely this: that as we could not give up the point of the Treasury, and as Lord North could not take it, nor act without us that his Majesty had no further commands for his Lordship. - This Negotiation is therefore entirely at an end, and not only the Country is now without a Ministry, but there does not appear at present any prospect of making one. I understand his Majesty appeared in perfect good humour & easy, from whence one might imagine that he has some other scheme in view, but I do not

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learn from any quarter that this is the  
case. I really think there is a moment  
when those who wish well to his Majesty  
& to his Authority in this Country ought  
to advise him not to delay any longer  
taking those measures to which he must  
be driven at last; for it is impossible  
but the greatest dissatisfaction must  
arise from the present unsettled state of  
affairs. I trust to the goodness which  
your Royal Highness has repeatedly  
shown me that you will consider this  
letter as written in the utmost confidence;  
but I really think the King's situation  
not extremely critical, unless he can make

up his mind to trust those who ~~have~~ <sup>have</sup>  
the most unfeigned attachment to his  
Person and Family, & who alone are  
capable of serving him at this juncture  
I have the honour to be with every  
sentiment of gratitude & respect,

Sir,  
your Royal Highness' most  
obedient humble servant  
C. J. Fox

St James' Street  
Tuesday Night.

Mr Fox is  
at St James  
being made  
at 10 o'clock