

H. R. A. to the Queen

Mar. 9 1789

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Madam,

The contents of Your Majesty's Note were really of too much importance, and of too painful a nature for me to return an immediate answer. I have shewn them to my Brother, whose sentiments agree entirely with mine, & who feels as I do, the disagreeing alternative that is offer'd us of leaving our conduct unexplained to the King, or of obtruding upon Him a dis-
-cupation

which may have the effect of agitating Him too much. In this situation however, We do not hesitate to sacrifice every Thing to our tenderness for His Majesty, and do not desire He should be further troubled upon our account at present. We have too lively an impression, of what They have to answer for, who have brought or suffer'd others to bring, business before the King at a time when all agitation is improper, to be guilty of any Thing liable to a similar construction. But I trust We shall be permitted, to present to Your Majesty a few facts & circumstances relative to the peculiarity of our situation, with the truth of which You are

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perfectly well acquainted. I conceived myself to have a promise from Your Majesty, that the Papers which I had the honor of transmitting to You, should be given to the King at the first moment of his being in a proper state to attend to business, relying upon this promise, I thought myself authorized to disbelieve all the reports which the Ministers so industriously circulated of their having laid business before His Majesty & explained to him what had passed during his illness. But when the Chancellor and Mr. Pitt made their respective declarations in the two Houses of Parliament last Thursday I could not but suppose there had been some

truth in what I had before treated as idle rumors
& wrote to Your Majesty in consequence. Feeling
as my Brother & I do for the King's quiet
repose, we consider the answer sent to us, as a
prohibition with respect to any present explanation
of our conduct, & thus instead of having the
preference, to wh. we had so just a claim, & wh.
we were induced to expect, we dare not even
attempt to counteract the impressions which
our Cousins who have daily access to the
King, may have given of the part we took
in the late important occurrences. Your
Majesty must surely be of opinion, that the
state of things, is neither decent nor just,
and

that whoever is responsible for what has passed
 at New since the King's convalescence, has
 much indeed to answer for. I forbear to say
 any thing more on this painful subject, nor
 should I have said so much if I had not thought
 that I owed to my Brother & myself to make
 to Your Majesty this true representation of
 these peculiar hardships of our situation.
 With every sentiment of respect, I have
 the honor to subscribe myself,

Madam,

Your Majesty's
 dutiful & obedient Son
 George R^d

Carlton House.
 March 9th.
 1789.

