

From Lord
Rawdon

London, Sep^r 10th 1792

Sir
Sep^r 10. 1792

I yesterday had with Lord Thurlow
the conversation which your Royal Highness desired
I should hold; and I read to him the draft of the letter
to M^r Pitt which I have now the Honour to enclose.
The observation he made upon it was one which I
must acknowledge to your Royal Highness occurred
to myself: That, with every caution in framing this
letter & the most jealous advertence to the expedi-
-ency, it would bear the appearance of spontaneous
application to M^r Pitt; & it would undoubtedly
be so represented by his friends. In a matter be-
-tween your R. Highness & the King, even certainty
of success would not reconcile it to your feelings
to solicit the intervention of a Minister: But
the sensation becomes more nice when there is so
much reason to fear that after this step on
your part the result might be unsatisfactory.
From the discourse imparted to your R. Highness
by M^r Gilvie, the offer which you have to apprehend
is this: An insufficient assistance, coupled with a

condition that you shall cede a part of your
present income, still maintaining the public
position which subjects you to so much expense.
The holding you R. Highness in a state of embargo
is so much a part of the game which the
Ministers have been playing that I have no hope
of their adopting a more liberal line, unless they
shall have it in direct command from the King.
Therefore it seems inadvisable to make Mr Pitt
a party in the transaction, in such shape as to
give him the title of advising on a point where
he naturally ought to be merely the vehicle of
the King's pleasure. Pertinacious resentment will
never become your R. Highness's situation, any more
than they will be merciful to your temper.
Get your R. Highness expressed to Mr Gilpin a
sense of Mr Pitt's conduct towards you which will
be weighed in the present instance, because you
would naturally shew any unnecessary appearance
of seeking atonement for a person on whose be-
havior towards you your R. Highness had made
that species of remark.

From these considerations, Sir, I cannot
but agree with Lord Shelburne, that it will be more
praiseworthy for your interest, as well as more convenient

to your dignity, to address yourself immediately to the King: and the same so, as in fact I believe your R. Highness has not made any direct application to His Majesty. The statement of Lord Pembroke was considered as a private paper drawn by the King's desire; and, tho' it urged the necessity of immediate remedy, would not be regarded as a solicitation requiring an answer.

Upon the supposition that this suggestion might have weight with your R. Highness, I have taken the liberty of submitting the draft of a letter to the King: a licence which your R. Highness will believe I would not have ventured to take, did not our distance make it important to anticipate by such a precaution any orders you might be disposed to give me for sketching such a paper. Should your R. Highness disapprove it, you have only to humbly beg pardon of me. Lord Pembroke has not seen this draft. He counselled strongly that your R. Highness (should you adopt the measure of writing to the King) would enclose a copy of that letter to the Queen; with a short explanation

1817
of your motives & of the degree of assistance
which you hoped for Her Majesty. From what
the Queen said to you, Sir, it is evident that
Her Majesty has found a reluctance to discuss
the subject with her; and it would therefore be a
unfair request on the part of your R. Highness,
that Her Majesty should be a positive advocate
-cate for the extent of your wishes. Your
Highness might state this to the Queen, adding
that all which you now entreated was, Her
aid in obtaining an answer in the shortest
terms — & Her kind endeavors to make the
King sensible that every deference & respect
which you could in such a crisis pay to her
Majesty was unequivocally & most anxiously
discharged by you. And indeed, Sir, you
will have the pleasing consciousness that
you have not omitted any attention which she
could claim from you. The urgency of your cir-
-cumstances has not left to you any choice
of measures other than what you are now per-
-forming. There is no pursuing the scheme of your

furniture unless those around you can pledge
 themselves to your tradesmen that some plan
 for their relief will be instantly arranged.
 And your R. Highness will observe that in an in-
 -surrection it is not the outward affront alone
 which is to be dreaded: The inference of your in-
 -attention to the distresses of your creditors / not
 unjust as it would be / is infinitely more to be
 feared. Therefore this disgrace is at all ways
 to be avoided. The step which your R. Highness
 proposes to take if adequate relief be refused
 to you, is a very serious one, but undoubtedly
 very honorable & meritorious. It will require
 all your firmness: For you would have to resolve
 absolutely to live on the revenue of the Duchy
 of Cornwall whatsover it may be, as the mode
 in which your R. Highness carries through this
 decided measure will determine entirely the
 public opinion respecting its propriety.

Pardon me, Sir, for the freedom with which

I speak, and for troubling you with so long
a letter. May I be permitted again to urge you
giving the preference to application to the
King, instead of causing me to write to Mr Pitt
Should your Royal Highness decide otherwise, you
will signify your pleasure, and I will in
that case send the letter with any altera-
-tion you might prescribe.

With profound respect & very grateful
attachment, I have the Honour to remain
Sir,

Your Royal Highness's most
faithful & devoted servant

J. B. B. B.

Perhaps it may be convenient to your Royal Highness to know
that Parliament will certainly meet on the 15th of
Nov^r; but the information to be now given in secret.

H. R. Highness
The Prince of Wales.

Draft of a Letter to Mr Pitt

Sept 10th 1792

Sir

It is in obedience to the Commands of the Prince of Wales, that I trouble you upon the subject of His Royal Highness's affairs.

Some time has elapsed since a statement of H. R. Highness's engagements was presented to His Majesty. It was a representation not lightly admitted, or taken up by a questionable authority: since the nature of it was not by a consideration of material expedience for the King, than a desire to extricate the Prince from difficulties perhaps thoughtlessly incurred.

That statement, I should conceive, must have urged the necessity of very prompt decision: Because it originated from a knowledge that the Prince was exposed to the

Draft of a letter from
L^d Rawdon to Mr Pitt.

This letter was not sent,
it having been afterwards
determined to manage
the business in another mode.

Lord Rawdon
to
Mr Pitt

Sept. 10th 1792

His R. H.'s Debts.

Note. This letter was
not sent.

daily hazard of public insult
by an execution in ^{the} Court
a disgrace which temporary
expedients could no longer
avert. The actual ef-
fect which so humiliating
an event would produce in
public opinion, at a time
when there is but too great pro-
pensity to discredit every branch
of Monarchical Establishment,
was felt with a due apprehen-
sion of so serious a consequence.
And the prevention of that dan-
ger, only to be secured by im-
mediate remedy, was the in-
ducement for laying the
whole circumstance before
the King.

The Prince of Wales has
lately passed some days at
Beynonth. As His Majesty
said nothing to H. R. Highness
on the subject of an arrange-
ment so pressing in its nature,
the Prince conceived it right
to the King's pleasure that the
answer should come thro' some

official channel: and His Majesty's House deemed it a point of respect not to open any conversation on the business with His Majesty. You, Sir, having had the opportunity of recent communication with the King, may have received some indication of His Majesty's pleasure: at the same time you may not be aware of the exceptional urgency of the case to which it is to apply. It is from this latter consideration that the Prince desires me to ask in his name, whether His Majesty has deigned to signify any resolution. Should the latter be left to the determination of His Majesty's Ministers, the Prince trusts that zeal for the Honor of the Royal Family will induce them to give him a speedy intimation of what he is to

expect. No form of rejection
upon the application could
be more ruinous or more
wounding to the Prince than
suspense. Because, I am di-
-rected to add, there are but
two modes by which the sei-
-zure of the furniture in Carl-
-ton House can be prevented:
Either, the Prince must be en-
-treated to give assurances that
the claims will be put into
a train of liquidation this
ensuing winter; or he must
immediately make that ar-
-rangement which he will
(if an increase of Income be
refused) petition His Majesty
to permit.

The grounds of the
Prince will be my sufficient
excuse for this degree of
interference on so delicate
a subject. Having no title
to the function which I am
discharging beyond the inter-
-est which I must in common

with any other fellow citizens
 feel upon an important pub-
 -lic measure, I might perhaps
 in form have declined an en-
 -barrasing office: But such
 an evasion of respect towards
 the Prince & of service (as
 I contemplate it) to the
 Community, was not recon-
 -cileable with what I
 felt due to either; and
 under this construction,
 Sir, I must beg you to re-
 -gard the circumstance
 of my being the channel
 for this communication.

I have the Honour
 to be Sir,

Your most obed^t
 & very humble serv^t

J. Pitt

