

Copy of a Letter, October 3th 1792.

To the King.

Sir.

Your Majesty has for some time been apprized of the embarrassed circumstances, under which I labor, nothing but the last necessity, could have induced me to wish that such an exposure of my affairs should be made to your Majesty. I could not but fear, that it must give your Majesty uneasiness, and I could not but feel that it ought to give me a degree of self-condemnation.

I do not attempt to disguise to myself the imprudence thro' which some of these difficulties have been incurred. The Allowance, however, settled upon me in the year 1787 was so far short of the estimate which marked the lowest Income on which my Establishment could be supported; that a large Arrear was unavoidably to be apprehended. An unfortunate Omission, to an important Amount, had also been made in the list of my Debts, which was afterwards represented to the Treasury, but, it seems, too late to be received for liquidation. The assistance actually accorded by Parliament, was so tardily paid, that the Interest on the Debt, ordered to be discharged, in the mean while accumulated; and the necessity of purchasing all the necessary expensive Articles, requisite for the resumption of my State, from the outset burthened my Income, which had it been clear, would have been inadequate.

These circumstances, together with the total insufficiency of the Sum granted for the finishing the latter House, rendered it impossible not to incur burthened payments; yet I frankly own, that they will not account for a proportion of Debt, too justly imputable to a want of strict Economy in various branches, the united effects of which, I did not consider in time. If Sir, my situation was explained to you, as I accurately unfolded it to Lord Thurlow, (whose attachment to your Majesty's Person & Family, permitted him out, as my fittest resort) it must have been represented that the pressure of the encumbrance was so urgent, as to require immediate remedy. When I had the Honor lately to attend your Majesty at Weymouth, I had hopes that your Goodness would have led you to

operation of your determination on the Subject; As your Majesty however never alluded to it, I deemed it a point of respect, not to obtrude any conversation upon that topic, flattering myself, that I might manage to keep my affairs afloat, until your Majesty should deign to signify your pleasure; unfortunately, Sir, I have in this short interval found the pressure such, that Remedy of some sort can no longer be withheld. — Let me implore you Sir, to do justice to the reverence with which I venture to solicit your speedy decision. — I am far, very far indeed, from wishing that your Paternal affection should lead your Majesty to adopt any measures for my relief, which may in other parts of view, appear to you as advisable; I only supplicate that if it shall be thought inconsistent with your Majesty's Service, to allow means for extricating me from these difficulties, the determination may be imparted to me; Upon this head however, may I presume to add, in explanation, that I most humbly, and most earnestly petition your Majesty, against any application to Parliament for a grant Sum, to discharge my Debts: I wish only, that by such an augmentation of my Income, as would not be felt burdensome by the Public, I may (without dereliction of my present situation) be enabled to make those arrangements, for satisfaction to my creditors, which Justice & Honor require for them, at my hands. If your Majesty shall judge assistance of this nature inexpedient, I shall bow to the decision, with the most affectionate resignation; I shall then, with the conscientiousness of having fulfilled every duty of respect towards your Majesty, only band to devote to the benefit of my creditors, every resource in my power. Nothing adequate to the object could be set apart for the purpose as long as the maintenance of my public situation shall subject me to correspondent expediture. — I should only, by such a deduction, from an Income (already insufficient for my Station) rid also myself of fresh Debt, which I profess, to be in wishing any former incumbrances — It will therefore be requisite for me to live in complete retirement: I am well aware, that in withdrawing myself, from the

Sphere of the Court, reflection may present itself, beyond
 the immediate awkwardness of the measure, to my personal
 feelings; At a moment when a levelling spirit is fermenting
 throughout Europe, there are circumstances that might
 make me hesitate adopting such a resolution. I am
 however, that the splendour descending from the
 splendor attached to my Rank may be politically dis-
 advantageous, but no consideration whatever, can be
 so formidable to me, as the shadow of impeachment on
 my private probity. — The resolution I have formed
 upon full deliberation, I can firmly & steadily carry
 through, as soon as I shall be satisfied, by your Majesty's
 answer, that such a procedure will not be misconstrued
 into any deviation from the attention & Submissions
 due to your Majesty. Whatsoever sacrifice of honest
 pride there may be in sentencing myself to such a de-
 clusion, it will be reconciled to me, by the character,
 which that Step, must unequivocally bear; It can
 not but manifest a sense of Error, and a sollicitude
 to repair the effects of that Error, most truly felt by me!
 An atonement entitling me to preserve that place
 in public opinion, which it is a sacred obligation
 object to retain. before I conclude Sir, allow me
 to say, that in such a retirement I should always
 preserve the most earnest readiness, and ardent zeal to
 stand forth in your Majesty's Service, upon every
 occasion where your Majesty's wishes, or Interest, may
 command my exertions; for my filial Affection and
 unfeigned Duty, will be no less lively, in that obscure
 situation, than they are now, whilst I have the happi-
 ness of feeling that my public appearance, is a part
 of the Splendor, of your Majesty's Throne —

