

Capt. J. Payne to H.R.H.

38771-2

1. of Lock Wednesday night

Sir!

Immediately on my arrival in town I sought out the persons that I was presumed were most zealous in your Roy. High^{ness}'s interest and saw Sheridan, Lord North and Lord Loughbor^{ough} from whom I learnt there would be a meeting at Lord North's this evening, when the discussion would take place of what was to be done tomorrow at the meeting of Parliament. It made me very happy to find in this assembly that the delicacy of your Royal Highness's situation was the first object in the contemplation of every individual there, without your A^{ssess}or's name being even mention'd, or

yourself committed in the smallest degree.
be found that the ministers must be
surrounded with difficulties in their
proceedings tomorrow, and in which, it would
be so difficult task, to detect and expose
them, but the apprehension of agitating
any thing that might carry any marks
of precipitancy with it discouraged us
from undertaking it, and tomorrow it is
propos'd to confer with the Chancellor and
Mr. Pitt for the purpose of giving them
all the time they want, without obtaining
it in the informal way, that they now
mean to obtain it. This consultation lasted
too late for me to give your R^{ty} an
account of it tonight and I shall therefore
send this to you in the morning time
enough to receive your Royal Highness's

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instructions upon any new matter that
may arise in your mind upon the subject
before I go down to the house, from
whence I shall immediately set off for
London.

I delivered your letter to the Chancellor
and enclose herewith the copy thereof.
I had some conversation with him, in
which he conducted himself with great
personal civility to me, and asked me
what I thought you seem to point at
most by way of information, as I saw
he was still very close and reserved.
I said that your only wish'd to conduct
yourself with the greatest degree of duty
and tenderness to his Majesty, you wish'd
to be inform'd as to the probable time of
the ensuing adjournment, in order to avoid

any inconvenience that might arise upon
too sudden a disclosure of the present
unfortunate count that existed, and added
that if your Royal Highness had known
of Mr. Pitt's intention of going down today
you would not have been induced to have
sent to him - I gave it this turn for reason
that I wish apiece to your Highness tomorrow. He
seemed mightily pleased with the manner
you had conducted the business, and I
left him, when he said he was not aware
of having signified any intention of
writing to your Royal Highness today as he thought
you supposed by your letter, or he should
have written to have advertised your Highness
of the four teen days intended adjournment
Mr. P. will write to your Highness tomorrow
when I shall be the bearer. I am dear Sir
Yours &c