

Ld. Chancellor

to H. R. H.

39570 - 71.

Apr. 24<sup>th</sup> 1799

Sir

Your Royal Highness was pleased in reference to a Writing that had been delivered by Mr. Bicknell to Mr. Coles about the 13<sup>th</sup> of February 1796 & which when written & read I understood was proposed to be presented by me to His Majesty as a Petition of Right, to direct at my humble Request, that your Attorney & Solicitor General should communicate with me upon the opinion I entertained that It did not belong to the office of Chancellor to receive & present a Petition of Right to His Majesty.

I stated that opinion to these learned Gentlemen with the reasons on which It was founded and the precedents which seemed to prove that the Proceeding on a Petition of Right did not & could not without manifest

Errors

Ld

Ever commence in the manner proposed; I added  
that if upon the result of any further research into a  
Proceeding which had been in disuse for almost Two  
Centuries, they should discover any Precedent that could  
justify my performing a Function which I took to be  
inconsistent with the Duty assigned to me in the course  
of the said, I should consider with the utmost  
attention the Authority of any such Precedent

I have had no communication since with these  
Gentlemen upon the subject, till I had the honour of  
receiving your Royal Highness's Letter of the 19<sup>th</sup> instant  
when I took the earliest opportunity of inquiring of them  
what they had found any other Precedent which they said

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39571

They had not a of recalling to their recollection the  
Result of the former Interview three years ago, which  
They say clearly understood.

The Writing is still in Mr. Cotes's Custody, but  
It has always remained at Mr. Becknett's disposal whenever  
He chose to take it away returning the Receipt which  
He required Mr. Cotes to give at the same He delivered  
It to Him.

I have the Honour to be, Sir

Your Royal Highness's

most devoted & most faithful  
Humble servant

Loughborough

Lord Longborough  
24<sup>th</sup> April 1799

1799