

Ld. Thurlow to H. R. A.

(Previously read as 1799, but
of following letter)

Dec. 2 1795.

39666 - 7

Sir

The earnestness, with which your Royal Highness was pleased to recommend myasking an Audience, naturally called for the most serious attention on my Part; and with no little Prepossession, that it must afford a better Prospect of Utility, than I could discern. But, after viewing it on every side, even under that Prejudice, I can figure to myself no Expectation of an useful Issue.

“ Measures, tending to give the Ministers
“ extraordinary Opportunities of Oppression, at the
“ Expense of loading the King's Person with the
“ odium, by attaching them to his Life, or a
“ shorter Portion of his Reign, as if the Safety
“ of those were inconsistent with the old and
“ established Liberties of his People, which never was

he
"more manifestly false than in the present moment
"such Measures ought to alarm His Majesty; and
"it is the Part of Duty and Gratitude to put
"him on His Guard" — Be it so! — But
proffered Service, the Proverb says, strikes. Many
Bystanders are pleased to imagine, They could
direct another's Conduct better than He does;
but the offer to do that, uncalled for, is justly
treated as an Impertinence. The attachment
and Zeal, which I am too proud of feeling, to
boast of, might be treated as a Veil. It might
be referred to Resentment, unless I am thought
insensible of Ill-usage; or to Interest, or
Ambition, if, in the actual state of my Health,
I am supposed to entertain distant Prospects.
Those, to whom it will be immediately communicated,
will not fail to give it the worst Interpretation.

Ed. Thurlow to H. R. A.

(Previously read as 1799, but
cf. following letter)

Dec. 2 1795

39667

and it must be easier to prevent the Return of
Confidence, than it was to eradicate it.

These considerations, which it would
be tedious to dilate to your Royal Highness,
who is so capable of comprehending their whole
extent at one view, deter me: and your
Royal Highness will easily conceive, how
awkwardly a Man would execute a thing,
which he feels it awkward to attempt.

I am

Sir

Your Royal Highness's
most Dutiful and Devoted servant

Wednesday December
2^d. 1795.

Thurlow.

