

Ld. Moira to Col. Mc Mahon.

40150-1

Edinburgh, May 14th
1804

My Dear General

I return D'Helvillé's
letter, as you desire. There will not now
be any paper put for me; because, on
the receipt of Francis's letter, I wrote
directly to say that it was impossible
for me to take share in, or to support,
the projected administration. Were there

any real sacrifice in this, still I should
not feel it: for, in solemn earnest I say it,
nothing but the notion of fulfilling the
Devotion which the Princess's affection claims
from me keeps me in a public line at
all. Perhaps I reason, as to what has
passed, upon ground inaccurately stated. It
is represented to me by D'Arville that
I was most anxious to get his friends

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to take office & let his stand for the money
it is. His disinterestedness would naturally
bid them the same to refuse, had not the
policy for his advantage lain in the other
track. Had a new cabinet been formed
& their various representation been
based upon the king, it is impossible
that Fox should not have been introduced
to it. His, you see, appears that Pitt was

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sincere. I observe that Francis doubts it. Yet
without proof to the contrary, I think there
was so clear & strong a reason for Pitt
to deal fairly that I cannot readily com-
prehend his taking the contrary course.

It is now altogether too late to send
for me. I could not be of any use there
- sooner. The law, be it what it may, which
the Prince shall follow will be adopted [ed.]

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by me with cordial ardor: but I thank
him from my soul for knowing me well
enough to answer for me as he did. It
would not satisfy me were I only to con-
-cure with him by my conduct. My whole
spirit goes with him, & there is no dis-
-tinction of that sentiment in the remark
which I make on the mere policy of
the steps that have taken place.
Charles Mordaunt. Faithfully yours Maria

