

Ed. Maura to H.R.H.

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Birmingham, May 19<sup>th</sup> 1804

I wish I could really feel  
that I had made my sacrifice voluntary  
enough in my own contemplation to justify  
by acceptance of the generous offers with  
which your letter overwhelms me. As my  
appetence was unqualifiedly conditional upon  
your interest, when the latter was not to  
be consulted the former could not exist, therefore

I have not thrown up my hands, nor have I suffer-  
-ed any disappointment. This is strict logic of  
the Heart. Your Royal Highness's disposition  
to consider it otherwise is only a new proof  
of your kindness, superfluities, but still acutely  
penetrating to me. The representation which  
had been transmitted to me on the part of  
Mr Pitt was very different from the detail which  
Your Royal Highness has endeavored to give  
& that which I have received from Mr Pitt.

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It implied, that direct assurances had been  
given of Mr Pitt's determination to lose no oppor-  
-tunity of returning to the charge & proposing  
Mr Fox's admission to the Cabinet when the  
King and right he was accustomed to the  
proposition; provided Mr Fox's friends would in  
the mean time accept Office. As that ground  
alone could I have ascribed any thing of  
importance to Mr Fox's friends. Indeed, the state-  
-ment to me went much farther: for it implied

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- It that at two meetings Mr Fox had earnestly  
pressed his friends to concur in these terms, & that  
they had refused to submit to an objection which  
they considered as stigmatizing him. <sup>the Duke of Devonshire</sup>  
- al dislike of the King would not have reflected <sup>the Prince of Wales</sup>  
Mr Fox's character, I should not have thought  
the above a wise position to take since it was  
giving to Mr Pitt an excuse for forming a separate  
Ministry if he had the wish to do so.

Chambers 19<sup>th</sup> 1804  
the Duke of Devonshire  
the Prince of Wales

I need not, in repeat professions of devotion  
I only ask you to recollect how indebted I am  
to your Royal Highness's unwearied kindness & care

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To put the question to yourself what I wish  
to if I have a wish or object differing  
from yours.

With the highest sentiments of re-  
spect as well as affection, I remain  
ever Sir,

Your Royal Highness's  
most Obedient  
Devoted Servant

H. K. A.

Prinon

The Prince of Wales  
in London

