

A. L. to Ld. North

July 19 1781

Portsmouth 3374

4267

I have received Lord North's Boxes containing the interrupted letters from Mr. Deane for America. I have only been able to read two of which I form the same opinion of too much appearance of being concerted with this Country and therefore not likely to have the effect as if they bore another aspect. I return them and hope when the Copies have been taken to be able to read them at my leisure for it is impossible in a hurry to form any solid Opinion concerning them. The extract from Franklin is very material, should France not supply America amply I think it has the appearance that this long contest will end as it ought by the Colonies returning to the Mother Country, and I confess I will never put my hand to any other conclusion of this business.

Shew July 19<sup>th</sup> 1781.

$\frac{m}{2}$  P.H.



*[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

1861  
10/11/61