

Chas. Feulken Sow

4514

War Office March 14th

1782

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I have just seen Lord Howe, who appears to be in as good a disposition as can be wish'd. & He means to see the Chancellor & to talk to him on some step that may be proper to be taken, in order to free your Majesty from the Difficulties that surround you. He dreads very much the Event of a Majority against the Government in the House of Commons. He did not appear to me to entertain an Idea of your Majesty's seeing either of the Heads of the two Parties who engage at present the Opposition; but He suggested that your Majesty should authorize the Chancellor to desire a Meeting of the Duke of Grafton Lord Shelburne, Lord Rockingham Lord John Cavendish; These with the Chancellor perhaps

perhaps it will be proper to add Lord
 Gower himself) may open their thoughts
 freely & try to arrange something; He
 threw out this merely as an Idea or
 suggestion, on which I am however per-
 suaded he will talk to the Chancellor. He
 said that the proposing such a Meeting
 would produce some Advantage one way or
 other. If any of them refused to come for
 such a Meeting, they would hurt themselves
 with the publick & with the moderate of
 their own party; If they all meet, they might
 disagree & some good would arise from that;—
 or if they could agree, they might form some
 arrangement, which it might be proper to
 lay before your Majesty. His Lordship seem'd
 to be pretty well pleas'd of the Duke of
 Grafton's good Disposition. He said that
 Lord Rockingham's Language at the second
 Conference

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Chas. Jenkinson Esq

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Confidence with the Chancellor was very
different from that of the first that he
had said to him after the first Division,
that he was glad they had not beat us;
He thought that Mr Gose & some of the
most heated were driving him on. At this
His Lordship said to me in confidence; I hope
therefore that your Majesty will not
mention ^{it} to any one. If he & the Chancellor
think proper to bring any such Bill for-
ward, you will hear more of it either from
me or some other Quarter, but I thought it
right to apprise your Majesty of this as
well as of every thing else that I hear.

From

your Majesty's
Dutyful Subject
C. Jenkinson

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

18 Mar