

Ld. North

Mar. 19 1782

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Sir,  
D. North  
March 19 1782

I have seen Mr Grosvenor, & Hecheine have persuaded him to give me his vote tomorrow, but his sentiments are what I described in the letter I had the honor of writing to your Majesty last night, & he would be against us tomorrow, if he conceived, that we were determined to persevere in the struggle, but thinking my intention to be only to gain a day or two's time, he will give us one other vote; His resolution, however, is not general; I hear from every quarter, that we shall certainly be beat tomorrow. Those who staid away last Friday, will vote against us, & many

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& to try what arrangement can be made.  
He is preferable to Ld. Rockingham, inasmuch  
as he has proposed no measures as a peacemaker,  
= navy, but I should not propose this step,  
if it were not absolutely necessary; where an  
absolute necessity exists, Wisdom will teach us to  
submit to it with the best grace possible. If  
Ld. Shelburne should not obtain the assistance  
of Ld. Rockingham, yet if he is supported by  
the Chancellor, Lord Emsay, Lord Weymouth, the  
Duke of Grafton, the Duke of Rutland, Lord  
Temple, <sup>Ld. Camden,</sup> Mr James Lowther, & all their friends,  
The administration will be strong, & will do  
the public business with ability & weight.  
The Present Cabinet, except the Chancellor, must

of those, who voted for us, will be absent. I suspect,  
Sir, there is no chance of keeping the present  
Ministry in place any longer, & if there should be  
any body, who informs your Majesty that there  
is the least hope left of doing so, he deceives  
you, being probably himself misinformed. The fate  
of the present Ministry being certain, your  
Majesty should act accordingly, & do what is  
necessary, & rest upon that supposition, without  
expecting any turn in favour of your present ser-  
=vants which will not happen. I hear, that Ld.  
Shelburne has told the Chancellor today that  
he will speak to no person but your Majesty,  
as an honest man I think myself bound to  
advise your Majesty to see him immediately,

all be renouced, & I can give your Majesty not  
to support any of us against the objections which  
may be brought by the person <sup>for</sup> whom your Majesty  
thinks proper to send.

Having given to your Majesty my best opinion  
on the general point, may I beg leave to add a word  
or two on my own particular situation? It is gene-  
rally imagined, that we shall be beat tomorrow; I  
should happen, I must quit my office immediately, & shall  
remain in the journals for ever stigmatized upon record  
by a vote of Parliament for my removal, which, I believe,  
has ~~never~~ <sup>seldom, if ever</sup> happened to any Minister before. If, by remain-  
ing in office, I could serve your Majesty, I would  
run any risk; But your Majesty's affairs grow worse  
by every hour that my removal is delay'd. It is the  
opinion of all my friends & well wishers, even of those who  
must be reduc'd to great disappointments, that I should  
quit my office immediately. I submit the whole to your  
Majesty's kind consideration, hoping that you will permit  
me to leave my office this day.