

Ld. Hertford

Apr. 3 1782

4592

Sire

As it is proposed to discharge me
from your Majesty's service merely
for my attachment to your Majesty
let me intreat you most anxiously
& importunately if I am to be
thus waded to shelter me from the
disgrace which will accompany
it by giving me an higher rank
in the Peerage, & permit me to
owe it to your own grace and
comickation. I have served
your Majesty more than twenty
years & chief part of that time in
very high employments, nor can I
in a single instance charge my
mind with having failed to your
Majesty in the least degree during

so long a period, let me therefore ^{be} assured
live as a personal servant to your
Majesty be involved with Ministers
to whom I have never belonged, but
allow me to receive a mark of
your favor as a token & testimonial
to my mind & an evidence to
the world that I have not failed
in the object I had always in view.

I have mentioned my wishes &
anxiety to the Duke of Grafton
& my brother who enters into my
feelings & must be friends from
the connection which family and
intimacy have established between
us, & they I understand have
expressed their own satisfaction to
your Majesty's present Ministers

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Whose I suppose as friends of Her Majesty
may not be indisposed to it, tho'
I have not the smallest degree of
connection with them; for the
Duke & my brother left me that
your Majesty may if you think
proper to show me favor distinguish
my case from every other application
in the present circumstances, & it
is that your Majesty may be
informed of every circumstance
that I presume to mention what
has passed between them & me &
that nothing may be misrepresented
having good long usage in the
world, & been taught by experience
that the most innocent things change
their color by passing through artificial
or designing or unfeeling hands.

It is to your Majesty alone that I
wish to owe this favor so essential
to my mind if you command me to
leave your service, and as an old
& faithful servant I flatter myself
that such an example will not
in any shape offend your Majesty's
interests. You would know I
have been attached to you and
consider me accordingly.

Your Majesty will therefore
I hope excuse my anxiety & allow
me to submit myself as I have
always done with the most dutiful
attachment to your Majesty's
most honored &
gracious & faithful hands & direct
April 3, 1762 Hertford