

Ld. Shelburne

Apr. 24 1782

Folios 3686

x 4674

(1)

Sir

On Monday Morning I saw the  
Duke of Marlborough, and consulted him  
under the strictest Inspections of Secresy,  
about Grooms of the Stole; he desir'd time  
to consider, and I have the Honour to  
inclose to your Majesty <sup>his Answer</sup> of them  
some Lord Gower, who thinks himself

too old for that particular Station, but  
in regard to any other disposition to  
do whatever might be most agree-  
-able to your Majesty - I then em-  
-ploy'd the Chancellor to sound Lord  
Weymouth, who did the last night,  
and refers to my being to meet  
him at the Cabinet this day before  
court, to explain Lord Weymouth's  
disposition. I have defer'd  
speaking to Lord Rockingham, till

Ed. S.  
4  
I c  
one  
to  
For  
dis  
wil  
how  
I f  
does  
Lette  
Pro

Ld. Shelburne

Apr. 24 1782

4674 (2)

I could be certain in regard to  
one of these Lords, which I hope  
to be to day.

At 8 o'clock The Duke of  
Portland's Messenger arrived with  
dispatches, which Your Majesty  
will receive in another Box. I  
have no private Letter by him -  
I flatter myself Mr. Fitzpatrick  
does me the Justice to believe no  
Letter could reconcile me to such  
Proceedings.

at the part 9 I saw Mr Lawrence,  
who has been waiting at Sittingborne  
for Mr Oswald's return. I found  
him cham'd, touchy, and concei-  
ted, and vulgarly so. However  
I made a point of keeping my  
Temper, which every day's experi-  
ence tells me can alone enable  
me to be of any use in your Ma-  
jesty's Service, and Mr Lawrence  
must be manag'd on account of

his fundamental aversion to France,  
and not being devoted to any of his  
colleagues - The upshot of his an-  
-swer from Mr Adams is, that he  
could not communicate his Powers  
and Instructions, as long as he  
was a Prisoner, even to him - That  
the greatest part of Mr Digger's  
Paper was false - That an acknow-  
-ledgement of Independence must  
be a Preliminary, and no proce-  
-ding whatever without France.

4

Mr Oswald come to me at 11; I  
have no time to state to your Ma-  
jesty the particulars, but send  
your Majesty his Papers - He has  
others from Dr Franklin to com-  
-municate to me under very strong  
injunctions of the utmost Secrecy.

I hope your Majesty will  
excuse my writing so hastily, as  
I am anxious your Majesty should  
be approv'd before your Leave

of  
-for  
hov  
exp  
Mr  
fo  
Wed  
9<sup>m</sup>  
9/9

4675 (2)

of the Outlines of these Important  
matters - when I have the  
honour to attend you, I will  
explain all more particularly.  
Mr Oswald is now with me.

I have the honour to  
be always

Yr Majesty's  
Devoted Subject  
and Faithfull Servant

Sheburne.

Wednesday  
9<sup>m</sup> past 12 - a.m.

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

*E. of Melbourne  
April 21/1782.*