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London, Sunday Evening
Dec 23 1004

E. of M. in
Dec. 23 1804.
Li

Nothing would make me feel
justifiable in intruding upon your Majesty
with this letter but the fear that I might
otherwise appear culpable in your eyes.

It is but this afternoon I have learned
from the Lord Chancellor that your Majesty
has been waiting for a further answer to a
Paper which your Majesty deigned to transmit

to the Piece of Bales on the 23^d of November, and
 that the object in summoning me from Scotland
 had been that I might expedite that an-
 -swer. When I have been in Town since Wednes-
 -day morning & your Majesty has still remained
 without receiving the answer you expected, it
 is impossible for me not to throw myself at
 your Majesty's feet and exonerate myself from
 the appearance of a procrastination so inexcusable.
 Permit me, Sir, most humbly to assure you that

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the Prince of Wales did not in the least de-
-sire suspect your Majesty could be waiting for
any such Document: but I had not a supposition
that any thing rested upon me but the answering
any reference with which I might be honored,
as the difficulties seemed to have arisen wholly
from the want of explanations which could not
well be stated formally. Having most
truly felt the utmost Devotion of Zeal in obey-
-ing your Majesty's call, I could not have any

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Other disposition than to use every possible
activity of exertion to remove a misunderstanding
which I saw with deep regret had been an ob-
-stacle to your Majesty's wishes.

With profound submission and respect,
I remain

Sr,

Your Majesty's
Most dutiful &
most grateful servant

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