

Thos. Townshend

5056

Whitehall

Nov: 19: 1782

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10 N. 6 P.M.

Mr Townshend humbly presumes
to send your Majesty the Copy of the
Preliminary Articles intended to be trans-
mitted to Mr Oswald, which he has ven-
ured to do without waiting for the dis-
patches to Mr Oswald & Mr Shackey,
as the latter though pretty nearly finished

and

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are not sufficiently accurate for your Majesty's Perusal.

The Purport of these Dispatches is that after agreeing to the Independance, & to the Boundaries, Mr Oswald is to insist upon Personal Amnesty to all, who have adhered to your Majesty without any Exception: likewise upon Payment of

Debts

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Debts due before 1775 & Restitution of
Property to all Real British Subjects,
taking care to obtain as clear & as favora-
ble a definition of that Term as possible.
With regard to the rest of the Articles,
they are to be the subject of Negotiation;
Mr Shackey & Mr Oswald being Directed to
use every effort to obtain the best Terms

possible.

At

possible. The Secret Article is not to be brought forward, but as a means of obtaining the full Benefit of the Fifth Article without any of the Modifications. But even in that case all possible Pains are to be taken to have the Purport of it conveyed by private assurances, rather than by reducing it to the form of

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Article. Mr Oswald is likewise directed
not to sign, but with the full concurren-
ce of Mr Fitzherbert & Mr Shackley
given in writing.

Mr Townsend humbly desires
to receive your Majesty's Commands,
whether the Messenger should immedi-
ately set off for Paris with the Draught

of

of the Preliminary Articles & the Dispa-
ches, when the Draught returns from
Your Majesty, or wait till Your
Majesty shall have seen the Dis-
patches.