

Draft to E. of Shelburne
Queens House Dec. 6. 1782 ^{on} 45 / 9 / 11-1/2

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It is rather hard that when so many weighty concerns are on foot Ministry must be employed in healing the little evils which particular Members of it will be bringing forward if there was any Energy or Discipline ^{in Government} a Master General of the Ordnance and a first Lord of the Admiralty ought not to be making Motions in one House of Parliament without the concurrence of the rest of the Ministers in both Houses I trust that day will still come, or all my labours will continue to prove abortive.

In the present position Lord Shelburne can do nothing better than to send Mr. Orde to Lord Howe and leave it to his decision, perhaps his Vanity will make him lean to the Vote, and though Mr. Orde has auteness as well as civility it will not be easy to shew the Discount that in this instance his ~~own~~ blue coat moves the Thanks to have it meet with some discredit in the other House; I take it for granted if Lord Howe is thanked either Lord Shelburne or Lord Grantham will make a similar motion in favour of Gen. Elliott and the brave Troops that have defended Gibraltar.

[Faint, illegible handwriting on aged paper]