Duke of York

8377

Horse Guards April 2. 1797

Sir

As Your Majesty was graciously pleased to say that it was indifferent to You whether You received the Lancashire Militia on the Thursday or the Friday, I take the liberty to lay before Your Majesty an application that I received yesterday from Colonel Stanley begging leave that the Regiment may be received next Friday instead of Thursday. Should it meet with Your Majesty's approbation, as it would be infinitely more convenient to the Regiment —

I have the Honor to be

Sir

Your Majesty's

Most dutiful Son

and Subject

Frederick

Mr Pitt.
April 2. 1797

8378

Mr Pitt humbly begs leave to submit for Your Majesty's Signature, a Warrant which he presumes to trouble Your Majesty with, on account of the Service to which it relates being urgent with a View to the Arrangements of Finance now depending

Downing Street
April 2 1797. 7 Ch.

Wm. Pitt

Ap. 2 1797

8379

Mr Pitt is very sorry to intrude again upon Your Majesty this Evening, but he finds that the Warrant, with which he before troubled your Majesty (which is for a new Service) would not in form answer the purpose, and as the Service prepes, with a view to the present State of Credit, He trusts Your Majesty will excuse his submitting

a warrant in a different form instead
of the former.

Downing Street

April 2. 1797. £10 Pa.

Mr Pitt.
April 2. 1797.

Wm. Pitt

Apr. 4 1797

8380

Mr Pitt humbly begs leave to acquaint Your Majesty that Mr Sheridan this Day moved for the House going into a Committee to consider whether under the present Circumstances any further Advances could safely be made to the Emperor; which he prefaced by a Speech stating a decisive Opinion against any such Advances. – Mr Pitt opposed

the Motion on the ground of its being unnecessary, and appearing to sanction Mr Sheridan's Objections, and contended strongly for the Propriety of making such Advances as might be thought necessary. The Motion was supported by Mr Fox, and in a few Words by Lord George Cavendish, and was opposed (tho in a doubtful Speech)

Wm. Pitt

Ap. 4 1797

8380(2)

by Sir W. Pulteney. The Motion was negatived by 266 to 88.

Downing Street.

Tuesday April 4th 1797 40m P. 9. P.M.

Mr. Pitt
Downing Street April 4. 1791

Wm. Pitt

8381

Downing Street.
April 8th 1797.

Mr Pitt feels great regret in submitting any Thing to Your Majesty's Consideration, which can occasion any Pain to Your Majesty. But the Circumstances are such that He should not act honestly in withholding from Your Majesty his Opinion on the State of Affairs as arising out of the last Accounts from Vienna, and Italy, and from the Difficulty and Prospect at home. He has therefore thought

it his Duty to submit to Your Majesty the accompanying Paper, which he trusts Your Majesty will believe is the result of as deliberate Reflexion as he can give to the Subject, and which he thinks essential for Your Majesty's Service.

Those of Your Majesty's Servants with whom he has yet had an Opportunity of Consulting, appear to consider the Subject in a similar Point of View. The result of their Opinion will probably be submitted to Your Majesty tomorrow

Wm. Pitt Memorandum
Enclosure.

8382

April 8th 1797

The last accounts from Italy and the Dispatches from Vienna, seem to render it but too doubtful, unless some important Success should soon be gained by the Austrian Army on the Side of Italy, whether the Court of Vienna will not find itself exposed to such Danger as may lead to their concluding a separate Peace. The Danger is much increased by the Suspense under which they remain with respect to

the Pecuniary Succours which they solicit from hence; and altho' it seems possible and probable that the Sum wanted for the present Year may be raised, yet it is even now doubtful whether it can be obtained within as short a Period for the Installments, as would be necessary for punctual Remittances to the Emperor and for indispensible Services at Home.

In this Situation, It seems of the most urgent Importance to secure, as far as possible, that if the Court of Vienna

Wm. Pitt Memorandum
Enclosure.

8382 (2)

solicit
hopeful
ted for
get it
t can
Period
be necessary
the Emperor
at Home.
the most
s far as
Vienna

finds itself prepared to the extreme necessity of concluding Peace within a short Time, ~~It should be indeed~~, till to insist on a Peace to be concluded jointly with this Country. If no unfortunate Event should have happened subsequent to the Date of the last Dispatches from Italy, and, till more if any advantage should have been gained by the Archduke, There may be Time for endeavouring to have to account the Mediation of Russia, which would probably be

very acceptable to the Emperor and with which that of Prussia might perhaps safely be allowed to be joined. If however the Turn of Events should be unfavourable and rapid, It seems to be essential to prevent if possible Austria from concluding a Peace separate from this Country. – This Situation it is to be hoped will not take place but it must be guarded against. – There seems no Way of

8383

providing for the Objects here stated, but
by instructing Sir Morton Eden to propose
to the Court of Vienna to lose no Time
in endeavouring to avail itself of the
Mediation of Prussia (joined if necessary
with Russia) for a general Peace, if
the Circumstances will admit of their
waiting the result of that Mode, and
to empower him, if the Court of
Vienna should feel the necessity more
urgent, to state the Grounds on which
this Country is ready to join in the Peace,

and to agree to specific Terms for that Purpose. — The general Grounds on which this Opinion is formed are, that there is much reason to fear that unless Measures are immediately taken for a Joint Peace, a separate Peace between France and Austria may become unavoidable — that such a separate Peace would be the greatest Aggravation of the Difficulties now experienced which could possibly arise — and above all that the <u>extreme</u> Difficulty of providing

8383(2)

even now for the pressing and indispensable
Exigencies of the Public Service, renders
the Pecuniary Support necessary for the
Emperor at least precarious, while
it at the same Time proves that the
Continuance of the Contest (in the
Event of a separate Peace between
France and Austria), would produce
a Pressure on this Country, which ought
by all possible Means to be avoided,
tho it is to be hoped that it would
be met with Fortitude if all Means

of avoiding it, consistently with the Public Safety should fail of Success. Even the Object of the Netherlands, important as it is in every point of View, does not seem to be one, which can be set against so many important and urgent Considerations.

8384 – 5

April 9th 1797.

The Paper received this Morning from Mr. Pitt would require much more time for meditation before any Opinion was given on its purport, than the press of the moment will admit; E ~~therefore trust that my Sentiments will be viewed without observing the irregular~~ ~~[illegible] and not the mode in which~~ they are stated, as it was impossible to arrange them properly ~~[illegible] them on paper~~ so rapidly ~~as~~ [illegible]

E as it seems to allude to a Decision of Cabinet being made on the measure in the course of this Day and I am desirous Mr. Pitt should communicate to the Members of it my view of the subject previous to their forming any final Opinion, I therefore desire my Sentiments may be canvassed without attending to the irregular mode in which

Before I enter on the serious subject ~~[illegible]~~ that has been this morning brought ~~[illegible]~~ before me, one natural reflection occurs, the lamenting the mode ~~but too often [illegible]~~ adopted of late Years of acting immediately on the impulse of the Minute consequently ~~often taking decisions on too slight grounds [illegible]~~ not giving that cool examination which ~~that~~ perhaps might in more instances than one have been ~~more~~ beneficial to the Service.

I think this Country has taken every humiliating step ~~the [illegible]~~ the warmest advocates for seeking Peace ~~[illegible]~~ [illegible] that I should [illegible] have proposed ~~[illegible]~~ Enemy ~~I cannot therefore~~ farther attempt of the same nature from my fear of their destroying every remaining spark of ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible] the one of France [illegible]~~ ~~nothing can be made till the~~ ~~Enemy shew a desire of renewing negociations for Peace~~

The news from Italy is certainly unfavourable but two recent [illegible]

build

~~any~~
~~built sufficient foundation to form~~
till farther information
the ~~and certainty~~
build any sound opinion upon
arriving from Vienna and certainty
the language Sir Morton Eden holds
looks as if the Emperor still inclined
to continue the conflict without which
he must make excessive sacrifices.
Would it not therefore be wise for us to
for farther developpement of
wait ~~the events of farther information~~
before we cast a dye that I fear
must for ever close the glory of this
Country, ~~and~~ reduce Austria to a
small State, besides fixing the
present wicked Constitution of
France on a solid ground ~~for greater~~ of
more
~~of that in~~ extent and ~~consequence~~ preponderancy
the most aspiring
in Europe than ~~even the high~~
ideas
~~notions~~ of Lewis XIV. ever presumed
to form
~~to think of~~.

~~X If the Low Countries is to~~
~~remain to France and Holland~~
~~remain a Dependant ~~a ...~~ State upon~~
~~France we may talk of Continental~~
~~Alliances they will no longer be~~
~~of any avail and France having~~
~~gained these concessions will~~
~~certainly continue to respect to~~
~~extend its territories to the Banks~~
~~of the Rhine as ~~decoy~~ the arguments~~
~~that ~~ensued happy ones~~ require Peace~~
~~on the conditions ~~above stated~~~~
~~brought to a dright, the latter~~
~~would ~~make them act in the~~~~
~~~~compassion of that latter~~~~
~~~~refuse that latter~~~~

make a separate Peace as that would
leave us at liberty to make one with
less sacrifices than if we are to have a
joint negociation, where our requisitions
must be employed to regain the territories of
Austria [illegible] that I shall in the Con

~~or~~ in comparison of their situation
before this Conflict.

X If the Low Countries remain in the
possession of France, and the former
United provinces continue a Dependant
State on the former, we may talk of
ballances of Power, but they cannot
exist, and the same Chain of reasoning
that will admit the above measures,
will I fear not prevent France from
adding all the territory between
them and the Banks of the Rhine
to their Possessions.

As to the State of Our Finances
it is impossible for Me to decide
how far they are tenable as to
assist Austria, I flattered myself
after the Debate on Tuesday Mr.
Pitt had given that measure
as not difficult, but should that
prove the case and reduce
Austria to sue for Peace, I own
I would rather see their
send some farther reflections to Mr. Pitt.

† This was not concluded and therefore not sent but a letter of reluctant acquiescence on the Cabinet being unanimous in proposing the substance of Mr. Pitt's proposition of Saturday Evening April 8th.

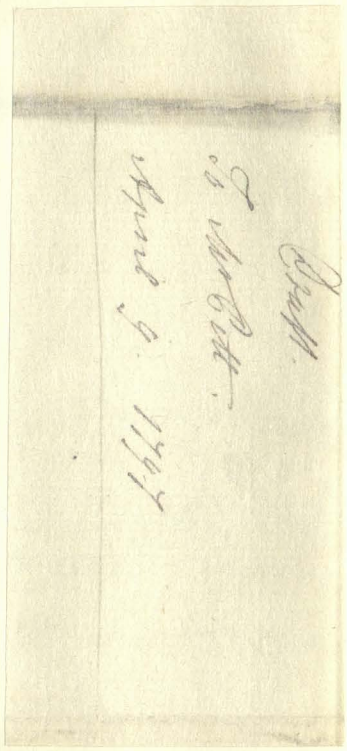
8385 †

April 9th 1797.

Agreeable to the expectation I gave Mr. Pitt this forenoon, I take up my Pen to continue to state my ideas on the paper I received from him this morning, having then concluded with stating that of the two Evils I preferred Austria making a separate Peace and consequently receiving no from any embarrassment on her account, to the proposing a joint Negociation which to save Austria must oblige us to give up every advantage we have gained in the West Indies.

The point that next occurs for my mentioning is the danger of admitting Prussia into any part of Mediator now that we are acquainted with the views of aggrandizement at the expence of other powers, and when all reprobate that Idea it equally holds good against Austria obtaining Bavaria, indeed if she treats for Peace she cannot with any degree of decency call on the German Empire to consent to such a measure, and I cannot but here declare as a Member of it, that I shall actually in my Electoral Capacity equally oppose the Duke of Austria acquiring Bavaria, as Prussia's obtaining the Bishoprick of Munster.

I cannot see what Last trust can be placed in the Mediation of Prussia when the Emperor seems now to have entirely to have to a General Peace without considering that the principle of the ruling party in France is as adverse to every Established Government in Europe as at the outset of the business



Wm. Pitt

Ap. 9 1797

8386 – 7

Mr Pitt did not fail to obey Your Majesty's Commands, in laying this Day before the Cabinet the Paper which Your Majesty had the Goodness to communicate to him. It was impossible that they should not be strongly impressed with the Weight and Importance of the Considerations it suggests, and deeply sensible of the dignified Feelings and gracious Condescension which dictated it; but a Sense of the

overruling necessity arising out of the present Circumstances at home and abroad has made them feel it an indispensible tho' painful Duty to submit to your Majesty the Opinion expressed in the Minute which Your Majesty will receive from Lord Grenville. Mr Pitt can with Truth assure Your Majesty, that his Personal Opinion, as far as it depends upon recent Events, is nevertheless not formed

Wm. Pitt

Ap. 9 1797

8387

without cool and repeated Deliberation.
It rests however much more on what has
been long the Object of his anxious Attention
the gradual and encreasing Difficulties of Finance
the real and serious Hazard which may
arise from their being farther Augmented,
as well as the Effect of the Impression
which they may be too likely to produce
in Parliament and with the Public.
The Obstructions which these Difficulties
have already occasioned to Pecuniary Succour

to Austria, the precarious Footing on which
they must place the Continuance of their
Succours, added to the apparent Embarras
-ment and extreme Military Risk to
which that Power is exposed, tho' they
may not render the Chance of its Co-Ope
-ration desperate, seem to make it
impossible to place any certain Reliance
on It. In this Situation Mr Pitt also
feels that a separate Peace concluded by
Austria, instead of diminishing would
encrease the Expences of this Country,

while it would at the same Time tend
still more to alarm and dispirit the
Country, and probably leave it no adequate
Resources for the Struggle, without having
Recourse to Means which are to be looked
to only in the last Extremity, and which
are likely to be supported, only in
proportion as all prudent Steps have
been used to avoid the necessity. — Mr
Pitt therefore cannot disguise his sincere
Conviction that the Measures now suggested
are absolutely indispensible to avoid
risking too nearly the ultimate &

permanent Safety and Peace of this Country itself. In this Opinion We know that none concur more decidedly than those of Your Majesty's Servants who have been most anxious to resist, while they thought it yet possible, the Sacrifices now proposed. They can now reconcile their Minds to those Sacrifices on no other Ground than the public necessity on which it seems to them to rest; nor could they bring themselves to be at any rate the Advisers and Instruments of such Measures, if they did not feel

themselves bound both from Public Duty, and from Gratitude and Devotion to Your Majesty, to ~~submit~~ to any Personal Difficulty or Mortification, rather than risk the Existence of the present System of Administration, as long as Your Majesty deems it consider its Continuance, as important to your Personal Ease and Satisfaction or to the general Interests of your Kingdoms

Downing Street
April 9th 1797. 5 P.M.

Mr Cott.

April 9. 1797

Mr Pitt.

April 9. 1797

Ld. Grenville
with H.M.'s reply

Ap. 9 1797

8390 — 1

Downstairs April 10th 1797
m
55 P.M. Arch.

Ld. G. is too sensible of my opinion on the whole business to doubt of my sorrow at finding myself obliged to acquiesce in a Measure that I think big with Evil; but I believe in his note which accompanied the Minute of Cabinet shewn he is equally impressed with the same Opinion, that it would be a waste of time for me to add more on the present Melancholy Occasion.

P.S. Having cast my Eye on the paper for his Inspection Even I should not do right if I did not in the strongest manner as a Member of the Germanic Empire declare that in that Capacity I never can accede to the Emperor's granting any Requisition at the Expence of the Empire, but shall as Elector think myself in duty bound to object to any such unjust Demand

G.R.

Cleveland Row April 9. 1797
11. PM

In submitting to Your Majesty the Minute of Cabinet with the annexed Draft of Dispatches which Lord Grenville has the honour to lay before Your Majesty in pursuance of the opinion of Your Majesty's Servants, he feels it his indispensable duty to assure Your Majesty that

nothing

nothing but the most thorough and deliberate conviction of the necessity of the measures then recommended could have induced him to lay them before Your Majesty. As long as the financial resources of the Country seemed to be such as to afford the means of making vigorous exertions both for the prosecution of Your Majesty's part in this extensive War, and for the support of Your Majesty's Allies, Lord Grenville allowed himself to hope that by firmness and perseverance it would be possible to

Ld. Grenville
with H.M.'s reply

Ap. 9 1797

8391

to avert the many evils which must result from the conclusion of a Peace on inadequate terms, and that under all the circumstances of the present moment no man can be more deeply sensible than he is of the extent of those evils; but without resources of Finance it is impossible to hope to resist them by War, and to prolong the attempt would only be to increase the difficulty of those measures that must now be resorted to.

Lord Grenville is sensible that this view of the subject includes a very small part of it only. The military

Lord Grenville
April 4. 1794
Copy of Letter Num. 10.

military difficulties of Austria form another very material branch of it, and tho' it is hoped that by Energy & skill these may be surmounted now as at the close of the last Campaign the experiment at the best is doubtful; and the failure would produce effects almost beyond the Power of calculation. But he forbears to trouble Your Majesty any more on these points which are in great degree developped in the Drafts themselves, and he intreats Your Majesty to believe that nothing but the most thorough persuasion of the utility & even the necessity of these measures could induce him to advise Your Majesty to have recourse to them.

Duke of Portland

Ap. 9 1797

The Duke of Portland begs leave with all humility to lay before Your Majesty the dispatches which have been received to day from the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland —

Your Majesty having most graciously condescended to express Your Royal approbation of Mr. Delaney as a person qualified to succeed to the Government of one of Your Majesty's West Indian

Duke of Portland
April 9. 1797

With Italian Islands, the Duke of Portland requests Your Majesty permission to offer Mr. DeLancey's name to Your Majesty as chief of a person proper to be appointed to the Government of Tobago.

Burlington House
Sunday night 9 April 1797

Wm. Pitt

Ap. 10 1797

8393 – 4

Mr Pitt has the honor of transmitting to Your Majesty the Copy of the Motion made to day by Mr Fox on the Subject of Peace, which Your Majesty will observe is very equivocally worded, but of which nevertheless the Tendency appeared mischievous, and it was rendered the more so by being supported by Opposition on the

same Grounds on which they have argued their former Motions. - It was therefore objected to, after Mr Pitt had stated the Fact of Mr Hammonds Mission, as an improper and dangerous Interference with Executive Power. The Order of Day was moved by Mr H Addington, and supported by Mr Elford, Sir W. Pulteney Mr Tyrwhitt Jones, and Mr Pitt, the

Wm. Pitt

Ap. 10 1797

8394

original Motion was supported by Mr Fox
Mr Green, Mr Porter, and Sir John
Macpherson, and the Order of Day was
carried by 291, to 85; After which the
House adjourned till Thursday Sennight.

Downing Street.
Monday April 10th. 1797. ½ p 11 P.M.

Mr Pitt.

April 16. 1797.

9. Enclosure

8395

That an humble Address be pres^d to
His Majesty, to represent to Him,
that it appears to this House, on a
mature consideration of ye circum-
stances, & the result of the late Nego-
tiation, that His Majesty's gracious
& benign intentions for restoring
General Peace have been either mis-
conceiv^d by the Govern^t of France, or
ill-explain^d by them to the People of
that Country. — We therefore humbly
beseech His Maj^y, that He will be
graciously pleas^d, without delay, to
adopt such measures, as may appear
to Him, in his Royal Wisdom, most
efficacious, for removing every miscon-
ception, which may have been entertain^d
by the Directory of France, by the French
Nation, & by all Europe, relative to the
sincerity of the intentions, by which the
Govern^t of this Country was actuated in
making overtures of Peace to the Directory
of France

Duke of Portland

Ap. 10 1797

The Duke of Portland humbly begs leave to request Your Majesty's pleasure as to the time at which Your Majesty will permit the Bishop of Bristol to do his homage.

The Duke of Portland anxiously hopes Your Majesty will have the goodness to forgive his presumption in laying his most grateful acknowledgements at Your Majesty's feet for the opinion Your Majesty has most graciously condescended to express of his sentiments

respecting

respecting the minute of Cabinet which was submitted this morning to Your Majesty - He is sensible how improper it would be for him to enlarge upon that subject after what Your Majesty has said upon it but Your Majesty will pardon him if the justice which he feels due to His Colleagues in Office impells him to state his most assured belief that not one of them did not fully participate in the distress which the performance of so painfull a duty ought to be attended, & that nothing but their sense of the Duty they owed to Your Majesty, their Gratitude for Your Majesty's unbounded favor & for the confidence Your Majesty is pleased to repose in them, & their devotion to what they conceived

Your

Duke of Portland

Ap. 10 1797

8397

d this morning
ould be for him
t he said upon
ch he feels due
d a grand belief
the disposition which
ded, & that without
ity, their good conduct
leave Your Majesty
they, conceived
Your

Your Majesty's interests required would have dictated the representation which they had the mortification to consider themselves obliged to lay before Your Majesty —

Burlington House
Monday Night 10th April 1797

Duke of Northumb.

Burlington House. 10. Apr.

1791

Lord Grenville.
Cleveland Row, 11th Apl. 1797.

8398

Cleveland Row April 11. 1797.
5h A.M.

Lord Grenville has this instant received the letters which he has now the honour to transmit to Your Majesty. He does not presume to say anything upon their contents, but humbly requests to be honoured with Your Majesty's commands respecting the answer to be returned to Baron Nagel.

Ld. Grenville

Ap. 11 1797

8399

Cleveland Row Ap. 11. 1797.
10. m. p. 1. P.M.

Lord Grenville has the honour to transmit to Your Majesty another letter which he has just received from Baron Krieger, with one from the Prince of Wirtemberg to Your Majesty.

Lord Stanmore.

Colonial Secy. Canada

Wrapper

Duke of Portland

Ap. 15 1797

8400

The Duke of Portland most humbly begs leave to
represent his most grateful acknowledgements of Your
Majesty's great goodness & condescension in the communication
Your Majesty has been graciously pleased to make him of
Your Majesty's intention respecting Lady Mary Bentinck. He
can only feel the highest sense of gratitude for the
distinction

Duke of Portland
April 15. 1797

whenever Your Majesty is pleased to confer upon me, I take
occasion with which She is unprepared by the Conduct Your Majesty
has thus thought fit to bestow upon me. Conduct which I
extremely anxious that my probity & prudence shall be
properly represented to Your Majesty —

Bulstrode Saturday 15th April 1797
50 p. 11. p. m.

Ld. Grenville

8401

Cleveland Row Ap. 15. 1797.
10 a.p.m.

In humble obedience to Your Majesty's commands Lord Grenville has the honour to inform Your Majesty that the Hereditary Prince of Wurtemberg is just arrived in town. Lord Grenville is going to wait upon him, & he humbly requests to know whether Your Majesty would be pleased to direct that he should fix any time for his Serene Highness's going to the Queen's House this Evening?

Lord Grenville
April 15. 1797

Ld. Spencer

Ap. 17 1797

8402 _3

Earl Mercer has the Honour of informing your Majesty that in consequence of Intelligence received in the Course of Yesterday and this Morning from Portsmouth, of Representations from the Companies of your Majesty's Ships at Spithead on the very delicate Subject of an Increase of Pay, which appear to have been brought forward and urged in an unpleasant Manner, he has, after consulting Mr Pitt & Mr Dundas, thought

it his Duty to go down thither immediately accompanied by two other Members of the Board of Admiralty in order to take such measures as may appear the most advisable for putting a Stop to, & if necessary, for redressing the Grievances complained of, without suffering the Dissatisfaction which seems to have arisen to proceed any further. He forbears at this moment entering into any further Detail on this Subject, or that he flatters himself he shall be able on

Ld. Spencer

Ap. 17 1797

8403

ictely
of the Board
measures
for putting
ying the
y the disatfac-
proceed
his moment
this Object,
cable) a

his Return to make a more particular & satisfactory
Report to your Majesty.

Admlty 17 Apr: 1797 ¼ p. 3. P.M.

Earl Spencer.
Admiralty. 15th April 1792.

Duke of Portland

Ap. 19 1797

8404

As the Lord Lieutenant mentions his having directed Mr Cooke to inform Mr King that some intelligence had been received of an attack upon the Coast of Scotland being combined with the intended Invasion of Ireland. the Duke of Portland conceives it to be his Duty to acquaint Your Majesty that no such intelligence has been yet transmitted from Ireland or has Mr King had any other intimation of such a project than that by the Paragraph in the Lord Lieutenants

Letter

Letter (most secret & confidential) of the 15th instant where the Duke of Portland most humbly begs leave to lay at Your Majesty's feet — the Duke of Portland is informed by Mr King that if it should be Your Majesty's pleasure to order a reinforcement of two thousand men to the present Military Force in Ireland, transports sufficient to carry over one thousand would be ready at Bristol in a very short space of time, & that the same number might be conveyed from the Isle of Wight with the same expedition —

Bulstrode
Wednesday, 19th April 1797

Henry Dundas

8405

Parliament Street 20th April 1797
½ 6 p. m.

Mr Dundas thinks it his
duty humbly to submit to
your Majesty's perusal the
accompanying Letter he
has received from Lord
Spencer, as they appear
to be the most authentick
accounts of the disagree
able business which has

unexpectedly occurred at
Portsmouth.

Lord Spencer
April 22. 1797

8406

X

Earl Spencer (who is just returned from Portsmouth) has the honour of laying before your Majesty a Copy of the Report which he and the two other Members of the Board of Admiralty have this day made on the subject of what passed during their late visit at that Port; and at the same time submits for your Majesty's Consideration a Minute of Cabinet drawn up on the Subject of the Report.

As the Measure to be taken thereupon ought to be taken without Delay, Earl Spencer will have the

Have of attending your Majesty at Windsor this evening to state such further Particulars as your Majesty may be desirous of hearing, and to receive your Majesty's Pleasure concerning them.

Admiralty. 22 Apr: 1797.

Cabinet Minute
Enclosure

8407
×

Downing Street. 22 April. 1797.

Present.

Lord Chancellor
Lord President
Duke of Portland
Marquis Cornwallis
Earl Spencer
Lord Grenville
Mr Pitt
Mr Secretary Dundas.

On considering the Report made by Earl Spencer of the Transactions which have taken place respecting the Fleet at Sheerness, and the Offers which the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty had judged it advisable to make to the Crews of the Ships in the said Fleet, It is agreed humbly to recommend to your Majesty, forthwith to issue your Royal Proclamation

Minute of Cabinet.
Saturday 22 April. 1797.
from Lord Spencer
77.

offering your gracious and
full Pardon, to all
Seamen and Marines
serving in the said Fleet,
who shall in consequence
of the said Offers made
by the Commissioners of the
Admiralty, and on such
Proclamation being notified
to them, return to the
regular and ordinary
Discharge of their Duty
according to the Rules
and Practice of the Navy.

Genl Harcourt.
St. Leonards — 22. April 1797.

8408

St. Leonards 22d April 1797

Sir

I am this moment honoured with Your Majesty's Commands together with the £900 for the payment of the intended Enclosure in the Parish of New Windsor. Your Majesty may be assured I will not lose one moment in reading the papers and examining the

Ground proposed to be inclosed in Winkfield
Manor for the conversion of the Dog Kenne

I have the Honor to be with

the most profound respect

Sir

Your Majesty's most dutiful

Subject and Servant

Wm Harcourt

Duke of York
April 22. 1797

8409

Horse Guards April 22. 1797

Sir

I have the Honor to acquaint Your Majesty that Mr Dundas has just been with me by the desire of the Duke of Portland who is gone to attend Your Majesty at Windsor to inform me that in consequence of the last Dispatches from the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Your Majesty's Ministers thought it absolutely necessary to recommend to Your Majesty that a reinforcement both of Cavalry and Infantry should be sent to Ireland as speedily as possible

Under the present Circumstances of the Troops in this Country, It would be impossible to spare any Regular Cavalry, and as almost the whole of the Recruits of the Infantry of the Line are Irish it would be by no means a politick measure to send any of the regular Batallions to Ireland. I should therefore humbly propose to Your Majesty that

the Force to be immediately sent should consist of
two Yeomanry Regiments of Cavalry and three of Infantry.

Should Your Majesty graciously approve of this propo
I would recommend that the Romney and Ayrshire
should be the two Regiments of Yeomanry Cavalry, for
Ireland, both of whom have volunteered offered their
Services, and that the three Regiments of Yeomanry
Infantry should be the Dunbarton and Durham
from Guernsey, and the Northumberland from Jersey
and In order not to diminish too much the forces
in these last mentioned Islands, that the 61st Regiment
should be sent from Poole to Guernsey, and the Royal
Irish Yeomanry Infantry from the Coast of Yorkshire
to Jersey.

I have the Honor to be Sir

Your Majesty's

Most dutiful Son
and Subject

Frederick

Duke of Portland

Ap. 23 1797

8410_1

The Duke of Portland humbly begs leave, in addition to the intelligence contained in the last letter of the 18th instant, to acquaint your Majesty, that information has been received from a Gentlewoman of the name of la Croix, who arrived at Dover on the 20th; that, on the preceding day, a neutral lugger sailed from Calais for Ireland, on board of which were two French Commissaries; but to what Port they were bound does not

yet

appears the Duke of Portland however deemed it material to give
us time in order may the Lord Lieutenant of this Report, he accordingly
gave him a hint of it by his day's Mail Coach — on the Duke
of Portland's return from attending Your Majesty yesterday evening
at Windsor he found by a Letter from Mr Dundas that, instead
of the Regiments which the Duke of Portland mentioned to Your
Majesty to be understood by him to be in a state of readiness which
indeed then he must feel to be sent immediately to Ireland, His
Royal Highness the Duke of York had it in contemplation, to submit
to

Duke of Portland

Ap. 23 1797

8411

Your Majesty the propriety of ordering two more Regiments of Irish Cavalry & three Regiments of Irish Infantry to Ireland immediately, but no mention is made by Mr Dundas of the names or strength of the Regiments proposed by Mr Pitt at Highgate for this service

Bulstrode

Sunday night 23d April 1797.

Duke of Portland,

Bulstrode. 23. April 1791

Mr Pitt
April 26. 1797

Mr Pitt humbly begs leave to acquaint
Your Majesty, that He this Day opened
at large in the Committee of Ways and
Means the additional Measures of Revenue
for the present Year, and proposed a Loan
for the Repayment of Bank Advances and
the discharge of additional Expences to the

Amount of 13000.000, with a reserve for two further Sums of 1500000 £ for the Service of Ireland, and 3500.000 £ in order to replace the Sums already advanced to the Emperor and allow for a further Advance of 2000.000 £ in the Course of the Year.

"We also proposed Taxes, to the full

Amount necessary of above 1200.000 £,
consisting of a large and general Increase
of the Principal Articles of Stamp Revenue,
and doubling the present Tolls on Turnpikes.

A Speech was made by Mr Fox chiefly
to aggravate the difficulties but no direct
Opposition was made to any of the Measures

except to that Part of the Duties which would affect Newspapers, on which there was a Division of 151 for the Tax and 43 against It. – Mr Pitt afterwards moved in the Committee a temporary Advance (till the general Question can be discussed) of 200 000 £ for the Emperor, the Object of which was to secure Funds for the approaching Dividend of the former Imperial, which was carried by 149 to 45 Yesterday that. April 26th 1797. ½ Wed.

Ld. Grenville

Ap. 27 1797

8414

Cleveland Row April 27. 1797.

Lord Grenville begs leave humbly to mention to Your Majesty that he finds on reference to the proceedings previous to the Marriage of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales that the full Powers given to Lord Malmesbury were approved in Council, and the Treaty signed, previous to Your Majesty's

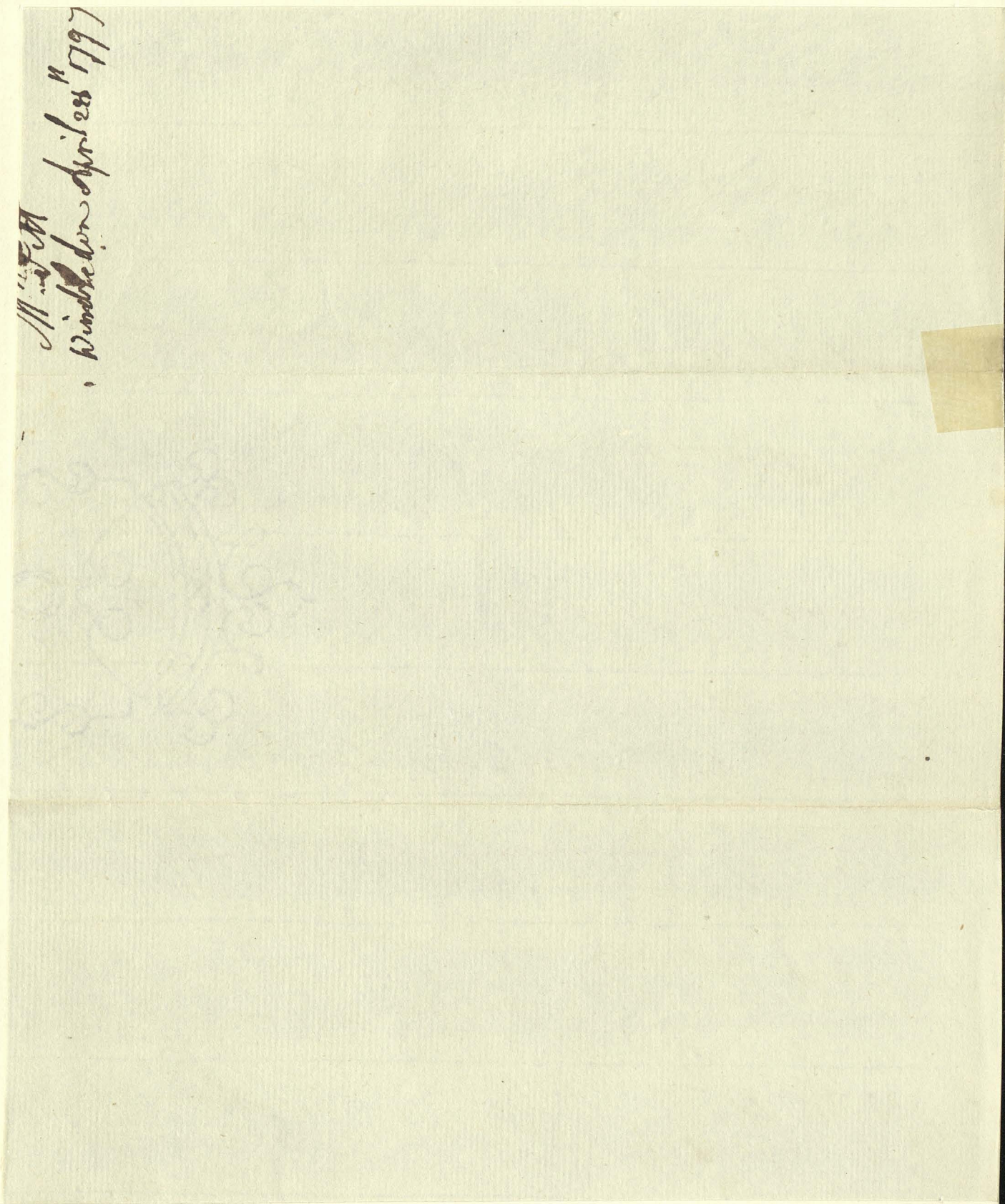
Majesty's declaring in Council Your Majesty's Royal Consent to the Marriage. In order therefore to follow this Precedent Lord Grenville has transmitted to the Lord President the draft of the Full Powers, in order that it may, if Your Majesty approves it, be laid before Your Majesty in Council tomorrow: And the Treaty may with Your Majesty's permission be signed on any day, between that and the Wednesday following, when the declaration in Council, & the communications to the two Houses may be made as Your Majesty had intended.

Wm. Pitt

8415

Wimbledon.
Friday Night. April 28th. 1797.

Mr Pitt humbly begs leave to submit for your Majesty's Signature (if your Majesty approves of it) Messages to the two Houses, for the Loan on Account of Ireland, and of the Emperor. That to the House of Commons He wishes to be enabled to deliver tomorrow, in order to propose the Sum being voted on Monday. — The Message to the House of Lords will be delivered on Monday, the House not sitting tomorrow.



8416 – 20 Nov follows 5180

The 2nd Earl of Mansfield, whose writing this is, died in 1796. He was Sec. of State from 1779–82

8421

I am ashamed to trouble Your Majesty with such voluminous Despatches, but I wish to omit nothing that can be of the least use in the most extraordy crisis I ever remember.

St James's 30 m. p. 6. P.M.