

H. H. to Lord North

3654

Queens House Dec. 1779.

See 3650

Lord North, I transmit to you a copy of the letter I wrote on Saturday Evening to the Chancellor, he having care fully avoided ever writing to me whilst employed in sounding whether Opposition could be brought to accede to a sincere Coalition of Parties; I thought it highly necessary to authenticate the whole transaction by writing to him the whole thread of that business; you will find I have done it with some degree of care which I thought the nature of the Affair required; the last paragraph owes its origin to my choice of preparing against all possible events, I thought the Chancellor might perhaps hereafter say that if he had been consulted Administration might have been strengthened, the having called up on him to point out any such proposition will I am confident not bring forth any plan from him but will effectually prevent any declaration agreeable to the above supposition. You will keep it as it compleats the papers I had before given to you. I therefore shall not take up your time with much more the letter to him contains very fully my Political Sentiments and Resolutions, all that I have therefore to add is a desire that you will point out whether any Arrangements can be made to give more Activity to the carrying on of business, one <sup>matter</sup>

matter must give You confidence, which is the fate of Your Irish Propositions both in Parliament and in Ireland, yet You had but little assistance of the Cabinet; the decisive part You took prevented any persons pretending to mistake Your intentions be but explicit and the public business will not be so difficult as might at first be expected.

I do believe that America is nearer coming into temper to treat than perhaps at any other period, and if We arrive in time at Gibraltar Spain will not succeed in that attack which will very probably allay the fury of the Spanish Monarch and make him more willing to end the War.

I cannot conclude without strongly pressing that every measure may be taken to get the friends of Government in Yorkshire to attend the Meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> at York not that I suppose they will be able to stop the violence of the Meeting, but it will show that the County is not unanimous in this business, and it may decide whether any contrary Resolutions should be taken; I hear all the Peers in Opposition as well as the Commons are to appear on the Occasion; Ought not Lord Falconberg to be invited to attend. The D. of Northumberland is willing to write to his friends I should think that very proper one word from Lord North will make him very active.