

Ld. Sandwich to Capt J. H. Payne.

38209-10

Hertford Street Monday night

Dear Sir

I am most exceedingly obliged to you for the very communicative letter that I have just received from you, & you may be assured that the contents of it shall be locked up within my own breast.

I had intended to leave London to morrow as I have business in the country with regard to a contest that has started up in the country that requires my attention.

if a speedy dissolution of Parliament is likely to take place; tho' I am perfectly easy about the event of that contest, & if the dissolution does take place under the circumstances that it most probably will, I have no doubt but that the four members chosen for the County and Town of Huntingdon, will be chosen by me.

In these sort of moments it would be ridiculous to profess attachment or gratitude where it is due, & I have laugh'd too often at the nonsense in Mr Doddingtons Diary, to desire to be allow'd to kiss hands for what it may never be in the power of those who honour me with their protection to realize: my attachment

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in that quarter will always remain
the same, ³⁸²¹⁰ whether I am a little man
as I am at present, or what the
world may improperly call a great
one; which appellation I know I can
never attain but thro' the protection
already mentioned.

I will stay in Town to morrow in the
idea that this melancholly affair
may possibly be brought to a conclusion,
& therefore I should take it as a favour
if you would in the course of to
morrow send me an authentick
account of the state of the Kings ^{health},
which I heartily hope (tho' I fear
with little foundation) may be a
favourable one. I am with great truth

Your most faithfull
& most obedient servant
Sandwich

2. J. Sandwich

1788

Lord Sandwich

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