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THE
D I A R Y

OF THE LATE
GEORGE BUBB DODINGTON,

BARON OF MELCOMBE REGIS:

From March 8, 1749, to February 6, 1761.

WITH AN
A P P E N D I X,

CONTAINING
SOME CURIOUS AND INTERSTING PAPERS,
Which are either referred to, or alluded to, in the DIARY.

PUBLISHED
From his Lordship's Original Manuscripts,
By HENRY PENRUDDOCKE WYNDHAM.

THE THIRD EDITION.

Et tout pour la trippe.

RABELAIS, Liv. 4. Chap. 57.

And all for quarter day!

DIARY, Page 407.

L O N D O N:
PRINTED FOR G. AND T. WILKIE, N° 71, ST. PAUL'S
CHURCH YARD; AND E. EASTON, SALISBURY.

MDCCLXXXV.



THIS BOOK

IS DEDICATED

TO that man, (whenever he may appear) who, blessed with a soul superior to all lucrative and ambitious views, will dare to stand forth the generous advocate and benevolent protector of the publick welfare—Who, when in office, will make the good of his fellow-subjects the sole rule of his administration; and who, when out of office, independent of every partial connection, will steadily and uniformly adhere to the same honest plan—Who, while in

A 3

power,

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power, will boldly oppose all measures, however profitable to himself or his friends, that may be detrimental to the cause of his country; and who, when deprived of power, unshaken by present disappointments, or uninfluenced by future expectations, will as boldly support every measure, which may be beneficial to that cause, though it originates from his most hated adversary.

Such a man may be justly honoured with the glorious title, (hitherto, alas! ideal!) which in all ages has been frequently conferred, but, perhaps, never yet merited, of a

P A T R I O T.

P R E F A C E.

TH E following Diary is printed from a manuscript of the late Lord Melcombe's, and as the reader may be inquisitive to know the stages through which it came into my possession, I shall briefly satisfy his curiosity.

Lord Melcombe died in the year 1762, and bequeathed his whole property, (a few legacies excepted) to his cousin, the late Thomas Wyndham of Hammer-smith.

Mr. Thomas Wyndham, who died in the year 1777, left, among many other kind remembrances, a clause in his will in the following words: " I give to Henry Penruddocke Wyndham all my books, and all the late Lord Melcombe's political papers,

A 4

letters,

letters, and poems, requesting of him not to print or publish any of them, but those that are proper to be made publick, and such only, as may, in some degree, do honour to his memory.”

The latter part of this clause has, hitherto, made me hesitate on the propriety of making his Lordship's Diary publick; for although it may reflect a considerable degree of honour on his Lordship's abilities, yet, in my opinion, it shews his political conduct, (however palliated by the ingenuity of his own pen) to have been wholly directed by the base motives of avarice, vanity, and selfishness.

What, beside these motives, induced him to quit the service of George II. and to prefer the protection of Frederick, Prince of Wales, to that of his old master? alas! he could not then foresee the black cloud, which was preparing to obscure the expected glory of the rising sun, and to blast the hopes of all its worshippers.

What,

What, beside these motives, made his Lordship discontented and miserable, while he remained in the court of that Prince? a party was, there, quickly combined against him, which, unfortunately for Lord Melcombe, was actuated by the same selfish principles, as he himself was.

What, beside these motives, tempted him, after the death of the Prince of Wales, to court the Pelhams with the most abject and fawning servility, and, at the same time, in secret opposition to his great patroness, the Princess Dowager?

But all this may be strictly honourable within the verge of a court; and, on this account, I could patiently hear his Lordship recommend Mr. Ralph, as a very honest man, and in the same pages inform us, that he was ready to be hired to any cause; that he actually put himself to auction to the two contending parties, (the Bedford and Pelhams) and that, after several biddings, the *honest* Mr. Ralph was bought by the Pelhams.

However, I cannot patiently forgive the violent declamation of his Lordship against "*the low and venal wretches of Bridgewater;*" as if a bribe, taken by a miserable voter, and, possibly, for the support of a numerous and indigent family, was more dishonourable than a place or pension, enjoyed or coveted by the opulent, for the sole purposes, either of accumulating riches, or of extending the pomp of pride and power.

I am aware that, in treating the character of my Author thus freely, I shall appear as a very extraordinary Editor, the practice of whom has generally been, to prefer flattery to truth, and partiality to justice. But it may be worth considering, whether my method, or the common one, is the less injurious to the character of an Author; and whether the reader may not be more inclined to overlook or pardon those errors, which he is previously instructed to expect, than he would be, if every page contradicted the favourable impressions, which the Editor, had been
induf-

industriously labouring to fix on his mind.

But it is now time to answer a very natural question: How could I, with such sentiments of the Diary, venture to publish it, consistent with the clause in the will?

To what I have said before, that the Diary was written by Lord Melcombe, I shall add, that every part of it was carefully copied from rough drafts, and that scarcely a blot or correction is to be seen throughout the whole. The month also, and each day of the week, is accurately inscribed on the margin, with his own pen, in printing characters.

From these circumstances I conclude, that Lord Melcombe wrote for the publick, and that he intended his Diary should, in a future season, be produced to light: it is also manifest, that his Lordship meant it as an apology for his political conduct, and that he could not write it merely for amuse-

amusement, or solely for his own retrospection, or for the private perusal only of his heirs.

The late Mr. Wyndham, through whose hands the MS. came to me, was of this opinion.

It seems therefore that, in publishing this Diary, I am certainly fulfilling Lord Melcombe's design, and doing what he anticipated some one or other should do; it is to be supposed that, in his opinion, there is nothing dishonourable in the Diary, and to his judgment I am in duty bound to sacrifice my own: the prejudices, perhaps, of education have instilled in my mind ideas of honour, very different from those of his Lordship, which——

————— *putavi*
Stultus ego huic nostræ similes——

But, notwithstanding, if I thought that any part of the Diary would tend to make one worthy character unhappy, or cause the smallest injury to the common good, I should,

I should, without hesitation, suppress it: nay, I would instantly commit it to the flames, lest it might hereafter be productive of those consequences.

If, on the contrary, by unveiling the mysterious intrigues of a Court, and by exposing the latent causes of opposition, the Diary teaches us, that both one and the other may act from the same interested and corrupt principle; it may then make us cautiously diffident of the motives of either; and the country gentlemen, in particular, may learn from it, that they have as much to dread from those, who are in pursuit of power, as from those in actual possession of it; from those, who are, hopefully, working in the cold climate of disappointment, as from those, who are luxuriously basking in the sunshine of enjoyment.

The Diary may even animate those gentlemen to the love of true patriotism, and probably, instruct them to be more attentive to the *measures* of Administration,
than

than to the *parties* which form it; and may check and controul that restless aversion to all government, so prevalent amongst them, and against which, the best Minister is no more secure than the worst.

For have we not sometimes seen, when, after a long and laborious struggle, they have at length placed their favourite pilot at the helm; that, before they have suffered him to hold the rudder for one voyage, they have been as violent in their efforts of removing him, as they had been in raising him to it?

I think it necessary to observe, that I have not published the Diary quite entire, as it would be no entertainment to the reader to be informed, who daily dined with his Lordship, or whom he met at the tables of other people.

Such and some other trivial particulars I have omitted, but I have been careful

not to alter any part of the original writing, for though some obscurities darken a few passages (which, indeed, might naturally be expected from his Lordship's circumstantial manner of reciting long conversations), yet, I have not presumed to give them my explanation, being of opinion that the reader has an equal right with myself, to put his own construction upon them.

Some trifling anecdotes, however, may still appear in the present volume, such as the disputes of the Dorset family; the Bridgewater, and other elections, &c. but these are so interwoven and connected with the general matter, and so often referred to, that I could not, with propriety, reject them, lest the whole might, otherwise, seem embarrassed and unintelligible.

T H E

D I A R Y.

IN the beginning of this year, I was 1749.
grievously afflicted with the first fit of
the gout, which, with a fall that strained
one leg and wounded the other, confined
me to my chamber near three months.

During my illness, several kind expres- MAR. 8;
sions from the Prince towards me, were
reported to me, and on the 8th of March,
his Royal Highness ordered the Earl of
Middlesex, his Master of the Horse, to send
Mr. Ralph (whom he had often talked
to about me) with a message from his
Royal Highness, to offer me the full return
of his favour, and to put the principal di-
rection of his affairs into my hands.

B

I told

1749.
MAR 8. I told Mr. Ralph, that I desired the two following days to consider of it; and that he should have my answer at twelve o'clock, on Saturday the 11th instant.

11. This day in the morning I wrote to Mr. Pelham, desiring him, as I was not able to go out, to wait upon the King, and in my name humbly to resign, into his Majesty's hands, my office of Treasurer of the Navy.

The same day I gave Mr. Ralph my answer in writing to the Prince's gracious message, to be delivered to the Earl of Middlesex, taking his honour, that he would lay it before his Royal Highness; which Mr. Ralph performed, as did also his Lordship.

The same morning, I received a very civil letter from Mr. Pelham, testifying his concern and surprize at my resolution, and desiring that he might see me, before he delivered my message to the King, and acquainting me, that he would come to me
on

on Monday the 13th in the morning, before he went to court, being then just going into the country. 1749.
MAR. 11.

This day early in the morning, Mr. Pelham made me a long visit with much civility; he seemed to wish much that this affair might go no farther. I told him that I saw the country in so dangerous a condition, and found myself so incapable to contribute to its relief and so unwelcome to attempt it; that I thought it misbecame me any longer to receive great emoluments from a country, whose service I could not, and if I could, I should not be suffered to promote: so I begged him to execute my commission to the King; and then we parted. 13.

He came to me again, about eleven o'clock, to let me know that the King accepted my resignation very graciously, but expected that I would continue to act, till he could fix upon a proper successor. I did so, and was continued in the office till the 3d of May.

1749. The Prince was extremely kind to me,
 JULY 16. and often admitted me to the honour of
 supping with him and the Princess. But
 on Saturday the 15th of July, going to
 Carleton House, to make my compliments
 before I went to Eastbury, he ordered me
 to sup with him, and invited me to spend
 the day with him, at Kew, on the follow-
 ing Tuesday, being the 18th, wanting, as
 he was pleased to say, to talk to me about
 business.

18. This day I arrived at Kew about eleven
 o'clock. The Prince received me most
 kindly, and told me he desired me to come
 into his service upon any terms, and by
 any title I pleased: that he meant to put
 the principal direction of his affairs into
 my hands: and what he could not do for
 me in his present situation, must be made
 up to me in futurity. All this in a man-
 ner so noble and frank, and with expres-
 sions so full of affection and regard, that I
 ought not to remember them, but as a
 debt, and to perpetuate my gratitude.
 This passed before dinner.

After

After dinner, he took me into a private room, and of himself began to say, that he thought I might as well be called Treasurer of the Chambers, as any other name: that the Earl of Scarborough, his Treasurer, might take it ill, if I stood upon the establishment with higher appointments than he did: that his Royal Highness's destination was, that I should have 2000*l.* *per ann.* That he thought it best to put me upon the establishment at the highest salary, only, and that he would pay me the rest himself. I humbly desired, that I might stand upon the establishment without any salary, and that I would take what he now designed for me, when he should be King, but nothing before. He said, that it became me, to make him that offer, but it did not become him to accept it, consistent with his reputation, and therefore, it must be in present. He then immediately added, that we must settle what was to happen in reversion, and said, that he thought a Peerage with the management of the House of Lords, and the Seals of Secretary of State, for the

1749.

JULY 18.

1749. southern province, would be a proper
 JULY 18. station for me, if I approved of it. Perceiving me to be under much confusion at this unexpected offer, and at a loss how to express myself; he stopped me, and then said, I now promise you on the word and honour of a Prince, that, as soon as I come to the Crown, I will give you a Peerage and the Seals of the southern province. Upon my endeavouring to thank him, he repeated the same words, and added (putting back his chair) and I give you leave to kiss my hand upon it, now, by way of acceptance; which I did accordingly.

He then continued to say, that he would provide for my friends, whom he knew I valued more than myself: that he promised Mr. Furnese, the Treasury: Sir Francis Dashwood, the Treasury of the Navy, or Cofferer: Mr. Henley, Solicitor General, and gave me leave to tell them so, adding, that he would confirm it to them himself. Lord Talbot I was to settle with, when I saw him in Dorsetshire. We agreed,
 that

that he should send for me to Cliefden, 1749.
 when he was settled there, where the war- JULY 18.
 rant should be ordered, &c. &c.

Upon the conversation before dinner, I had taken the opportunity to beg the Princess's protection, who answered me in the most obliging manner.

I saw Mr. Furnese and Mr. Ralph at Hammermith, to whom I related all that had passed, and promised Mr. Ralph, that he should be my Secretary, if I lived to have the Seals. 19.

Went to Eastbury. 20.

Lord Talbot came over to me at Eastbury. I acquainted him with this whole transaction; he promised to support me to the utmost, and to do the Prince all possible service: but would accept no reversion. 23.

Sir Francis Dashwood and his Lady came to Eastbury. I informed him also 31.

1749. of all that had passed. He received, with
 JULY 31. much pleasure, both what related to himself and to me.

AUG. 9. Mr. Bance came to Eastbury, whom also I acquainted with all that had passed between the Prince and me, and offered him my endeavours to procure for him the reversion of the Remittances, or of the Board of Trade, if he had a mind to leave the city. He received my narrative with much pleasure, and my offers with great kindness and affection; protesting that he had no wish, but to remain always my faithful friend and servant, and desired, nor would have, nothing. But upon my pressing him, he said, that if it must be so, he should chuse the Remittances, and to have the secret and government of the Bank, as what he thought, would render him most useful to his friends; to which I agreed, and promised to undertake the affair with the Prince.

SEPT. 7. I received the Prince's commands, by
 the

the Earl of Egmont, to attend him at Cliefden. 1749.
SEPT. 7.

Lord Shaftesbury came this morning: 9.
I opened part of the Prince's scheme to him, he seemed pleased and willing to assist; and thought he could answer for Lord Foley, and promised to try him.

Returned to Gunnersbury. 11.

Saw Mr. Ralph, and talked with him about Lord Egmont's acquainting Cary with the whole transaction between him and me. 12, 13.

Went from Gunnersbury to Cliefden. 14.
Well received by all the family. There were besides, the Earl of Bute and Lord Chief Justice Willes.

Dined with their Royal Highnesses at Park Place. Lord Chief Justice went from thence to Henley. 15.

Orders to Mr. Drax, by Lord Egmont, 16.
to

1749. to make out my warrant. Received an
 SEPT. 16. account that Lord Cobham died on Wed-
 nesday the 13th.

17. The Prince and Lord Egmont went to
 Town from Cliefden. The Princess to
 Kew. They returned thither about nine.
 I met them at ten. Lord Bathurst came
 to Cliefden in the morning, and from
 thence to Kew.

21. Sir William Stanhope came to Cliefden.

23. At Ashley. Sent an ode to the Prin-
 cess, with a letter, by her command.

24. Received an answer from the Princess.

29. Heard the news of the death of Sir
 Watkin Williams, by a fall from his
 horse.

OCT. 1. Kissed the Prince's and Princess's hands,
 as Treasurer of the Chambers. Supped
 with their Royal Highnesses and Madame
 de Mirepoix, the French Ambassadors.

The

The Prince pretty eager about opposi- 1749.
tion. Oct. 1.

Kissed the King's hand at Kensington. 2.
Was civilly received. Wrote to Lady
Middlesex about what passed last night.
Sent a servant to the Grange with a
letter to Mr. Henley, and wrote to Mr.
Waller.

Set out from London. Met an answer 3.
from Mr. Henley; not so full as I ex-
pected. Lay at Sutton, and arrived at
Eastbury the following day.

Mr. Drax came to Eastbury; he says, 6.
Lady Middlesex is cunning and silly, and
warns me against her.

Went to Lord Shaftesbury's, and left him 7.
very well disposed; found General Chol-
mondley there—at my return found Mr.
Henley, shewed him Lord Egmont's let-
ter, and my answer, and the heads which
I designed from the Prince. He seemed
to

1749. to approve, and promised to promote every
OCT. 7. thing according to my system.

8. Mr. Henley went away.

12. Arrived at HammerSmith.

13. Sent a memorial with a letter to the Prince—waited on their Royal Highnesses. They lay at Kew, and ordered me to attend them the next day.

14. Came to Kew at two. Walked with the Princess alone till four. Dined and supped there. Lords Inchiquin and Bute, Ladies Middlesex and Howe, Mr. Breton and I.

15. At Leicester House. The Grenvilles presented for the title of Temple. Supped at Carleton House—Their Royal Highnesses, Ladies Middlesex, Howe, Madame de Mirepoix; Lords Bute and North.

16. Went to Cliefden with their Royal Highnesses. Lords Inchiquin and Bathurst

met us. The Princess talked to me about 1749.
 Lord North for a governor to Prince Oct. 16.
 George, which I approved of.

We all went to Ouborn Fair; Prince 20.
 George in our coach.

The Princess talked much to me about 22.
 the Earl of Granville.

We left Cliefden—dined and supped at 28.
 Kew, and left the children there. We
 came to Town about one.

King's birth-day kept. I was at St. 30.
 James's: then at Carleton House: went
 to dine with Sir Samuel Pennant, Lord
 Mayor, by the Prince's command. No-
 body at the feast between the Lord Chan-
 cellor and me.

Dined and supped at Kew. The Prince Nov. 4.
 read to me an answer to my memorial
 written with his own hand. The differ-
 ence in opinion between us is not confi-
 derable.

1749. derable. The piece is astonishingly well
Nov. 4. drawn.

12. I dined at Carleton House. The company, only the Prince, the Earl of Egmont, and Dr. Lee. Our business, the immediate steps to be taken upon the demise of the King, more particularly with relation to the Civil List. His Royal Highness said, he had had three methods proposed to him: the first was to let the present Ministers settle it, and then part with them and the Parliament: the second was, to dismiss four or five of the principals, but to vote the Civil List before the Parliament was dissolved: the third, (which he was pleased to say, he thought was my opinion) was to dismiss the Parliament immediately, to turn all those out whom he did not design to continue, and to throw himself upon the country, for a new Parliament, and a provision for himself and family, which he desired should be only a clear annuity of 800,000*l.* giving back the duties to the public, with whatever surplus might attend it. The

first proposition his Royal Highness put out of the question: the second and third, he desired that he might be fully satisfied upon, from a full consideration; because what was there determined, he would unalterably stand by, when communicated, and agreed to by the Earl of Carlisle, Lord Baltimore, and Lord Chief Justice Willes. It was discussed, and we were all, at last, of opinion, that the third proposition was the greatest, most popular, and the best. His Royal Highness came heartily into it, gave us his hand, and made us take hands with each other to stand by, and support it. I undertook to find 2 or 300,000*l.* to go on with, till a new Parliament could grant the Civil List.

I kissed the Duke's hand. Saw the Earl of Carlisle; he was for the second proposition, and for keeping the Prince's destination of employments secret, because he was unwilling the Pelhams should know they were desperate with him: he did not see how the House of Lords could be carried on without the Earl of Granville.

Sir

1749.
Nov. 12.

13.

1749. Sir Paul Methuen was for the third pro-
Nov. 13. position.

14. Lord Middlesex and Mr. Ralph came in the evening—much talk about bringing the Prince's affairs to some regulation.

15. Dined at Carleton House—The Prince, Earls of Carlisle and Egmont, Lord Chief Justice Willes, Lord Baltimore, Sir John Rushout, Messrs. Gibbon, Lee, Henley, Nugent, Sir Thomas Bootle and I. Agreed not to oppose the Address, unless there should be something very strong in it.

16. The session of Parliament opened with a very modest Speech. The Address, moved by Mr. Charles Townshend, and seconded by Sir Danvers Osborne, I thought a very unexceptionable one, and I did not oppose it. Sir John Hynde Cotton did, upon the Peace not being complete, as is there said. The Earl of Egmont then made a violent and very injudicious speech against the Address, throwing out every thing he could think, or had heard of

of against the Ministry. Lord Baltimore 1749.
 said but little on the same side, and so the Nov. 16.
 matter dropt, and the Address was voted.
 I went to the Prince before I dined, to
 give him an account of what had passed:
 he did not seem to make much account of
 it, one way or another.

Lady Mary Coke appeared at the King's 17.
 Bench, and obtained leave for lawyers,
 all her relations, and the Earl of Pem-
 broke to come to her. Lord Middlesex
 and Mr. Furnese came to me in the even-
 ing. Much serious conversation about
 the behaviour, in and out of Parliament,
 of the Prince's family, and of our situation
 in it. Agreed that it must be altered, or
 that I could be of no use there, and con-
 sequently could not stay. Earl of Middle-
 sex undertook to talk to the Prince about
 it. I was presented to the Princess Ame-
 lia, and kissed her hand.

The Princess's birth-day; but not kept 19.
 till Wednesday, because Queen Caroline
 died on the 20th. The Prince ordered

1749. me to signify, that he would not meddle
Nov. 19. with the Westminster election.

20. Mr. Bodens informed me that Mr. Douglas, at Lord Robert Bertie's, said, that I solicited to come into the Prince's family, agreeing not to be at the head; Dr. Lee was at the head.

22. The Princess's birth-day was kept. Dined with me the following publick Ministers; Marquis de Mirepoix, Comte de Haslang, Monf. le General Comte de Lucchesi, Monf. le General Wall, Monf. le Comte de Fleming, Monf. le Comte de Perrou, Monf. l'Abbé de Grossa-testa; Mess. les Chevaliers de Levy, de Laurency, de Tessier; Monf. d'Andrara, Monf. d'Abriau, Monf. de Comte d'Einfield, Monf. le Baron Kraygill, Monf. de Fioren, Lord Tyrwley, and Mr. Breton. I went to Lord Middlesex, who had been with me in the morning, to tell me that the Prince had sent for him on Sunday, that his Royal Highness seemed much heated, having heard from Lord Baltimore, that
I was

I was in a great passion at what passed in 1749. Parliament last Thursday, and declared Nov. 22. that I would have voted against them, if they had divided upon the Address.— Asked if such behaviour was not intolerable. Lord Middlesex assured him, that I talked it over to him, in the House, with great calmness and without the least passion; that Lord Baltimore joined us for a little time, and seemed to be of our opinion; that he, Lord Middlesex, as well as I, thought that the Address should have gone without opposition, and that Lord Egmont's speech was very injudicious, &c. but the Prince seemed of a contrary opinion, and the conversation ended, by his directing Lord Middlesex to quiet me. I went, as I said before, to Lord Middlesex in the evening, and we had much talk. Both Lord and Lady Middlesex were of opinion, that a party was made against me in the family, and that it was best to come to an explanation with the Prince. I supped with their Royal Highnesses at Carleton House. Lords Bute and Inchiquin, Ladies Middlesex and Howe.

1749. Was to wait on the Prince, who ap-
Nov. 23. pointed me Friday at twelve o'clock.

Went to council. The King present. Ten thousand seamen voted. Earls of Hallifax and Broke sworn Lord Lieutenants of Northamptonshire and Warwickshire.

24. Earl of Middlefex and Mr. Ralph were with me, to acquaint me that the printer and publisher of the Remembrancer was taken up for his paper of last Saturday the 18th instant, but that the messenger used them with uncommon civility, touched nothing of their papers, presses, or effects, and took their words for their surrendering themselves the next morning. My Lord had been with the Prince, who agreed to indemnify them as to the expence, but was very averse, that any thing should be done to make him at all appear in it, which made them very uneasy.

At half past twelve I went to Carleton
House,

House, and in a quater of an hour was called in. Sir Thomas Bootle was with the Prince. His Royal Highness took me into a window, and me that he had sent Middlefex to me, about the seizing the printer, &c. What was to be done? and then without giving me time to answer, he ran out into reasons why nobody that belonged to him must appear. I gently let him see that I thought otherwise, and insinuated, whether, if Mr. Ralph should be taken up, it would not be proper that Lord Middlefex and I should bail him: he said, by no means, and therefore Ralph should be spoken to, that he might keep out of the way, &c. At last he ordered, that he should go to my house at HammerSmith; with which I agreed, thinking *that* the strongest mark of his protection that we could desire. After much talk about this and that, and some idle accounts about the poll at Covent Garden, he made me sit by him, and ran into a long discourse about the army, and then about the reduction of interest, and so let himself into a discourse about the necessity

1749. of saying something upon those things in
 Nov. 24. Parliament, to feel pulse, and keep the
 party together, &c. all which was designed
 as an apology (instead of finding fault) to
 me, for what had passed the beginning of
 the session—I took it up, upon his men-
 tioning something about talk, and throw-
 ing things out, to expose, &c. and said that
 I supposed talk might be right, but people
 should consider what talk, and if they
 had any thing to say: that perpetually
 throwing out things, which one neither
 understood nor could prove, was, I thought,
 and always should think, exposing one's
 self, and not the person aimed at: that
 'twas for his service, to put little things
 into his power, to be verified beyond
 contradiction; that he might certainly
 know, what dependance was to be had upon
 those they came from, when they inform-
 ed him of greater matters. Therefore, I
 would furnish him with one instance;
 he had heard I was in a great passion about
 the Earl of Egmont's behaviour upon the
 Address: luckily for me, I had never
 spoken to any body about it, but to two
 persons,

persons, favourite servants of his Royal Highness, and particular friends of mine, Lords Middlesex and Baltimore; the latter of whom joined us as we were talking of it very calmly; he seemed to be of our opinion, and said, he had told Cotton we should not divide with them: I knew that Lord Middlesex had told him how it passed, and if he would give me leave to bring Lord Baltimore to him, he would inform his Royal Highness that there was not the least heat among any of us all. (I knew Baltimore was the author of this dirty piece of cunning.) That by this, he might see, if he pleased, what credit was to be given for the future to those, who brought him this piece of intelligence. He thanked me, and was very gracious, and talked it off as well as he could; but in the multiplicity of discourse, owned to me that Baltimore had told him, but meant no harm, &c. I replied, I had never seen business done in a meeting of a dozen, like that, on the fifteenth day, before the session: that those meetings were always declaratory, though in the shape of deliberation: that

1749.
Nov. 24.

1749. the first concoction was always between
 Nov. 24. the Prince and three or four persons at
 most: that I hoped to have laid my poor
 opinions before him in that manner, with
 two or three only; that I hoped to have
 found a friend there, especially Lord Mid-
 dlesex, whom I thought, upon all ac-
 counts, ought to be at the first digestion:
 that then we should properly lay our
 thoughts jointly before his Royal High-
 ness, or, if we differed, could reason it
 out with one another, and he might judge
 which side to adhere to. But to combat
 the opinions he adopted, separately with
 him, was impossible: we could not, we
 ought not to dispute with him, as we did
 with each other,

He was a good deal staggered at what
 I said about Lord Middlesex, and said, he
 ought, no doubt, to be of the great
 meeting: I said, of both sure, and added
 something much in his favour. I then
 told him, that I found very little disposi-
 tion to friendship and cordiality with me,
 in those whom he seemed principally to
 confide

confide in, &c. He said I must not wonder there was a little shyness at first, there were so many stories, &c. &c. I replied, that I hoped he did not think, I mentioned it by way of complaint, for if it were not with relation to his service, I should never think of desiring the favour and countenance of any one, or of all of those gentlemen, as any sort of addition to me: that, as he thought it for his service, I already had done, though fruitlessly, and would continue to do every thing, and go all the way to obtain their good-will: that I begged he would observe, that in consequence of his service and commands, I would cheerfully do this, but separate from his service and commands, it never could have entered into my imagination to have made court to those gentlemen; because I never could think, nor did I believe, any body else would, that those gentlemen any where, or at any time, could do me any honour by admitting me among them. He then said, that, to be sure, I was in a situation and upon a footing that I ought not to make court to any man in England;

nobody

1749.

Nov. 24.

1749. nobody could expect it from me. Having
 Nov. 24. extorted this confession, as a mark to remember this part of the conversation by, I left it there.

This is a short recapitulation of a conversation of full two hours: it contains almost every word I said. His Royal Highness talked all the rest of the time.

Lord Middlesex came to me after dinner, to whom I communicated the whole; he was much pleased at it, and thinks that all will go well in time. I think otherwise, and that there is no prospect of doing any good.

The printer and publisher were set free without bail; only giving their words to appear, if sent for by a Secretary of State. I sent the Prince notice of it.

27. I went to town and polled for Sir George Vandeput; met with a great crowd, but
 I much

much civility. Returned to Hammer- 1749.
smith before five. Nov. 27.

Proposition in Parliament to reduce all 28.
the four *per cents.* to three and a half *per cent.* for seven years certain, and then to three *per cent.* redeemable as before; continuing them for one year (which some of them were entitled to for notice) at four *per cent.* A debate, and different propositions to me unintelligible, (I am sure injudicious) by the Earl of Egmont and others.

Mr. Cooke came to know of me what 1749. DEC. 1.
assistance from the Prince might be relied upon, toward carrying the Westminster election to a scrutiny. I promised to lay the affair before his Royal Highness.

I introduced Mr. Cooke to the Prince, 2.
who assured him the election should be supported.

Went to Court. 3.

1749. Land tax at three shillings in the pound
 DEC. 4. voted in the Committee—much bab-
 bling.

5. Dr. Sharpe brought me a map and a written account of the importance of Nova Scotia. Lord Middlesex, Messrs. Ralph, Furnese, and the Doctor came in the evening, about bringing a question into Parliament, to defeat any claim, which (as is reported) the French have made to it.—Nothing determined. Supped at Carleton House, Ladies Middlesex and Howe, Lords Inchiquin and Bute, and I.

8. Received a letter from Mr. Edward Walpole about the Prince's consent to his purchasing a crown lease in Lancashire, which I laid before his Royal Highness, and received his commands. Westminster poll closed. Scrutiny granted, and to begin the 26th instant.

9. I went to Mr. Walpole, and told him from the Prince, that his Royal Highness had great good-will for him personally; no
 objec-

objection to his conduct, thought him a good servant of the King's, and doubted not, but that he would serve him as well, when he should be King: that as to the thing, his Royal Highness disliked the precedent; and, besides that, he had measures to keep, and might subject himself to the suspicion of having underhand dealings with the Court, by too easy compliances with requests of this nature, which was nothing less than giving away, by way of act of Parliament, so much of his inheritance: that therefore he desired a little time, and Mr Walpole should have his final answer before the term for bringing in private bills expired. Mr. Walpole confessed the fact to be as the Prince had stated it, and assured me, that he had no thoughts of attempting it, if his Royal Highness refused his consent: that Mr. Pelham was against it on that account, but, importuned by him, declared that he could not refuse his father's son, but never would be for another, of the same sort; and should move the King even in this, with much reluctance. This Mr. Walpole

1749:
DEC. 9.

1749. pole desired I would acquaint the Prince
 DEC. 9. with.

13. Went to Leicester House, delivered Mr. Walpole's answer to the Prince, who seemed in a disposition to grant his consent in proper time.

18. Mr. Cary dined with us, Messrs. Furnese and Ralph and Lord Talbot came in the afternoon. Much talk about the report carried to the Prince, that Cary saw the Duke privately; suppose to come from Ranby the chirurgeon. Agreed that it must be brought to a full eclaircissement.

24. At Leicester House, heard that the Earl of Crawford died that morning.

26. Went to Kew. Their Royal Highnesses: Ladies Middlesex and Howe: Lords Bute, Inchiquin and Bathurst: Messrs. Masham, Breton, and I: Lady Middlesex complained of the Prince.

At Kew. Mr. Bludworth came. Lady Middlesex and I staid together, after the company, till half past two, upon the same subject. 1749. DEC. 28.

Lady Middlesex conversed with me an hour upon the same subject, after the company went to bed. 29.

Received the Prince's commands to acquaint Mr. Walpole, that he consented to his bill about Garstang in Lancashire, which I communicated by letter to Mr. Walpole. 1750. JAN. 3.

The Earl of Pembroke died this day suddenly. 9.

Went to Leicester House, to see Jane Grey acted by the Prince's children. 11.

Mr. Walpole's petition read, and a bill ordered to be brought in. 15.

At the House. In the committee on the mutiny bill. I opposed the filling up the 16.
the

1750. the clause that punishes mutiny and deser-
 JAN. 16. tion with the word, Death—but was not
 supported.

19. Debate in the committee upon the mu-
 tiny bill. Oath of secrecy subjected to the
 requisition of the Courts of Justice.

20. The Prince's birth-day. The same Mi-
 nisters and foreigners dined with me, as on
 the Princess's birth-day.

21. Supped at Lord Middlesex's, where I
 met the Prince and Princess, Lady Tor-
 rington, Earl of Inchiquin, Lord Bathurst,
 Mr. Breton, Lady Shannon, Miss Rich,
 and Mr. Masham.

23. Debate upon the revision of sentences
 by a court martial: carried, that they be
 sent back by the Commander in Chief—
once only.

29. Went to the House. Debate upon a
 turnpike bill espoused by the Duke of
 Bedford. Fullest house and greatest divi-
 sion

sion of any day of the session: after which 1750.
the House thinned. JAN. 29.

Lord Middlesex, by the Prince's or- FEB. 4.
der, shewed me a motion to be made the
next day, for an account of the state of
the port of Dunkirk, and the papers that
had passed on that subject. It was agreed,
that I should wait on the Prince the next
day.

I waited upon his Royal Highness, and 5.
told him that I was come to thank him for
communicating the motion to me, which
was more than any of my fellow-servants
had condescended to do, since I came into
his service. He made me a very embar-
rassed and perplexed answer. I then pro-
ceeded to say, that I had not been idle,
but had been looking into several things,
in order to form something proper to be
laid before Parliament. That I had, long
had this particular point of Dunkirk un-
der consideration: was determined to be
at the expence to know, and to procure
evidence of the present state of it, but my
D acquaint-

1750. acquaintance lay so much out of the mer-
 FEB. 5. cantile way, that I was at a loss how to go
 about it; that I had pitched upon Mr.
 Sheriff Jansen, being a trader himself, and
 much conversant in trade, as a proper per-
 son to inform and assist me: that the great
 fit of sickness he fell into had, till now,
 disabled him from going out, and that
 yesterday was the first time I could get
 him to dinner. That I supposed, that,
 tho' I was so unfortunate as not to be rea-
 dy, his Royal Highness was well inform-
 ed of all things necessary to make out the
 charge, &c. He said, No; but the throw-
 ing it out, would make the Ministry feel
 they had *la corde au col*, and it was an op-
 portunity to abuse them, &c. I said that
 my idea had been, to bring something of
 national weight, which I could fix by un-
 deniable evidence upon them, and leave it
 there. That if I could have brought this
 affair up to that point, then I had designed
 to lay it before his Royal Highness, with
 this only remark, how far he thought proper
 to venture the consequences with France,
 in the present condition of this country.

He

He said, the Tories wanted something to be done, and if he did not do something, they immediately thought he was negotiating. I told him also, that I had been, for some time, getting such lights as I could into the affair of Nova Scotia, that I designed to lay it before him, when I had brought it to be worthy of his consideration; but it was my misfortune to think, that it was necessary to be armed with full proofs and conviction of every sort of the charge, before we brought it into the House. Upon that foot I submitted, that, in case upon this question of Dunkirk, it should come out, that the port was left just in the same condition it remained, under the treaty of Utrecht, without any innovation since the war, (the Ministry not having already enforced a stricter execution of that treaty, than ever had been enforced) it would not, I feared, make a very strong point against them. He was pleased to say, No, to be sure, so long an acquiescence would greatly diminish the objection. Upon these words I left him, and went directly to the

1750.

FEB. 5.

1750. FEB. 5. House. In the debate, I argued against the inexpediency and dangers, (which were the objections, set up by the Court, to granting these papers) that there could be *none*, because if it appeared that there had been no innovations since the war, and that the post was in the state it had remained under the treaty of Utrecht—though I did not give it up, but still did insist we had a right to a fuller execution of that treaty confirmed by this, and therefore I did not give it up. Yet, if that appeared to be the case, no danger or inconveniency could arise from the motion, because I was sure that I, for one, would not, and I believed that no gentleman, upon that account, would move any thing, that might occasion a rupture with France.

At the end of the debate, Lord Egmont, who made the motion, recapitulated what had been said against it. He began, by going out of his way, to say, that he must first declare, that he was sorry to differ with me; but did not agree, that it would
be

be sufficient to excuse the Ministry, if 1750.
 it should appear, as I had stated it, that FEB. 5.
 things remained at Dunkirk, as they were
 left before the war, &c. &c. I was much
 surpris'd at this, considering the expres-
 sions of his Royal Highness a few hours
 before. We were beat by a very great
 majority. This night was published the
 vilest and most rancorous pamphlet against
 me, that, I believe, any age or country can
 shew; the author of it taking, by im-
 plication, the character of being in the
 Prince's service.

Went to Lord Middlesex with the 6.
 words (as near as I could recollect) writ-
 ten down, which I had used in the debate,
 and which he had heard. He agreed to
 them: I then desired him to lay them
 before the Prince, (who was at Kew, and
 was to come to see Lady Middlesex on her
 miscarriage) and in my name to complain,
 both of the pamphlet, and of the behaviour
 I met with—which he undertook. Mr.
 Ralph and Dr. Sharpe came after dinner;
 much conversation about the pamphlet,

1750. which Lord Middlesex told me in the
 FEB. 6. morning, the Prince had told Lady Middlesex (before he went to Kew) was sent him in a letter on Friday night: that he was much incensed at it; that he had immediately sent to Mr. Nugent, examined him upon it, and he had absolutely denied it with detestation and abhorrence: that he had questioned the Earl of Egmont upon it, who had done the same. Mr. Furnese came, who had had a conversation with Lord Baltimore of his (Lord Baltimore's) own seeking when in wine, and renewed when sober; in which that Lord declared, that there was a combination of the whole family against me; that they were, as he said, in a round Robin: that I endeavoured to govern and supplant them, that they talked of me with the utmost inveteracy: that *he* was my friend, but, however, he would keep his connections, &c. We sent Dr. Sharpe home, to stay till the Prince went away: who returned and brought us that very account, which *by mistake* I have set down before, as given to me by Lord Middlesex in the morning;

morning; who then informed me that the Prince had had the pamphlet sent him in a letter the Friday before, and was much incensed at it. Lord Middlefex agreed, I should see the Prince as soon as might be, after I had seen him in the morning. The Prince, as well as we, suspected that the pamphlet might come from the Court, in order to foment and increase divisions.

1750.
FEB. 6.

Went to Leicester House, after Lord Middlefex had been with me, who confirmed last night's account, with the addition that Lord Egmont offered his endeavours to find out the Author, &c. &c. that the Prince was sorry for what had happened in the House, but as Lord Egmont had differed from me with civility, he did not seem to lay much stress upon it. It being late and publick day, I sent in a note to the Prince, to know when he would honour me with an hour's conversation—he appointed me the next day, at seven o'clock, at Carleton House. Mr. Herbert presented as Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire.

7.

1750. Saw Mr. Ralph and Mr. Furnese, asked
 FEB. 8. the latter, if in charging 'the combination
 of the family against me, I might put it
 in proof, from the conversation between
 him and Lord Baltimore; but I could not
 persuade him to assent to it. I sent Mr.
 Ralph to Lord Middlesex, to know if I
 might take notice to the Prince, of a cir-
 cumstance which he told me yesterday
 morning, and *which I have omitted*, which
 was, that the Prince had dropped, that
 Lord Baltimore had had a conversation
 with Mr. Furnese, who was very warm.
 He sent me word, that he thought it
 would be improper. At six o'clock the
 Prince sent me word, that he was just re-
 turned from Kew, and found that the
 Princess had appointed Comte Flemming
 and his Lady to be at Carleton House at
 seven, and therefore feared he should not
 have time to dine and see me; but desired
 I would come the next day at seven.

N. B. Just upon one o'clock this day,
 two very great and very distinct shocks of
 an

an earthquake were felt in Pall Mall, at the distance of some seconds.

1750.
FEB. 8.

Went to the House: Mr. Edward Walpole's Bill passed without opposition. After dinner went to Carleton House; just as I came thither, I was followed in by Dr. Lee, who brought old Coram with propositions for a vagabond hospital. I was told that the Prince had asked for me several times; I was immediately called in: I told the Prince, that Dr. Lee was in the house, and that I did not wish to make him wait: he pretended, that he had forgot he had been long appointed to bring Coram on that day, but that he would go out to him, and that they were to go up to the Princess. I saw that his Royal Highness had sent for him on purpose, and therefore said, that I had nothing to say to him, but what I should be glad that Dr. Lee should hear. He went out to them, and after a short stay sent them up. He returned and began to talk about the earthquake, which conversation I continued a little, when I asked, if the Doctor was

9.

to

1750. to come down—he said, Yes. When the
 FEB. 9. Doctor came, I suffered the discourse to
 continue general, to see if he meant only,
 to give the Doctor the opportunity of
 making a civil visit. But, at last, his Royal
 Highness applying to me, said, he thought
 I had something to say to him: this, by the
 Doctor's not moving, made it plain; and
 therefore I began by saying, that I should
 not have presumed to ask that favour, yet
 it was a very particular pleasure to me,
 that he was so good as to admit Dr. Lee to
 be present, and to hear what I had to lay
 before his Royal Highness. That I must,
 in the first place, return my most humble
 thanks for the indignation he had expressed
 against the vile and rancorous pamphlet,
 which had been published against me, &c.
 He said that, as soon as it was sent to him,
 he saw that it was designed to personate
 Mr. Nugent—that he immediately sent for
 him, who denied every part of it with
 the utmost abhorrence—that Lord Eg-
 mont did the same, &c.—just as Lord
 Middlesex related. I replied, that I had
 never thought so basely of either of them

as to suspect them: that if I had been so 1750.
injurious to either, yet, after so solemn a FEB. 9.
denial before the highest tribunal, their
master, their Prince, near being their
King, every trace, or thought of such a
suspicion must be for ever entirely laid
out of the question: but that it was evident
that the character assumed, was of one of
the family. Dr. Lee said, he had never
heard of it, till last Wednesday, and, as he
detested all things of that nature, had not
yet seen it, and believed, he never should.
The Prince said, every body was infamously
abused: he and his father had been
often so; that it would do me no hurt,
&c. I told him that I was very unfortunate,
if I explained myself so ill, as to be
thought to complain of the pamphlet fur-
ther than as it injured his service; that I
had hitherto, I thought, mentioned it, only
as a ground to return him my most humble
thanks for his generous interposition,
without being applied to: but that I now
begg'd to make another plain and evident
use of it.

1750. FEB. 9. That though it was now beyond question, that this libel did not proceed from any of his family, yet, it was as much beyond question, that the behaviour of many of his family had given the author ground to suppose, that the assumed character might pass for the real one; and that it was evidently meant, to fix the charge of my intrusion into the family, and their detestation of me, to create differences, if there were none, and to publish and inflame them, if there were. That to this fact, thus plainly proved by the pamphlet, I would add another, which I thought very unfortunate to myself. That I knew how disagreeable it was, to bring gentlemen head to head, and that I foresaw, his Royal Highness would not like to admit it. But that I could prove (though now I chose to do it by reason only, and collateral facts) that there was, I did not know what to call it, an opinion, a resolution among the gentlemen his servants and followers (excepting Dr. Lee, whom they nominally excepted) to look upon me as an improper and unprofitable servant, and
 would

would not unite or communicate with me. That I knew this to be true, and looked upon it as a great misfortune to me; because, though it did not become me to say before his Royal Highness how I came into his family, yet I certainly embraced, with the utmost pleasure, the opportunity of belonging, as a servant, to a Prince, whom of all mankind I should have wished to have passed my life with; if his misfortune and the misfortune of the public had placed him in a private station. That the disappointment of so flattering a view was the more sensible; because I was sure, it must arise from some fault, and that no small fault; because, after what had so lately passed at the other end of the Mall (St. James's) and the lively sense his Royal Highness had expressed of it, I could not, and did not imagine, that any man, or body of men, would be hardy enough to combine, to prescribe to him whom he should employ, to what degree, or in what manner. This, as I knew it would, fired him, and though till this, he had kept the most profound silence, he now interrupted

1750.
FEB. 9.

1750. rupted me, and said, nobody should pre-
 FEB. 9. tend to do that by him; that he allowed, sometimes, one, and sometimes another to lay their opinions before him, but nobody presumed to direct him, and appealed to Dr. Lee, if any one treated him in that manner, &c. &c. I replied that I had said so, and understood it so, and that made this treatment the more sensible, because I was sure it must proceed from some fault of mine, which I begged to be acquainted with, for it plainly appeared that the dislike to me was real.

That I must now proceed to another thing, which I once thought a most certain fact, but which I had since found was grounded on a mistake; that I was about to say, that his Royal Highness a little contributed to lead me into that mistake, by telling me, when he was most graciously pleased to command my services, that all his family, as well as himself, were desirous of it. That I had heard the same, indeed, on all hands, and some of the most considerable had themselves, long, often,
 and

and with great zeal assured me of their warmest desires, and had even taken credit to themselves, for having earnestly pressed his Royal Highness to call me to that honour, which they now thought me so unworthy of. That, therefore, I begged they might be asked, fairly and openly, what was the reason of so total an alteration, as well as so sudden an one: for I had thought, that I perceived a difference, even before we came to town, the last time, from Cliefden. That, as to arrogance and sufficiency, and design to govern his Royal Highness and them, which I supposed had been plentifully inculcated; I begged (and I was glad to do it before the Doctor) he would be pleased to declare first as to himself, if I had fatigued him with audiences, or had laid hold of the many other opportunities I had, to obtrude my own thoughts upon him, or to know his; to complain to him, that he did not communicate what he was doing to me, and take my opinions, or to presume to expostulate with him, or blame what he had done for not communicating with me.

He

1750.
FEB. 9.

1750. He said, No indeed, but twice, as he re-
 FEB. 9. membered—once, was about a paper I
 had drawn to lay before him, and the other
 time, when the printer of the Remem-
 brancer was taken up. I put him in mind,
 that, at that time, I mentioned to him the
 alteration I observed in his servants, which
 was so long ago as last November. I then
 asked if, in the many leisure hours of private
 life, I had ever spoken ill of any one
 of them, or so much as complained, or
 endeavoured to lessen or depreciate them
 or their performances. He said, No: but
 to be sure I did not express any partiality
 to schemes which I did not approve of—
 (but he did not answer so fully and fairly
 upon this head, as the truth is). I then
 said, I would not desire his Royal High-
 ness to declare if those gentlemen had
 treated me with the same fairness—as I
 was sure he would answer that to himself.
 As to the governing them, did I ever in-
 terfere with them? they formed their
 own business, their papers, their own mo-
 tions, without the least communication
 with, or complaint from me: that I was
 sorry

forry for it as they made me a uselefs ser- 1750.
 vant to him in Parliament; for that it was FEB. 9.
 impossible for me to go thither, and follow
 their motions at sight and at hearing, and
 then to be disowned for my pains. He
 laughed, and said, it was because they had
 nothing to communicate; they had done
 nothing that he knew of. The mutiny
 bill was an agreed point by all, and they
 had had nothing else. That as to the
 Dunkirk motion, he protested it was a
 thought of his own, that Dr. Lee knew
 nothing of it, even when he sent it to me
 by Lord Middlesex. I replied, that, in a
 conversation, the grounds of which were
 my misfortune in being rendered uselefs
 to a master, whose unmerited goodness
 and favour were my sole ambition and
 reliance, it was impossible that I could
 change them so grossly, as to be brought
 to complain or to suffer him for a single
 moment to think, that I did complain of
 him. That I received the communication
 he had honoured me with, as a mark of
 his favour, with much respect: that what
 I spoke of was the non-communication,

1750.
FEB. 9.

and disavowal of the rest of his servants, both in the mutiny bill and on another occasion. He said, that as to punishing mutiny with death, he must own to me that he, as well as they, differed from me, and had accordingly acted last year: and that Lords Carlisle and Bathurst had differed with Lord Bath upon that clause; for which he appealed to Dr. Lee, who said he was confined by illness (as was I) from coming to the House. As to what happened upon the motion, he was sorry for it, but thought it was of no great importance. I said, with some warmth, that I thought it was of the highest importance to him: was it to pass for his sense, was *he* to appear in the light of declaring, that he would, if he were now King, or would force his father, to begin a new broil with France, at this time, in these circumstances of this country, because fifteen months after such a war ended by such a peace, France had not carried the demolition of Dunkirk, farther than it had been carried for thirty-two years last past? Was this a point to be maintained? Was it a doctrine

trine fit for him to appear as the promoter of? I thought it was not; it was imprudent, it could not be supported, and, above all, most prejudicial to his service, to have it thought he gave ear to such rash counsels: besides, that his Royal Highness had agreed with me, the last thing he said to me that very morning, that in the above-mentioned case, if it came out only so, the long acquiescence much lessened, if it did not take away the objection. I beg'd pardon for being warm about the consequence of the doctrine, because that was not the use I intended to make of it; what I meant to establish by it, was, to prove a settled resolution, in his family, that they would have nothing to do with me, for when Mr. Pitt, who answered Lord Egmont, came to that part, he pressed his argument thus: "If it should come out, that there is no innovation, as I verily believe, the truth is, and that it is, as it was left by the treaty of Utrecht, explained in 1717, will any man say that it is a crime in the Ministry, or a reason to quarrel with France? will

1750.
FEB. 9.

1750. any gentleman say it? does any one say it?"
 FEB. 9. To this his Lordship made no reply in affirmation of what he had laid down in contradiction to me, which proves to a demonstration, that he went out of his way, in concert with those in conjunction with him, to shew the world by a publick disavowal, that they disclaimed all concert and connection with me: whether that was for *his* service, he best knew. I beg'd to be understood, that, in all I had said, my concern was only in relation to his service; if he was satisfied, I was. I desired to govern nobody, to supplant nobody: but that I could not follow his family in publick, in whatever they pleased to start; that in things I was not consulted about, where my advice and opinion was neither taken, nor even asked, I could not go down and appear to approve and support: that I was sorry it rendered my services useless to him in the House of Commons, but I could not put myself upon that footing: he said, to be sure it was not to be expected from me, or to that effect. I replied, that was very well; I

was perfectly satisfied, if he was. I then 1750.
 began to put him in mind, that I had not FEB. 9.
 been idle; that I had thought both of the
 point of Dunkirk, and of Nova Scotia;
 and had looked into several things, that
 might be introductive to the publick ac-
 counts; and had, above a month ago,
 hinted something of it to Dr. Lee, and
 told him that I hoped for his assistance.
 [This the Doctor readily confirmed.]
 That it might go far, and affect several
 families; whether his Royal Highness
 would care to go so far, he would be the best
 judge. That when I had thought upon
 any point, in which I could see day-light,
 after I had digested it a little, I chose to
 lay it before a friend or two in the first
 place; if then we liked it, and could give
 it a body, we should then lay it before his
 Royal Highness for his approbation: if
 it met with that, then, and not till then,
 I should think of communicating it to
 those, who were chiefly to assist in the
 execution of it. That this might be go-
 verning, for ought I knew; but that this
 was the way of doing business which I had

1750. learnt, and indeed, that I had never known
 FEB. 9. any other practised.

They both laughed and said, to be sure it was not governing, and was the only way of transacting business. I replied, it was the only way I knew, and it might be governing; but if it was, his Royal Highness would please to observe, that I had not done even that, yet. I then observed to him, how extremely hard it was for a minority, to bring any considerable, national abuse, into absolute, undeniable proof, all the offices and documents being in the hands of the Court; and I desired him to look back through all the oppositions for forty years past, saying, that I could recollect but one, that was brought home and fixed upon the Ministry, which was this very point of Dunkirk: and this his Royal Highness readily agreed to.

This, to the best of my memory, was the most, if not all the material part that passed. The conversation became general for a time, and then his Royal Highness called

called for a chair, and left Dr. Lee and me together.

1750.
FEB. 9.

When we were alone, I told the Doctor that I knew there was a combination against me; that I could prove it, and they knew I could prove it: but that since I had had an opportunity of explaining myself fully to his Royal Highness, in the presence of so good a witness as himself, I was entirely indifferent as to the event. The Doctor assured me, in a seeming friendly, and warm manner, that he should always be glad to act with me, in every thing that might be for the service of the Prince, and the utility of the country. I thanked him properly, and desired him to remember, that I had desired, and even insisted with, the Prince, to declare if ever, or at any time, or in what, I had ever attempted to govern him, or complained, that I did not; adding, that possibly I might have had such an idea, might have attempted it, might have miscarried, and been reprimanded for it, and might have grown wiser: but if I had done it at all, I should scarcely have chal-

1750. lenged the Prince, before him, to declare
 FEB. 9. it. The next thing I beg'd him to re-
 member was, that I had fully apprized
 the Prince, that in what I was not con-
 sulted about and advised with, I would
 have nothing to do with in Parliament,
 and that I would not go down thither
 upon that footing, and so we parted.

I desired Mr. Ralph, whom I found at my house, to go to Mr. Furnese's immediately, and from thence send to Lord Middlesex for leave to wait upon him with an account of this whole transaction.

II. I saw Lord Middlesex for a moment before I went to court. He told me that the Prince came to his house directly from me on Friday night. That he was very thoughtful, and endeavoured to shake it off, but could not; so that any one might see, that something lay heavy upon his mind, which he could not get quit of. That Mr. Ralph had acquainted him with what had passed, and that, last night, the Prince and Princess came to Lady Middlesex,

fex,

fex, who had not been out since her miscarriage, and staid late. That, then, it came all out. That according to Mr. Ralph's relation, the Prince said but little: but according to his own, his Royal Highness made himself a great speaker. That he had convinced me about the mutiny bill. That I mentioned a combination to govern him, but that nobody durst enter into such a combination. That I did not say there was such a thing, or he would not have suffered me to go on: and then, what he would do to those, who should presume to enter into such a thing!—in short, he seemed to laugh it off, and that now all things would go well again, &c. But he again mentioned the conversation between Mr. Furnese and Lord Baltimore of last Tuesday. Lord Baltimore contrived to see him as soon as he came from Kew, and before he went to Lord Middlesex's, and represented that conversation, as pressed upon him by Mr. Furnese, at my request, and that he had talked very high of me, if not from me; and that I complained that he (his Royal Highness) beg'd and pressed

me

1750.

FEB. 11.

1750. me to come into his service, for that he
 FEB. 11. could not do without me, &c. &c. I asked
 if I might make use of this overture to
 have the matter explained. He said, he
 was afraid not, it being said in confidence.
 I then asked, that in case Mr. Furnese
 would tell him the whole conversation, if
 he would relate it to the Prince fully and
 fairly, and fix the lye where it belonged.
 He said, he could do that very well, by
 telling the Prince, that he was much
 surpris'd, when he first heard him men-
 tion that conversation, but more so, to
 find that he mentioned it again; and
 therefore had contriv'd, in talking toge-
 ther, to draw out of Mr. Furnese, the
 particular account of it, which he would
 tell him literally, and beg, that, for his
 farther satisfaction, he would send for
 Mr. Furnese to give him an account of
 it, who, he was sure, was a man of honour,
 and would tell him the whole truth.
 I went to Leicester house, and was very
 well received. Sent to Mr. Furnese to
 see him to-morrow.

Mr. Furnese came: I read to him what passed on Friday, and told him what Lord Middlefex had heard from the Prince again, about the turn which Lord Baltimore had given to the conversation between them; which he again declared to be most false, and that he was ready to declare it to the Prince, if his Royal Highness was pleased to send for him. Intelligence from H. V. of the very great dissensions between the Ministers.

1750.
FEB. 12.

Saw Lord Middlefex. We agreed that he should (as indeed it was hardly to be avoided) take up this matter again with the Prince, and tell him that I had given him an account of it. That I was most grateful for his grace and condescension, in giving me so full and patient an audience—that, I hoped, I had not behaved improperly. That upon the whole, though he was my friend, yet he thought the Prince should, for his future quiet, go to the bottom of this affair. Every one had their faults—I might be vain—I might be high—and yet mean very well, and be
made

13.

1750. made very useful. He did not mean, to
 FEB. 13. push things to extremities. If I had
 pressed indecently upon his Royal High-
 ness, or into his affairs, where I was not
 called: though it was true, that I had not
 intruded into his family, yet, if I had talked
 impertinently and vainly about it, of being
 begged and prayed, and that his Royal
 Highness could not do without me—why,
 it was no heinous fault, but he thought I
 should be gently made to feel the impro-
 priety of such a behaviour, by a word from
 his Royal Highness, or from him in his
 name. But it imported his Highness to
 be sure the charge was true, and to give
 me an opportunity of justifying myself;
 otherwise, the party was not equal, his
 Royal Highness having heard but one side.
 If, on the contrary, it should turn out
 false; was it not highly necessary, that he
 should know, what sort of people he had
 about him? That conversation, for in-
 stance, which his Royal Highness had
 twice mentioned, and of which he had
 great doubts in his mind, was not justly
 represented to his Royal Highness; would

his Royal Highness give him leave to tell 1750.
 me of it, that I might go to the bottom FEB. 13.
 of it? or (what would be better) would
 he send for Mr. Furnese, and let him give
 a full account of it, without ever men-
 tioning to any body, that he had been
 questioned by his Royal Highness. This
 the Prince might keep in his own breast,
 and not let it go any farther. His (Lord
 Middlesex's) intention not being to go to any
 extremity, but only that his Royal High-
 ness might know the persons he employed;
 and not reject any one for a few faults,
 that might be useful in many things; nor
 trust, without reserve, any person, who,
 though useful in some things, and fit to
 be employed, may be dangerous in others,
 and should cautiously be guarded against.
 That he should tell his Royal Highness
 that I complained, that after having sat
 down quiet under a falsehood which Lord
 Egmont laid to my charge, of telling
 Cary what passed between his Royal High-
 ness and me, at Kew, when he took me
 into his service (which I could prove, even
 by Cary himself, who was told it by Lord
 Egmont)

1750. Egmont)—after having acquiesced so long
 FEB. 13. under that imputation, rather than hurt that Lord, or occasion any, the least disquiet, in the family, that I did not expect such a return. These points, Lord Middlesex agrees, are right, and he will undertake them.

14. At Leicester House, but went away before the Princess came out. After dinner, I went to see Dr. Lee, who received me with much apparent openness. We talked much about what the Prince's conduct ought to be, in case, under their present undoubted quarrels and disunion, either part of the Administration should apply to him for assistance. The conversation was begun by him, and we, both, agreed that, unless they would restore the King to his family by a thorough reconciliation; and to his People, by some popular acts, the Prince should not engage with any of them. And we neither thought them honest or able enough to bring about such great events, and we agreed in wishing, that no such application would be made.

Mr.

Mr. Henley was with me, who did not think Mr. Lafcelles's Privy Seal sufficient for a separate point: he asked me how things went; I told him, but indifferently. That I had no communication with the other gentlemen in our family, and that they were united against me—he treated them very slightly, and said that indeed he had had offers enough to be of their meetings, but had declined them, not thinking himself *little* enough to follow any body there—that they generally shewed him their motions either in the house or elsewhere. I said, even that did not happen to me; that, therefore, I was determined not to meddle with any thing, where my opinion was neither asked nor taken. That if the Prince liked their method of proceeding, I was perfectly satisfied: but I would not put myself upon that foot in publick. That I would do every thing in my power, spare no expence, no complaisance, nor chearful concurrence in all his pleasures, to make myself an agreeable servant, as long as I had the honour to belong to him; but that, in his publick

1750.
FEB. 25.
business

1750. business I would never intrude myself;
 FEB. 25. and that it was impossible for me to follow those gentlemen, though I did not, in the least, desire to govern them: This, as well as I can remember, was all material that I said. He said much more of them, blaming them without reserve for their self-sufficiency, &c. that they were informed of nothing at bottom, but dealt only in invectives, and in that, not very well: perpetual imputation and suspicion, without being able to make out any thing, which would, if encouraged, make all government impracticable. He was displeased with Dr. Lee, for not telling him, that he was to have the seals, as our Chancellor, if Sir T. Bootle had died. Said that Lord Baltimore forced him to ask the Prince for them, who told him that he most sincerely wished to oblige him, but that he had promised Dr. Lee, in case of accidents, to give him the seals, and that Lord Baltimore was present, when the promise was made—which usage he took very ill (and I think justly) of Baltimore, who, when he pressed him to ask for the
 seals,

seals, had assured him that he knew the Prince would gladly grant them to him— with much more of this sort. I went to Leicester House, where was Mr. Henley. Lord Egmont came and immediately took Mr. Henley into a private room, where they had a conversation of near an hour. This surprised me much. In the afternoon I met their Royal Highnesses by order at Lady Middlesex's, where came Madam de Munchausen and Mr. Breton: we went in our own coaches to a fortune-teller's who was young Des Noyers, disguised and instructed to surprise Madame de Munchausen, which he effectually did. I had some talk with Lady Middlesex, who was very dejected and full of complaints at the encouragement the party met with, that was united against us. From the fortune-teller's we went to supper at Carleton House.

1750.
F.L.B. 25.

Lords Bute, Inchiquin, and Bathurst, Messrs. Masham, Breton, and I, followed their Royal Highnesses, Ladies Middlesex

F and

1750. and Howe, to dinner at Kew. Mr. Blud-
 FEB. 26. worth was with us.

27. Worked in the new walk at Kew.

28. All of us, men, women, and children,
 worked at the same place—a cold dinner.

MAR. 4. Went to meet Sir Francis Dashwood,
 Lord Middlesex, and Mr. Furness, at
 Mr. Ralph's: we went through several
 points of business, and determined to pro-
 ceed.

8. The election for the county of Middle-
 sex. Sir Francis Dashwood, Messrs. Fur-
 ness, Breton, and I went in Sir Francis's
 coach, at eight o'clock, to Mr. Cooke's in
 Lincoln's Inn Fields—A great meeting
 there—We set out with him about nine
 (my coach following), and went through
 Knightsbridge, Kensington, by the gravel
 pits to Acton, and from thence to Stan-
 well Heath, which was the general ren-
 dezvous. From thence to Brentford Butts,
 which was the place of poll. It began

about one. I polled early and got to my coach, which was so wedged in, that, after much delay, I found it impossible to make use of it; so that Mr. Breton and I were forced to take two of my servants' horses, with livery housings, and ride, without boots, ten miles to Lord Middlesex's at Walton, to meet their Royal Highnesses at dinner. We got thither by five o'clock, and found them attended by Lord Inchiquin and Mr. Bludworth in the park. Dined at six. My coach did not arrive till nine. We all came away between ten and eleven—arrived in town about one. Poll for Mr. Cooke 1617—for Mr. Honeywood 1201. We carried it by 416.

1750.

MAR. 8.

Went to the House, where it was agreed to augment the salary of the Master of the Rolls, and it was resolved that the augmentation should be 1200*l.* *per ann.* Yesterday, at three quarters after five in the morning exactly, was a violent shock of an earthquake.

9.

I had much talk with Lady Middlesex,

18.

1750. and we agreed in opinion as to the disagreeableness and impropriety of our situation, but that we must go on this summer, as well as we can.

MAR. 18. Council at St. James's—King present—Regency named—We all kissed hands and took leave.

12. Went to the House of Lords. The King spoke, and prorogued the Parliament.

16. The King went to Harwich. The wind changed to N. E.

22. Mr. Drax, who was ill of the gout, sent to desire to speak to me. I went, and he told me, that petitions had been obtained from the miners in Cornwall, for the holding a tin parliament. That they were referred to the Prince's privy council, who had rejected them, under a persuasion that there was a job at bottom. That the Prince was so far in it, that, notwithstanding the disapprobation of his council, he had ordered

dered a privy seal to be made out, to the Lord Warden of the Stanneries, to call and hold a parliament on or before the second of November. 1750. APR. 22.

That the nature of the Prince's revenue upon tin, was as follows—All tin, which is raised throughout the dutchy of Cornwall, must be brought to the Prince's smelting-house, and when smelted, pays four shillings for every hundred weight (which is 120*l.*). Then, when made into pigs, it goes to the coinage, which is only a stamp, with the Prince's arms; and then, and not before, it is marketable.

Besides this duty of four shillings *per* hundred weight throughout the dutchy, no tin can be disposed of, till the Duke has taken the quantity he pleases. This is called the preemption. This preemption has never been exercised by Princes, and seldom leased out. Once it was undertaken by Queen Anne, and Lord Treasurer Godolphin, and Mr. Boscawen (afterward Viscount Falmouth) on the other part:

1750. by which, for the present exigence, the
 APR. 22. Crown got the power in several boroughs,
 though they lost by the undertaking, which
 was occasioned by the war. This lease
 was again renewed by the succeeding ad-
 ministration, but I believe it was not car-
 ried into execution. The lease must be
 granted by an act of the parliament of the
 tinnners, which parliament is called and
 held by a privy seal to the lord warden
 for that purpose.

The dutchy is divided into four districts,
 each of which sends six members. The
 voters must be freeholders. They chuse
 a speaker, &c.

The quantity of tin raised annually, at
 an average of many years past, is 2200
 tons: the market price to the exporter
 from 4*l.* 5*s.* to 4*l.* 10*s.* per hundred weight;
 so that the Prince's revenue upon that head
 amounts to about 8,800*l.* *per ann.* clear
 of all deductions, as there are other small
 duties that defray the charge of officers,
 collection, &c. N. B. The consumption

is much less, and the freight dearer in 1750.
 time of war; but then, as the commodity APR. 22.
 is necessary, the vent is proportionably in-
 creased, the first years of peace.

Last year, the two companies of mine
 adventurers, and mine battery, both peti-
 tioned the Prince for the lease of this pre-
 emption, the petitions were referred to his
 privy council and rejected. They offered
 his Royal Highness an advance on his re-
 venue of 1200*l.* *per ann.* and a loan of
 10,000*l.* at 5 *per cent.* without insuring
 his life, which he is obliged to do, at 5 *per*
cent. additional, on all he borrows.

This not succeeding, a petition has late-
 ly been obtained from the tanners, pray-
 ing for a parliament, which was, as I
 have said, rejected by the council; who
 supposed it was meant to procure a lease,
 for the advantage of those, who were at the
 bottom of the former offers, which were
 so very disproportionate, that nothing but
 gross imposition could be expected from
 that quarter. The persons concerned,

1750. were supposed, by Mr. Drax, to be Mr.
 APR. 22. Thomas Pitt and Dr. Ayscough.

To shew the impropriety of the proceeding, and the danger of the job, Mr. Drax observed that this parliament, though it could do no act without the Prince's assent, yet it might come to several resolutions, which might be disagreeable to submit to, and yet inconvenient to break through. He then proceeded to state the advantages of the lease of preemption, which, from what he apprehends, the Prince is not properly apprized of.

The offer, last year, he stated at an advance of 1700*l.* *per ann.*—1200*l.* annually, and the loan of 10,000*l.* at 5 *per cent.* at 500*l.* *per ann.* because the Prince must pay 5 *per cent.* additional elsewhere, for insuring his life.

He said, that he is well assured, that the tinnners are ready to agree, and contractors to engage to take all the tin that shall be coined at 3*l.* 5*s.* *per* hundred weight, and to avoid the clamour of a monopoly, they
 will

will oblige themselves to sell it at 4*l.* 5*s.* 1750.
 which is below the market price. The APR. 22.
 gross gain, then, of 1*l.* *per* hundred weight,
 upon 2200 tons, is, *per ann.* £. 44,000 0 0

The money to be employed
 for 2200 tons, at 3*l.* 5*s.* *per* ton,
 is 143,000*l.* and supposing
 half this sum always employed
 at credit, you must deduct for
 interest - - - - - 2,860 0 0

Charges of management,
 freight, &c. - - - - - 3,000 0 0

There then remains against
 risqué and accidents a clear and
 net profit, *per ann.* - - - 38,140 0 0

These calculations, he said, were right:
 he does not know what is at the bottom
 of this, nor what offers have or will be
 made; but by what is passed, he is very
 suspicious, and earnestly desired me to dis-
 suade his Royal Highness, if possible, from
 it; though he knew it would be very dif-
 ficult, because he was sure, they lured him
 to it by shewing to him new acquisitions
 in the Cornish elections.

We

1750. We went to Kew for the whole week.
 APR. 30. Their Royal Highnesses, Ladies Middlesex and Howe; Lords Bute and Inchiquin; Messrs. Masham, Breton and I. We had plays acted every evening.

MAY 13. About eleven o'clock, the Prince sent to me to come to Leicester House as soon as I could. I arrived there in half an hour's time. I found the Groom in waiting, and the Bishop of Oxford. The Prince soon joined us, and said that the Princess had been ill since three in the morning: by this time the Duke of Chandois, and Lords Egmont and North, Messrs. Cust and Breton were come. We went into the bed-chamber at three quarters after eleven. The Grooms withdrew. We found in the bed-chamber Ladies Middlesex, Berkely, Irwin and Howe; Lady Bailey, Mrs. Cornwall and Payne. The midwife upon the bed with the Princess, and Dr. Wilmot standing by.

Just at half past twelve, she was delivered of a Prince, without once complaining or groaning the whole time. Then the Prince, the

the Ladies, and some of us sat down to breakfast in the next room—then went to prayers below stairs. The Prince wrote to the King, and the Duke of Bedford came for the letter. A numerous drawing-room, where appeared all the Ministers and persons in the chief employments. The Ministers were not sent for to the labour. The Prince put off the publick dinner and servants in waiting, and ordered me to dine with him in private at Carleton House.

1750.

MAY 13.

The Prince's publick table (which lasts about ten days on account of the Princess's lying-in) began on Monday.

16.

I went to town, and spent three hours in examining the tin affair, which appears to be a scandalous job, and I am determined to go to the bottom of it. Waited on the Duke of Dorset about Prince Henry's bathing in the sea, at Walmer Castle.

23.

I settled with the Duke of Dorset, that
Prince

25.

1750. Prince Henry should not go to Walmer,
 MAY 25. as it was a garrison, and as the King's leave
 was to be asked.

28. Had a conversation with Mr. Drake
 about the tin.

30. Went to Leicester House. The Arch-
 bishop and Chancellor sent for, to settle
 the christening of the young Prince, the
 King having sent no orders from Hanover,
 though applied to. Lord Middlesex,
 Messrs. Furnese, Bance, and Drake met at
 my house, to consult farther about the tin
 affair.

JUNE 1. Messrs. Kelsal and Lovel came to me.
 Lovel says that the miner brings, what is
 called, black tin to the smelting-house,
 and delivers it by weight, and receives so
 much white tin at the coinage (which is
 quarterly) and takes a tin bill for it (if he
 is poor) as the bill is marketable. He pro-
 mised to inform himself farther.

8. The Princess saw company from seven
 till

till nine o'clock, for the first time, and
 once only. The family went in, before
 any of the company were admitted.

1750.

JUNE 8.

Mr. Aldworth came from the Duke of
 Bedford, with dispatches from Hanover,
 signifying the King's approbation that
 Prince George, Lady Augusta, and a bro-
 ther of the Princess should be sponsors for
 the young Prince. Bishop of Oxford sent
 for.

14.

Went to Leicester House. The child
 was christened by the Bishop of Oxford.
 The sponsors as above. Prince George
 gave the name, which was Frederick
 William. No body of either sex was ad-
 mitted into the room but the actual ser-
 vants, except the Lord Chief Justice
 Willes and Sir Luke Schaub.

17.

Lord Middlesex and Mr. Drake were
 with me; we had much talk about the
 Prince's tin, and the scandalous transac-
 tion about it, which was encouraged by
 some of his servants. Drake thinks a vast
 profit

18.

1750. profit may arise from farming it, both to
 JUNE 18. the Prince and to the farmer, who would
 give him 200,000*l.* by way of fine. I
 think little or nothing can be given or got:
 but to get rid of Drake, and please Lord
 Middlesex, who seemed to lean a little
 towards him, I left it thus—That if any
 creditable man, or body of men, would
 take the best lease the Prince can give of
 his tin, reserving to his Royal Highness
 his four shillings *per* hundred weight
 (120*l.*) to be raised and collected with the
 same dignity and royal prerogative, as it
 now is: oblige themselves to pay to the
 miner, or owner, 3*l.* 5*s.* *per* 100, at 112
 weight: bind themselves never to raise
 the price of tin above three shillings *per*
 112 weight, higher than the market price
 shall be at the time of signing the lease:
 and to deliver all that is raised, at or be-
 low that price. If for a seven years lease,
 containing these conditions, they will pay
 to his Royal Highness, by way of fine,
 100,000*l.* sterling, without any reprises or
 deduction, he will make them such a lease,

as shall be a sufficient security for them to undertake the farm upon. 1750.
JUNE 18.

Went to Leicester House. Lord Mayor and Aldermen came to compliment the Princess upon her lying-in. Letters from Hanover, with orders that those Knights of the Garter, who did not walk, should choose their own proxies. The Prince designs Lord Inchiquin for Prince George's proxy. 20.

I met Mr. Vanneck, jun. by appointment at Lord Middlesex's, about the Prince's tin. We had two hours conversation, the result of which is among my papers relating to that matter. But, upon the whole, if he was to take all that is raised, with a liberty to advance the price 5 *per cent.* he could give no more than 66*s.* *per* hundred weight; so that supposing the tinnors would be contented to bind themselves to the present market price of 64*s.* (which, I think, they would not) the whole gain to the Prince would be 2*s.* *per* 100 weight, or 2*l.* a ton; which
upon

1570. upon 2500 tons (the quantity supposed to
 JUNE 25. be annually raised) amounts to 5000/
per ann.

28. Lady Middlefex, Lord Bathurst, Mr. Breton, and I waited on their Royal Highnesses to Spitalfields, to see the manufactory of silk, and to Mr. Carr's shop in the morning. In the afternoon, the same company with Lady Torrington in waiting, went in private coaches to Norwood Forest to see a settlement of gypsies. We returned and went to Bettefworth, the conjurer, in hackney coaches—Not finding him, we went in search of the little Dutchman, but were disappointed; and concluded the particularities of this day, by supping with Mrs. Cannon, the Princess's midwife.

29. I had a long conversation with Mr. Ralph about the prosecution intended against his paper.

JULY 2. Mr. Furnese, Mr. Ralph, and I dined with Mr. Oswald at Wandsworth. We had

had much talk upon publick affairs. Re- 1750.
 solved at my return to meet and prepare JULY 2,
 for parliamentary enquiry, such points as
 should appear most liable to censure; par-
 ticularly to look into the grounds of Mr.
 Lafcelles's quietus by privy seal: the ex-
 penditure during the war: the manage-
 ment of the ordnance office: the affair of
 Nova Scotia, and the Canada expedition,
 &c. Mr. Oswald was entirely disposed to
 assist us.

Dined with Lord Talbot, who informed 3.
 me of the many lies which were told of
 me to the Prince, and the unalterable in-
 veteracy of the family against me. God
 forgive them—I have not deserved it of
 them.

I offered Dr. Thomson a room in my 5.
 house, and 50*l.* *per ann.* which he ac-
 cepted.

I sent to Mr. Ralph, by Whitehead, a AUG. 1.
 scheme of opposition to be communicated
 to Lords Middlesex and Talbot, Sir Fran-

1750. cis Dashwood, Messrs. Furnese and Of-
AUG. 1. wald.

SEPT. 11. Sir Francis Dashwood told me at Wycombe what he had learned of Mr. Boone, *viz.*—that my adversaries were satisfied, that my design, when I came into the family, was to turn them all out, even to the women, &c.—that the Prince told Boone, that I forced myself into his service, and that he could not help taking me, &c.—that Lord Egmont said he knew, that the Prince never advised with, or communicated any thing to me, &c.—that Lord Egmont defrayed the Prince's expences at Bath, &c.

16. Messrs. Furnese and Ralph came to me. We had much conversation. We agreed that the Prince should, as soon as possible, be brought to some eclaircissement, and be informed with proof, of the lies that have been told of me, by Lords Egmont and Baltimore, &c.—that otherwise I could not act in publick with them.

Went to a meeting at the King's Arms Tavern, Change Alley, at eleven o'clock, about the herring fishery. Proposed to chuse the governor, &c. by lifts, which was much opposed by the Scotch interest. I argued for it, from the authority of the act of parliament, and at last prevailed by 19 against 7.

1750.

SEPT. 19.

I carried Mr. Ralph to Mr. Waller's in three hours. Much debate about the means of forming an opposition and its end: at length, Mr. Waller promised to act heartily with me, and we agreed to begin with the ordnance.

25.

Went to Lord Middlesex's at Ashley. Much talk with my Lord that day and the next morning. We agreed that the country was in a deplorable state, and that the safety of the Prince's succession was in great danger, from the maxims he had adopted, and in which he was encouraged by those he most attended to at present. It was also agreed, that Lord Middlesex should procure an explanation, or that both

27.

1750. of us should neither meddle with, nor appear in the business of the House.

30. At Leicester House. Lord Bute kissed hands for the Bed Chamber. Col. Robinson, as Equerry. The latter, as well as Lord North, is to remain under the title of servant to the Prince, but both are to attend the Princes George and Edward, as Governor and Equerry.

Nov. 4. The King landed about twelve o'clock at Harwich, and came to St. James's between ten and eleven.

18. Westminster bridge opened. Mr. Tucker and I went to Mr. Scrope's, to desire him to acquaint Mr. Pelham, that, as we supposed, when he engaged for the charter at Weymouth; he understood that he was to have two friends there, during this parliament, though no such conditions were actually expressed, yet, if Mr. Plummer should die (who was that day cut for the stone) we were too nice upon points of honour, to take the advantage of what might

might be implied, though not specified, 1750.
 and therefore we would chuse any unex- Nov. 18.
 ceptionable gentleman he should name.
 But we would not chuse any other, or one,
 who, by his relations or situation, might
 seem to be put there, with a view to make
 a separate interest. And we should confi-
 der the insisting upon such an one, as a
 premeditated design to make war, which,
 when we were in the right, we were ready
 to begin as soon as he pleased.

Mr. Tucker and I met Mr. Pelham, at Dec. 11.
 Mr. Scrope's by appointment: we settled
 the Weymouth re-election, according to
 the agreement made, on obtaining the new
 charter, and he recommended Lord George
 Cavendish.

Dined at Mr. Masham's: had a long, 31.
 and, I hope, a useful and productive con-
 sultation all the morning, with Messrs.
 Oswald, Furnese, and Ralph.

Renewal of the consultation of last Mon- 1751.
 day, with Messrs. Furnese, Oswald, and Jan. 7.
 G 3 Ralph.

1751. Ralph. Some progress made. Supped at
 JAN. 7. Lady Middlesex's. It being twelfth night
 (Monday) she staked 75 guineas and I 125
 with the Prince, who sent us word that
 we had lost 8 guineas between us. Spent
 the week at Kew, where we had plays
 every day.
14. Lord Talbot joined our party at my
 house, and we made farther progress in
 business.
15. At one o'clock received orders to dine
 and sleep at Kew. Ladies Middlesex and
 Torrington, Mr. Masham, and I went to-
 gether. Played at Faro. Lord Bathurst
 came on horseback.
16. Came to town to the drawing-room.
 Dined at Carleton House. The Prince,
 Lords Granby, Middlesex, Carlisle, Eg-
 mont, Limerick, Sir John Rushout, Sir
 Thomas Bootle, Dr. Lee, Messrs. Bathurst,
 Henley, Nugent, Gibbon, and I.
17. The session opened. Long debate upon
 the

the address—division 74 to 203—mighty simple. 1751.
JAN. 17.

Lord Westmoreland was here. I proposed a co-operation with a small number of peers, which he seemed to approve of, and promised to endeavour to make it practicable. 18.

Spent the morning in farther prosecution of the business with Lord Talbot, Sir Francis Dashwood, Messrs. Furnese, Waller, Oswald, and Ralph. 19.

Went in private coaches with their Royal Highnesses, Ladies Middlesex and Howe, Lord Inchiquin, and Sir Thomas Bootle, to Mr. Glasse's, where we sent for a conjurer. 20.

The Prince's birth-day kept. Dined with me Marquis de Mirepoix, General Wall, Mons. d'Abrien, Comte de Perron, Abbé di Grossa-testa, Mons. de Loffandiere, Marquis d'Ayè, Comtes de la Marmora, and de Lascary, Baron de St. Fiorent, 21.

1751. Comte de Haflang, Duke of Queensberry,
 JAN. 21. Lord Talbot, Sir Francis Dashwood, and
 Mr. Breton.

22. Debate upon some queries about the
 Army, that were dispersed abroad—agree
 with the Lords to burn them.

FEB. 6. Have been very ill for the fortnight past:
 but this day went to the House to hear the
 charge against Mr. Murray, brother to
 Lord Elibank, for words spoken against
 the High Bailiff, the day of his making
 the return for Westminster (15th of May
 last). After the trial was over, and the
 first question moved, I left the House, and
 returned to Hammer-smith. Never saw an
 accusation worse supported by any thing
 but numbers.

11. Mr. Oswald, with other friends, was
 with me, who treated me in the most af-
 fectionate and friendly manner: told me
 all his views, and the offers that had been
 made to him, and concluded by saying,
 that he wished to act always with me, and
 that

that he would accept of the Prince's service, if he might come into it as my friend, and by and through my hands, but that he would not come in by any other hands or canal.

1751.
FEB. 11.

Went to wait on his Royal Highness at Kew—proposed to him the securing Mr. Oswald by my weight with him—the Prince hesitated a little, as having made a trial, some time ago, by another hand without success. At last he allowed the importance of the acquisition, and ordered me to sound Mr. Oswald's disposition towards it—his Royal Highness ordered me to dine and sleep there.

12.

Mr. Oswald dined with me, and agreed to come to HammerSmith the next morning, to settle what report I should make to the Prince.

13.

Mr. Oswald came this morning, and was pleased to put himself entirely into my hands, and to rely upon my friendship.

15.

1751. Dr. Lee came to me. I talked over to
 FEB. 16. him, at large, the points of the Spanish
 treaty—Mr. Lafcelles's privy seal—the
 ordnance contract—and the expedition—
 He seemed to approve of them, and I gave
 him several papers to look over at home.
 He told me very frankly that, whatever I
 proposed, he would cheerfully support
 with all his power in the debate; but as
 he was enjoined secrecy, he could not be
 the mover or seconder, because that would
 look like breaking short with Lord Eg-
 mont, and with others he had acted with.

17. Dr. Lee returned my papers, and
 thought that the treaty would not be a
 point strong enough, but he approved of
 the others.

23. Had a conference with his Royal High-
 ness, and I began with telling him, that
 on Monday Mr. Oswald was with me,
 to acquaint me that he had received posi-
 tive offers from Court; he was surpris'd,
 and asked me what they were; I told him
 that though, as I owed my first duty to
 him,

him, I ought not to conceal any thing 1751.
from him that related to his service; yet FEB. 23.
that there were also other duties that I
held sacred, and if I should discover the
secret of a friend to him, I hoped his
Royal Highness would be pleased to pro-
mise me that it should go no farther. He
promised me; and I then told him, that
Mr. Oswald had been offered to be made
Comptroller of the Navy, with a promise
that he should have the assistance of all
Mr. Pelham's power to reform the abuses
of it, and full liberty to follow his own
opinion in parliament, and that he came
to ask my advice upon it. The Prince,
concluding he would accept of the place,
said he was glad he should find so honest a
man in business. I told him, that, from
the many reasons I had given him, he de-
clared to me that, as he saw no reformation
could be thoroughly and effectually brought
about, but by the concurrence of the
Crown, which was not to be hoped for
in our present situation, he had much
rather attach himself to his Royal High-
ness, from whom only he could hope for
that

1751. that concurrence; but as he was no Courtier and had no connections of that kind, FEB. 23. he must be contented to do his best in the station that was offered to him. That I bade him seriously consider whether, in case I would venture to sound his Royal Highness's disposition towards him, he would empower me to say that he would refuse all offers of the Court, if the Prince was willing to admit him into his service—That he told me, I positively might; upon which I promised to undertake it. After a good deal of talk, the Prince thanked me, and ordered me to send Mr. Oswald to him at Leicester House between seven and eight o'clock on Thursday next.

25. Mr. Oswald dined with me—he told me, he was much embarrassed at what had passed, since he saw me; of which he gave me the following account: Sunday the seventeenth, Sir Henry Erskine was introduced to the Prince for the first time: on Monday the eighteenth, Mr. Oswald was with me to settle the report I was to make to the Prince—on Tuesday the nineteenth,
Sir

Sir Henry asked him in the House—have you received any message from the Prince? what do you mean? he returned. Has the Earl of Egmont delivered you no message? —I don't know the Earl of Egmont. He will then, replied Sir Henry, for I was introduced to the Prince last Sunday, and he asked me if I knew you—I said, yes, intimately—he then asked how you were disposed towards him—I replied, that I thought you had the highest regard for him, &c. His Royal Highness then said, I must send to him by Dr. Lee or Lord Egmont, for what comes from them, is the same as if it came from me. This seemed strange to us, but I think the drift is evident.

1751.
FEB. 25.

Went to the Earl of Shaftesbury's. Much talk with him about separating the Tories from the Jacobites, on the quarrel between them about the late University election, which was to be done by bringing them to a declaration of few heads, which, he said, he had made use of, and hoped he should succeed.

26.

Mr.

1751. Mr. Ofwald came to me from the
 FEB. 28. Prince, whom he found at Carleton House.
 —He was received very graciously, and
 the Prince talked to him on many sub-
 jects and of many persons, but never men-
 tioned my name—They agreed that Mr.
 Ofwald was to have the Green Cloth, and
 to kiss hands on lady-day.

MAR. 1. Went to the House. Mr. Townshend
 advised with me about General Anstru-
 ther's affair. I begged him to be very
 sure of his proofs, before he began a charge
 in Parliament—He desired leave to come
 to me to-morrow and to shew me his pa-
 pers, which I agreed to, but desired him
 to consult with wiser persons than me.

2. Mr. Townshend came, and I fairly shew-
 ed him, that calling for the reports in
 council would lead him to embarrass the
 Ministry, who, in this case of Anstruther,
 had delayed justice: that I should be glad,
 it should come forward, but not from him,
 apprising him where his motion would end,
 since he asked my advice as a friend, &c.

He thanked me much, and it being late, 1751.
 he desired to come again to-morrow morn- MAR. 2.
 ing.

Went to Leicester House, but just as I 3.
 was going, Mr Townshend came, and to
 my infinite surprize told me that he had
 been with the Earl of Egmont, who had
 given him a question which comprehended
 the civil and military behaviour of Gene-
 ral Anstruther, which he would read to
 me. He did so, and asked my opinion.
 I was astonish'd at his ignorance, and said,
 I had nothing to object to it.

Motion by Mr. Townshend seconded by 4.
 Colonel Haldane, for copies of all courts
 martial held by Anstruther, while he
 commanded in Minorca; and of all com-
 plaints against him in council, and the pro-
 ceedings thereupon. Agreed, without di-
 vision, to drop the courts martial till some
 particular facts were alledged, but to suffer
 the council papers to come.

Went to Leicester House, where the 6.
 Prince

1751. Prince told me he had caught cold, the
MAR. 6. day before, at Kew, and had been blooded.

8. The Prince not recovered. Our passing
the next week at Kew put off.

10. At Leicester House. The Prince was
better, and saw company.

13. At Leicester House. The Prince did
not appear, having a return of a pain in
his side.

14. At Leicester House. The Prince asleep
—twice blooded, and with a blister on his
back, as also on both legs that night.

15. The Prince had a plentiful evacuation,
and was out of all danger.

16. The Prince without pain or fever.

17. Went twice to Leicester House. The
Prince had a bad night, till one this morn-
ing, then was better, and continued so.

The Prince better, and sat up half an hour. 1751.
MAR. 18.

Went to Leicester House; from thence to the House of Commons, and then to Hammer-smith. I was told at Leicester House, at three o'clock, that the Prince was much better, and had slept eight hours in the night before, while, I suppose, the mortification was forming; for he died this evening a quarter before ten o'clock, as I found by a letter from Mr. Breton at six o'clock the following morning. 20.

I came immediately to town, and learned from Mr. Breton, who was at Leicester House when the Prince died, that, for half an hour before, he was very chearful, asked to see some of his friends, eat some bread and butter, and drank coffee: he had spit for some days, and was at once seized with a fit of coughing and spitting, which last was so violent, that it suffocated him. Lord North was sent to the King. This morning the King ordered the body to be opened—an abscess was found in his 21.

H side,

1751. side, the breaking of which destroyed him.
 MAR. 21. His physicians, Wilmot and Lee, knew nothing of his distemper; as they declared, half an hour before he died, that his pulse was like a man's in perfect health. They either would not see, or did not know the consequences of the black thrush, which appeared in his mouth, and quite down into his throat. Their ignorance, or their knowledge of his disorder, renders them equally inexcusable for not calling in other assistance.

From Tuesday the 12th, when he supped at Carleton House, and when he relapsed before he went to bed, the Princess never suffered any English man or woman, above the degree of a Valet de Chambre, to see him; nor did she vouchsafe to see any one, man, or lady of the family, not even the Lady in waiting, till Sunday last, when it was absolutely necessary that somebody should appear to receive compliments; and then Lady Scarborough was ordered, instead of a Lord, who, as she apprehended, might have expected to see the Prince.

Prince. She saw Dr. Lee one day before ¹⁷⁵¹ the death, and, just after the event, she ^{MAR. 21} had a long conference, till past twelve, with him and the Earl of Egmont. This morning Lady Middlesex saw her, but was not sent for. Lord Middlesex sent his compliments, and was admitted. She sent in for the Duke of Chandois, and also for the Earl of Scarborough at night.

When this unfortunate event happened, I had set on foot, by the means of the Earl of Shaftesbury, a project for an union between the independent Whigs and Tories, by a writing, renouncing all tincture of Jacobitism, and affirming short, but constitutional and revolutionary principles. I had given his Lordship the paper: his good heart and understanding made him indefatigable, and so far successful, that there were good grounds to hope for an happy issue. These parties, so united, were to lay this paper, containing these principles, before the Prince; offering to appear as his party, now; and upon those principles to undertake the administration, when he was

H 2 King,

1751. King, in the subordination and rank among
 MAR. 21. themselves, that he should please to appoint.—Father of mercy! thy hand, that wounds, alone can save!

22. Several, in much distress, here. The Earl of Shaftesbury and Mr. William Beckford here, by their own appointment; they said, they came to ask directions what to do under this fatal change of situation: I said, that it appeared to me, that, if the Pelham party did not, instantly, drive out the Bedford interest, they must be driven out by that, though now the weakest party; but that the Bedford party would become the strongest, having the King's favourite, and, now, only son at their head, and at the head of the army; that he would, by their interest, small as it might be, and by the military interest, force the regency; and then, where are the Pelhams? That this necessity enforced the necessity of the projected union—that, being collected and publickly purged from Jacobitism, they became a respectable body: that if they were applied to for assistance, they might then
 give

give it upon such conditions, and for such 1751.
 share of power as they might think safe MAR. 22.
 and honourable for themselves and their
 country. Secondly, If they were not ap-
 plied to, and the Court should take a right
 turn, that then they might, like honest
 and disinterested men, support the Court
 without coming into it. And lastly, What
 was most to be dreaded, if they were not
 applied to, and the Court should take either
 a dangerous turn, or should continue in
 the same consuming way as at present, that
 then they would be ready to do, what it
 was their duty to do—oppose to the utmost,
 and declare that they mean to wrest the
 administration out of those hands, to take
 it into their own, and apply it to bet-
 ter purposes. That despair, which was
 blameable before, was now become cri-
 minal.

My company went away much satisfied,
 and determined to act accordingly.

I went to Leicester House. The Prin-
 cess afflicted, but well. Went to council,

1751. at night, which was very full. The com-
 MAR. 22. mon prayer altered, but Prince George left,
 as he now stands. The physicians made a
 report, and delivered a paper, being an ac-
 count of the body when opened—I have a
 copy of it—Ordered the bowels to be put
 into a box covered with red velvet, and
 carried in one of the Prince's coaches, by
 such attendants as his Groom of the Stole
 should appoint, and buried in Henry the
 VIIIth's chapel. Ordered a committee to
 settle the ceremonies of the funeral.

23. Went to the Earl of Westmoreland's—
 Lord Guernsey there—held a conversation
 upon the present affairs—the Earl said
 that he heard, that Sir John Hynde Cot-
 ton had proposed sending for gentlemen
 up, acquainting them at the same time,
 that nothing was to be proposed to them,
 but to sit still and wait events. I modestly
 doubted of that measure, from experience
 of the disposition of those country gen-
 tlemen, who, I thought, would neither
 come, if nothing was proposed, nor stay,
 if there was nothing to do; but yet, who
 would

would implicitly follow a few of their Lordships in one or the other: from which it followed, that their Lordships should form a set of propositions for the centre of union, and then should call them together to own them, and act upon them, either taking places (if they were to be had upon honourable terms) or acting without them.

1751.

MAR. 23.

I was, in every part, most warmly supported by Lord Guernsey, and by Sir Edward Deering, who came in. I left them together, and thought by the very affectionate manner of Lord Westmoreland, when I left the room, that I had never before made such impression upon him.

Went to the Duke of Dorset's—much talk. He thinks of the state of the nation and of the Pelhams, just as we do; as also of the danger from the Duke of Cumberland. At the Speaker's, he also in the same way of thinking with us.

24.

1751. Long conversation with Lord Limerick.
- MAR. 25. He thinks with us—but we both agreed, that the Pelhams have not sufficient resolution to do any thing great.
27. Went to council. Orders to the Lord Steward and Chamberlain to issue warrants for black cloth, wax lights, &c. for the rooms at Westminster, where the body is to be laid, &c. To the Groom of the Stole and Master of the Horse to his late Royal Highness, to regulate the march of the servants, &c. Orders to the Earl Marshall to direct the Heralds to prepare, for the consideration of the council, a ceremonial for the funeral of his Royal Highness, upon the plan of those of the Duke of Gloucester and of Prince George of Denmark, which were formed upon the plan of the funeral of Charles the second.
28. Sir Francis Dashwood from the Earl of Westmoreland desired to know, if I thought it prudent to make an overture to Mr. Pelham, as a party to join him, if he would engage to lower the land tax next year to

two shillings in the pound, and reduce the 1751.
 army. I sent my duty to the Earl, and MAR. 28.
 beg'd to know, if he thought we were
 united enough to make overtures as a
 party; and if so, what the party was to
 do in return, in case Mr. Pelham should
 comply. These conditions are nugatory,
 and yet, the last, of all others, the most
 difficult to obtain. If we were united,
 we should, now, demand great and national
 conditions, for the safety of the whole,
 which will be as easily obtained, at least,
 as the reduction of the army at present,
 and which reduction, except in the view
 of œconomy, is trifling. Any army may
 be equally ruinous; and yet some must
 be kept till the nation can be armed by a
 proper regulation of the militia.

At the Speaker's, where we turned over 29.
 precedents, with relation to the grants of
 the dutchy of Cornwall, and of the govern-
 ment during minorities.

Saw Mr. Prowse, and found him well 31.
 disposed to the main system. The King
 was

1751. was at Leicester House. This night died
MAR. 31. the Earl of Oxford.

APR. 3. At council, about the funeral. Cere-
monial from the Heralds read—their orders
were to form it on the plan of the Duke
of Gloucester's and Prince George's of
Denmark. But they had different orders
privately, which, *then*, I did not know.
I thought there was very little cere-
mony, and therefore said, that I supposed,
that they had complied with the orders,
which their Lordships gave about the
plans, on which this funeral was to be
formed. The Lords said, to be sure; and
none seemed to have any doubts, or con-
cerned themselves about it; so I said no
more, though I am satisfied, it is far short
of any funeral of any son of a King. After
the council was up, I asked the Lord
Chancellor about it, who said that he
supposed the Heralds had complied with
their orders, but that he knew nothing of
it, and had never seen any of the plans.
I told him that I mentioned it, because, if
it should appear that any mark of respect
to

to the deceased should be wanting in this 1751.
 funeral, it would certainly give great dif- APR. 3.
 taste. I think the plan must be altered.

The King was at Leicester House. 4.

Saw the Earl of Westmoreland, but, his 7.
 Lady being present, could not talk fully
 with him. Mr. Glover dined with me,
 and the Earl of Shaftesbury came in the
 afternoon, and we agreed to drive it to a
 short issue with the Earls of Westmoreland
 and Oxford, either to form a regular party
 immediately, or to give the point entirely
 up. If a party should be formed, then to
 fix the subscription for a paper by Mr.
 Ralph, to be supported by about twenty
 of us, at ten guineas each, and by what
 else we can get.

Went to Mr. Oswald's—from thence to 10.
 the Earl of Westmoreland, with whom,
 and Earl Stanhope, I had a long conversa-
 tion. I left them, persuaded of the ne-
 cessity of forming a party, united by con-
 stitutional principles, which should be re-
 duced

1751.
APR. 10

duced into writing and signed by all the party. Much talk of those principles, of which I mentioned such as occurred to me, and of which they approved. I told them that I had once drawn such a political creed for the last opposition, but the gentlemen did not care to sign it. That, now, I thought the younger part of our friends were very much in earnest, and only wanted proper leaders and proper points to unite heartily. The Lords agreed that something should be digested immediately: I told them that, to make a beginning, if they pleased, I would send them the paper mentioned, in which some hints might possibly be of use; they seemed very desirous of seeing it, and I went home, and sent it directly to the Earl of Westmoreland. I have done enough, and henceforth shall live to myself the years, which God in his mercy may grant me, unless I am called upon to assist.

11.

I had much talk with Mr. Oswald on the state of affairs, and I told him the steps I had taken towards an union of parties:

that I thought I owed it to our friendship 1751.
 to acquaint him, that, if this great plan APR. 11.
 could be effected, I must take my share
 in it. He approved the greatness and honesty
 of the design, and, at the same time,
 told me that Mr. Pelham had renewed
 his offers since the Prince's death, to
 which he had returned a very general, cool
 answer: he said that he hoped, from the
 renewing that offer, to find that Mr. Pel-
 ham would shew resolution enough to
 enter into engagements with some more of
 us, and avail himself of the present dispo-
 sitions of the people, to put himself upon
 his country, and get rid of his open ene-
 mies and false friends, which was, now,
 most practicable, and even necessary to pre-
 vent his being undone by both.

Lord Limerick consulted with me about
 walking at the funeral. By the Earl Mar-
 shall's order, published in the common
 newspaper of the day (which, with the
 ceremonial not published till ten o'clock,
 I keep by me), neither he, as an Irish Peer,
 nor I, as a Privy Counsellor, could walk.
 He

1751. He expressed a strong resolution to pay
 APR. 13. his last duty to his Royal friend if practicable. I beg'd him to stay till I could get the ceremonial; he did, and we there found, in a note, that we might walk. Which note, published seven or eight hours before the attendance required, was all the notice that Lords, their sons, and Privy counsellors had (except those appointed to particular functions) that they would be admitted to walk.

At seven o'clock I went, according to the order, to the House of Lords. The many flights that the poor remains of a much-loved master and friend had met with, and who was now preparing the last trouble he could give his enemies, sunk me so low that, for the first hour, I was incapable of making any observation.

The procession began, and (except the Lords appointed to hold the pall and attend the chief mourner, and those of his own domesticks) when the attendants were called in their ranks, there was not one
 English

English Lord, not *one* Bishop, and only one Irish Lord (Limerick), two sons of Dukes (Earl of Drumlandrig and Lord Robert Bertie), one Baron's son (Mr. Edgecumbe) and two Privy Counsellors (Sir John Rushout and myself), out of these great bodies, to make a show of duty to a Prince, so great in rank and expectation. While we were in the House of Lords, it rained very hard, as it has done all the season; when we came into Palace Yard, the way to the Abbey was lined with soldiers, but the managers had not afforded the smallest covering over our heads; but, by good fortune, while we were from under cover, it held up. We went in at the S. E. door, and turned short into Henry the VIIth's chapel. The service was performed without either anthem or organ. So ended this sad day—*Quem semper acerbum—semper honoratum.*

The corpse and bowels were removed, last night, to the Prince's lodgings at the House of Lords; the whole bed-chamber were ordered to attend them from ten in the morning

1751.
APR. 13.

1751. morning till the *enterrement*. There was
 APR. 13. not the attention to order the Green-Cloth
 to provide them a bit of bread, and these
 gentlemen, of the first rank and distinction,
 in discharge of their last sad duty to a loved
 and a loving master, were forced to bespeak
 a great cold dinner from a common tavern
 in the neighbourhood. At three o'clock
 indeed, they vouchsafed to think of a din-
 ner, and ordered one—but the disgrace was
 complete, the tavern dinner was paid for,
 and given to the poor. N. B. The Duke
 of Somersset was chief mourner, notwith-
 standing the flourishing state of the Royal
 family.

15. Lord Shaftesbury came to acquaint me,
 that the project of union went on very
 successfully. I advised him to appoint a
 meeting, for to-morrow, of the Earls
 of Westmoreland, Oxford, and Stanhope,
 to settle the points in writing, that are
 to be the centre of that union. Dined
 at Sir Francis Dashwood's, where Earl
 Stanhope read to us the draught of a
 preamble

preamble to such points, which was extremely good.

1751
APR. 15

Went to the House—the motion to put off the third reading of the naturalization bill for two months, was carried by 129 against 116. The report of the dismissal of the Duke of Bedford and Earl of Sandwich, and of the introduction of the Earl of Holderness and Lord Anson into their places, is not true; but it is likely to happen.—If so, they surely design to curtail the Southern Province.

15.

At the House. Mr. George Townshend opened General Anstruther's affair, and moved a question concerted with the Court, which was, that his Majesty should be addressed to enforce his orders, in consequence of the report of his council, to oblige Lieutenant General Anstruther to make some satisfaction to those of Minorca whom he had oppressed—which must be very unsatisfactory and insufficient. Mr. Townshend, who, of his own accord, engaged in this affair; who, of his own accord,

185

1751. cord, on very slight acquaintance, desired
 APR. 18. my advice, and whom I treated with great
 generosity, as he acknowledged to me and
 others; who imprudently went from me
 to the Earl of Egmont, and brought from
 that Lord a long, inflammatory question,
 which he desired me to correct, and which
 I declined; who received from me the
 proper question in writing, concluding
 with one to establish a civil government
 in Minorca. This gentleman, without
 giving me the least intimation, contents
 himself with moving this tame court ques-
 tion; and Lord Egmont, that Lord, the
 other day, so violent, who drew a question
 so very different, thought fit even to ab-
 sent himself on the present.—Such won-
 ders has the poor Prince's death already
 produced!

21. Dined at Lord Middlesex's. Was told
 that Mr. Montague, as Auditor to the
 Princess; Mr. Douglas, and Mr. Boone,
 in the room of Sir John Cust, as Clerks
 of the Green Cloth; Mr. Bludworth as
 Master of the Horse; Messrs. Leslie, Scot,
 and

and Robinſon, as Equerries, kiſſed the 1751.
Princeſs's hand this day. APR. 21.

Dined at Sir Francis Daſhwood's. Find 23.
by Lord Talbot, that we are not likely to
come to a union; for, now, the terms
they propoſe to ſign, are of a ſort that im-
ply an excluſion of coming into office—
Now, as no good can be done to this coun-
try, but by good men coming into office,
it is all over, and I give up all thoughts of
ever being, any farther, uſeful to man-
kind.

At the Houſe. Ereſkine's accuſation 24.
againſt Anſtruther, baffled by the Court
through the act of Grace.

Went to town to conſult my conſtant 25.
friend Mr. Bance, about retrieving, if
poſſible, the captainſhip of the Doddington
Eaſt Indiaman, which Mr. Tucker im-
prudently and unkindly oppoſes me in:
he being concerned (though not equally
with me) and having the management of my
affairs; has led the reſt of the proprietors

1751. to think I was engaged, and so, to engage
 APR. 25. themselves to the person he espoufes, which
 difappoints me in ferving the person re-
 commended to me by the Princefs of
 Wales.

Mr. Bance has juft brought Mr Tucker
 to me, who defifts from his engagement,
 but I am perfuaded it is now too late.

26. Went to town about the fhip, but did
 no good. At the Houfe. A meffage from
 the Crown to the Lords—then a meffage
 from the Lords, by Mafters in Chancery,
 to the Commons to continue fitting fome
 time—then a meffage from the Crown to
 the Commons, by the Chancellor of the
 Exchequer, recommending the Princefs
 of Wales for Regent, with fuch limita-
 tions as the Houfes fhall think proper—
 then a meffage from the Lords, by the
 Chief Juftice of the Common Pleas and
 the Chief Baron, with an addrefs of
 thanks; agreed to *nem. con.*

30. Attended the levee—then at council.
 Lord

Lord Holdernefs brought over—for the 1751.
 feals as I fuppose. Earl Harcourt fworn APR. 30.
 in. Earl of Egremont fworn as Lord
 Lieutenant of Cumberland.

At the Houfe. Refolutions to pave MAY 3.
 Pall Mall by a pound rate: Sir Francis
 Dashwood, Lord Trentham, General Ogle-
 thorpe and I, ordered to prepare the bill.
 Sense of the Houfe taken, if the young
 Prince of Wales's new fervants fhould be
 re-elected: it was agreed, not. The act
 was read; but thofe who feemed to favour
 a re-election, forgot to call for the war-
 rants that appointed them fervants to the
 Prince: by whom are they figned? if by
 the King the cafe would not have admit-
 ted a word of difpute. The perfons con-
 cerned, were Lord Down, Gentlemen of
 the Bed-Chamber; Mr. Selwyn, fen. Trea-
 furer; and Mr. Stone, Sub-Governor.

Saw feveral of my neighbours about the 6:
 pavement, and fent them away pretty well
 fatisfied.

1751.
MAY 7.

Went to the House of Lords. The regency bill brought in and opened by the Duke of Newcastle. Second reading to-morrow. Nothing said, but by the Bishop of Worcester, who moved, that it might be printed, and that the Lords might have time to consider it, between the second reading and committal. The Duke of Newcastle agreed to the printing, and it passed, upon the question put. In less than ten minutes after the question was carried, the Duke got up and said, that he was told by some of the Lords, that it was very improper to print the bill, upon which they resolved not to print it, and the Bishop, being supported by no one Lord, very decently offered to withdraw his motion.—Surely, it was too late after it became a question, voted and agreed to.

8. At the House of Lords. Regency bill read a second time, and committed for Friday: not a word said against it.

9. Had intelligence that, upon a message from the Earl of Bath, the Princess had signified

signified her entire approbation of this bill. I had much consultation what was to be done, considering how many fruitless pains (as it now appeared) I had taken to unite and form a party, and yet no sort of concert was thought upon, even in these great points. The opinion seemed to be, that I should not go to the House.

1751.

MAY 9.

Went to the House of Lords. They went into a committee upon the regency bill. The clause for erecting the council was opposed by Earl Stanhope alone, who said that such a council was a novelty, and that he was against it, because he thought it unnecessary, till he heard better reasons given for it, than he had, as yet, heard. Nobody answered, or supported him, and he gave no other reasons. So the clause was carried by a division of 92 against 12. When they came to the clause of prolonging the Parliament, Lord Talbot stood up, and shewed the weakness of the Chancellor's arguments, which were drawn from history; and then said, the prolonging the Parliament was an invasion of the people's

10.

1751. rights, that it was the means of perpetuating a corrupt one, and was one of those things that the whole legislature could not do, because they could have no legal power to do it. Lord Granville spoke warmly for it, as the best part of the bill, all of which he approved of; and no one Lord seconded or supported Lord Talbot.

11. I communicated to Mr. Ralph my present resolution of no more meddling with publick affairs, till some party, worth appearing with, shall unite in the service of the country.

13. Dined with Sir Francis Dashwood, and the other gentlemen concerned about the paving bill. I did not go to the House, where the regency bill was read the first time. Sir Francis came home and acquainted me, that nobody but Mr. Thomas Pitt and he spoke against the bill. The Tories totally silent. The Court for it. Dr. Lee and Mr. Nugent speaking for it. All the Princess's and late Prince's court for it.

Committee of the regency bill—the 1751.
 clause establishing the council debated; MAY 16.
 opposed, in a very fine speech, by the
 Speaker. Mr. William Pitt and Mr. Fox
 had high words, though they were both
 for the bill. Mr. Pitt for the restrictions,
 lest the next regent should claim full
 powers, if the Princess should die, glancing
 at the Duke. Mr. Fox also for them, but
 defending the Duke. They replied upon
 each other two or three times, but Mr.
 Fox did not vote at last. Mr. Pitt and
 the Grenvilles in office voted for the bill,
 but Lord Cobham spoke and voted against
 it. Thus it was reported to me, but I
 was not there.

They went to day, in the House, upon 17.
 the clause of prolonging the Parliament.
 The committee sat late. No concert be-
 tween any five people, as I am told.

Was to wait on the Duke of Newcastle, 22.
 to thank him for getting me permission to
 drive through St. James's Park, while the
 King is at Kenfington. We parted very
 civilly.

1751. civilly. Paid Lord Middlesex 140*l.* for a
MAY 22. set of seven of the Prince's horses.

23. Went to Kenfington, and kiffed the young Prince of Wales's hand, but did not fee the King.

28. Went to town, to return by water with the Spanish and Sardinian Minifters, Meffrs. Lafcaris, St. Fiorent, and Lord Barrington. We landed at Hammersmith, where we were met by the Marquis de Mirepoix, the French Ambaffador, Monf. d'Abreu, and Lord Ashburnham. We all dined there.

31. At the Houfe about the paving bill, which was read a fecond time, and committed to a private committee.

JUNE 7. At the Houfe. Reported the paving bill council, and much debate againft it. Carried to go on with the amendments, but forced to adjourn at the firft amendment, becaufe there were but 35 members prefent.

This

This evening Lord Sandwich received his letter of dismissal. 1751.
JUNE 12.

Heard that the Duke of Bedford resigned the Seals of Secretary, this morning, at Kenfington. 14.

Lord Trentham resigned the Admiralty. 15.

Was at council at Kenfington. Earl of Granville sworn in as President. 17.

Lord Holdernes received the seals of Secretary this morning. 18.

Lord Hartington introduced into the House of Lords. Made Master of the Horse. 19.

At council at Kenfington. Earl of Holdernes sworn first, as a counsellor, and then as Secretary of State. Duke of Bedford and Lord Burleigh took the oath of office, as Lords Lieutenants of Devonshire and Rutlandshire. 21.

1751. I waited on the Princess to take my
 JUNE 25. leave: she received me in a very obliging
 manner. The Parliament rose.

27. This morning I wrote to the Duke of
 Newcastle, inclosing Colonel Milles's me-
 morial, who is in the Emperor's service as
 Duke of Tuscany. The memorial sets
 forth, that the Ostend Company bought two
 settlements, Banquibuzar and Covelon, of
 the Mogul: a rebel seized the province
 of Bengal in 1744, and took Banquibuzar
 from the Emperor's Governor. He desires
 the King to assist him, either in retaking
 the province, with the consent of, and for
 the Mogul, or, in making war upon the
 usurper, who took, and still retains his
 forts. He submits to the King, entirely,
 the share and disposition of the gains, and
 the plan of the expedition.

This plan was attempted about six years
 ago, and cost the Emperor 15,000*l.* and
 we prevented its execution at the instiga-
 tion of the East India company. Mr.
 Milles assures me that the province of
 Bengal

Bengal is the richest in the known world; 1751.
 that he knows where to lay his hands on JUNE 27.
 fifty millions sterling; that he can make
 himself master of it with 1500 men, (and
 he designs to carry no more) which the
 Emperor will furnish—all that he demands
 of us is shipping, and stores, &c. enough
 to carry them, to be added to the three
 ships which the Emperor now has, and
 which he bought for this expedition be-
 fore, at the time when we disappointed it.

Went to Eastbury.

28.

On Wednesday evening the Princess JULY 13.
 walked in Carleton Gardens, supped and
 went to bed very well: she was taken ill
 about six o'clock on Thursday morning,
 and, about eight, was delivered of a Prin-
 cess. Both well. This morning died the
 Duke of St. Alban at London.

The western mail robbed near Black- 31.
 water, by one man, about one o'clock on
 Monday morning.

We

1751. We dined at Mr. William Churchill's;
 AUG. 3. coming from thence, about six o'clock,
 from a causeway too narrow, in Mr. Churchill's meadow, called their private road, the coach was overturned into a wet ditch; the company, particularly the gentlemen, were very wet, and if there had been a foot more of water, they must all have been suffocated. We were obliged to return to the house, and we played at cards till day-light.

SEPT. 4. Returned from Eastbury to Hammer-smith.

8. News of the birth of a Duke of Burgundy. Mons. de Mirepoix made a Duke and Peer of France.

28. The Comte de Richécourt, the Emperor's Minister, and Colonel Milles, came here in the morning to talk about the expedition to Bengal. I wrote, immediately, an account of it to the Duke of Newcastle.

Received a very civil letter from the Duke of Newcastle, about the expedition to Bengal. 1751. Oct. 1.

Waited upon the Duke, and was very kindly received; he told me all that had passed about Bengal, and put the event upon the consent and concurrence of the East India company. Called upon Dr. Lee, who informed me that the gentlemen, accused of a secret treaty with the late Prince, had put it in issue with the King, that the Prince applied to them, and that they declined it, and referred the King to the Princess for the truth of their assertion. This is bold, for I know the assertion to be false. 2.

Went to wait on the Comte de Richcourt, and the Bishop of London. Colonel Milles came, to whom I delivered the Duke of Newcastle's directions, that, if he would consent that Mr. Drake and Alderman Baker, of the East India company, should ask leave of the Court of Directors to receive proposals from him, they were ready 4.

1751. ready to ask it, and if obtained, to enter
OCT. 4. into the matter with him.

13. News of the death of the Prince of Orange.

14. Waited on the Princess, and was most graciously received. She was pleased to send for the Prince of Wales, Prince Edward, and the Princess Augusta.

24. Saw Mr. Dawkins's drawings of the antiquities, which he saw in the East; they are exceedingly fine and curious.

29. Lord Chancellor, Lord President, and I, went from the Cockpit to dine with the Lord Mayor: there were none of the council, except us three. Lord Granville and I went together.

30. The King's birth-day. The drawing-room in weepers.

Nov. 14. Parliament opened. Lord Downe and
Sir

Sir William Beauchamp Proctor, moved 1751.
and seconded the address. No opposition Nov: 14:
to it.

The account with Cary brought to 18:
me, I think, puts an end to the Bengal
expedition.

At the House. Order to commit Mr. 20.
Murray to Newgate renewed.

Last Saturday the Duke of Cumberland 21:
had a bad fall from his horse, while he was
hunting at Windsor.

Went to council at St. James's, where 26:
proclamation, with 500*l.* reward, was or-
dered for apprehending Mr. Murray, in
consequence of a resolution of the House.

This day died Lord Bolingbroke. DEC. 12.

Went to council, where the trustees for 19:
Georgia agreed to surrender their charter
to the King, absolutely and uncondition-
ally.

1751. Was to wait upon the Princess of Wales.
 DEC. 21. Received in a manner most remarkably
 kind by her and all the royal children.

1752. Waited upon the Princess, whose kind-
 JAN. 1. ness seemed to encrease towards me.

26. The Solicitor General, with other com-
 pany, dined with me. On a malicious
 report that I had forced myself upon the
 late Prince of Wales, and into his service,
 I explained the whole transaction to the
 Solicitor General, and produced to him,
 all the proper vouchers that verified it,
 step by step.

30. Went to council, where Lord Granville
 very imprudently drew in question the va-
 lidity of the French treaty of commerce,
 making the goods of enemies on French
 bottoms free from capture. This was,
 however, left undecided.

FEB. 2. Mr. Furnese dined with me, and gave
 me an account of what had passed between
 him and the Solicitor General (Mr. Mur-

ray) about a message to Mr. Tucker, by 1752.
 Mr. Ellis, from Mr. Pelham, to know FEB. 2.
 what was to be done on a new election at
 Weymouth, pretending that the chusing
 two, at his nomination, was to last always.
 The Solicitor General entered into a detail
 of my affairs with much affection and
 warmth, and said, he knew there was not
 the least indisposition towards me in the
 Ministry, but was afraid, that the King
 had been strongly prejudiced against me
 personally: that he would take it upon
 him to bring this matter to a proper issue,
 one way or another; as it was by no means
 fitting, that I should offer to ask for any
 thing, till I was sure of being well received.
 He behaved nobly, and like a friend. The
 event is with God.

Went to council. Gave the Solicitor 4.
 General an account in writing, of the whole
 proceeding of the late Prince of Wales,
 in the demand of 100,000*l.* *per ann.* in
 Parliament.

Went to the Cockpit to a prize cause, 6.
 K 2 which

1752. which turned upon the authenticity of the
 FEB. 6. treaty of commerce with France; several
 Lords (of which the Lord President was
 one) doubted of its being in force. I did
 not, and it was at last decided by virtue of
 that treaty. We ended that long dispute
 of General Anstruther and Minorca, by
 referring the costs and damages he is to
 pay, to the Master of the Rolls and Gene-
 ral Bland.

9. Mr. Furnese called on me. He had
 seen the Solicitor General, who had in-
 formed him, that there was not the least
 indisposition in the Pelhams, but, on the
 contrary, a willingness to live well with
 me. That they said, it would not be im-
 possible to remove the ill impressions made
 upon the King, but it required a little
 time, &c. If they removed the Pitts, &c.
 then it might be easy.

10. Mr. Ellis was with me: he introduced
 the talk of his election on a new Parlia-
 ment. I told him, that I thought my
 behaviour, both public and private, even
 in

in opposition, never could have given just 1752.
 cause of offence to the Pelhams, or could FEB. 10.
 have shewn any indisposition to live per-
 sonally well with them: that, as I was,
 now, entirely free from engagements, I was
 sincerely desirous of Mr. Pelham's favour
 and friendship, if he would accept of my
 friendship and attachment: if then, he
 would accept of my services, he might,
upon proper conditions, command my in-
 terest, and in that case, nobody would be
 more welcome to me at Weymouth, than
 he, Mr. Ellis. That this was in Mr.
 Pelham's breast, who best knew his own
 disposition, but that mine was entirely
 inclined to be his friend and servant, *upon*
proper conditions. This *of proper conditions*,
 was frequently repeated, and Mr. Ellis de-
 sired to observe, that there was neither
 promise nor engagement.

Saw the Solicitor General by appoint- 15.
 ment, and found his report much less fa-
 vourable than Mr. Furnese understood it.
 That the Pelhams were very well disposed
 to me, but that the King was so much

1752. prejudiced against me by former misrepresentations, that he feared they could answer for nothing, &c. So we parted, I taking it for a thing entirely broken off, but he saying, that he did not yet see it in that light.
20. Waited on the Princess, and was very graciously received.
- MAR. 2. The King's birth-day kept. I was at court.
13. I waited on the Princess. A chapter of the Garter. Prince Edward, the Stadtholder, the Earls of Lincoln, Winchelsea, and Cardigan elected.
18. Went to council, on the particular cause of a prize taken from the Spaniards by Admiral Knowles, the 3d of September 1748, in America. It turned upon the interpretation of the terms for hostilities ceasing in those parts, which were fixed by the preliminaries of Aix la Chapelle (which refers to the treaty of sus-

suspension between us and France, 1712) 1752.
 and the proclamations, here, and other MAR. 18.
 acts of state, there—I delivered my opi-
 nion, at large, for restitution. The Lords
 took a further day to give judgment, but
 the majority seem to be with me, and I
 think, it must be so decided.

A cause on a capture by Admiral Griffin 19.
 in the East Indies, commonly called the
 Lafcar's cause. The claim against it ap-
 peared to be a manifest forgery and was re-
 jected; and the prize must be adjusted to
 the captors when we next meet.

Went to council at St. James's—The 30.
 King declared the Regency, as usual, and
 the Counsellors took leave and kissed his
 hand. The King set out, about four, the
 following morning for Harwich.

This morning my old acquaintance, Mr. APR. 9.
 Scrope, died at the age of eighty-four.

Consulted the Speaker about Dr. Thom- 16.
 son's privilege.

1752. Went to town to attend Dr. Thomson's
 APR. 17. action of defamation against Saxon the
 apothecary, at the King's Bench—began
 at six, ended at nine—evidences, speaking
 to the Doctor's skill and reputation, were
 the Duke of Roxburgh, Earl of Middlesex,
 Mr. Levison, Sir Francis Dashwood, Sir
 Francis Eyles, Mr. Drax, and myself. He
 carried his cause and the jury gave 20*l.*
 damages.

21. At council—the Solicitor General told
 me he had spoken to Mr. Pelham, as from
 himself—that there was a real good-will
 and desire to take me with them; but that
 they had fears to engage me, lest they, on
 their part, should not be able to fulfil
 their engagements. That they were afraid
 of the King, and of the party (the old
 Walpolians) nick-named the Black-tan,
 &c. The Solicitor advised me by all
 means to see Mr. Pelham, and that I should
 meet with a friendly, confidential recep-
 tion, &c. &c. This is nothing; but obliges
 me to see him.

Saw Mr. Pelham, by appointment, in 1752.
 Arlington Street—I began by telling him, MAY 5.
 that the applications I had received from
 Mr. Ellis about his election at Wey-
 mouth, I considered as giving me handle
 to wait upon him; for I was come to offer
 him, not only that, but all the services in
 my power, and that I was authorised to say
 the same from all my friends. He said, he
 should willingly embrace it, were it not
 for fear, that he should not be able to ful-
 fil what he wished to do, on his part. I
 asked, whether he would admit of a confi-
 dential conversation—he said, he could
 have no reason to wish any other, and that
 what Ellis had said, was from him, and
 was meant to produce such a conversation.
 I then asked him, if there was any real
 inclination, in the Duke of Newcastle and
 him, to accept of us into their friend-
 ship and protection, if objections could be
 removed; for that I knew the different fa-
 cility of removing them, when there was
 a little good-will at the bottom, and when
 it was the work of importance, only—he
 would observe, that I did not arrogate im-
 portance;

1752. portance; but if I had it, I would accept of
 MAY 5. nothing that was only owing to that—that,
 at my time of life, nothing would tempt
 me to come into any Court, upon the foot
 of force and intrusion. That I said this,
 to explain to him, that I desired to live
 with him, and his, as their attached friend
 and servant; that I desired no rank which
 could justly create envy in my equals, or
 any sort of power that might occasion sus-
 picion in my superiors. Reserving only,
 that, if he gave me a musket, and ordered
 me to a post, I should certainly fire.
 That, if clouds should arise, I was not
 afraid at all, to meet the great geniuses now
 on the stage. Mr. Pelham said, that there
 were real good wishes and good-will, and
 for nobody more; but how to put them
 in execution was what hindered him from
 saying all he wished—that there were dif-
 ficulties, and great ones, with the King,
 on account of my quitting his service for
 the Prince's, &c. I replied, that I was
 aware of such a prejudice; but that I be-
 lieved, when it was represented to the King,
 and by him as his opinion, that I could be
 of

of some utility to his Majesty's service, by 1752.
 my own and by the weight of my friends, MAY 5.
 particularly in chusing several members,
 it would be the means of removing all pre-
 judices. For that, though I knew that no
 pains had been spared to make him (Mr.
 Pelham) believe the contrary, yet I did as-
 sure him, as a gentleman and his servant,
 that the interest of Weymouth was wholly
 in Mr. Tucker and me: that in the coun-
 try it was impossible to chuse one member
 against us, at least, without the utmost vio-
 lence: that, indeed, he could give us a
 great deal of trouble there, and, I owned,
 could chuse any four he pleased (by peti-
 tion) at Westminster. But that, I knew,
 it was not in his temper; and I could not
 think it was for his interest to have re-
 course to flagrant acts of violence, to chuse
 two members (which was the most he pre-
 tended to), when he might have all four,
 and me too, without any violence at all.

Mr. Pelham did not pretend to set up
 any right of the Court, or that they design-
 ed to make use of any force against me,
 but

1752. but said, to be sure, what I had hinted
MAY 5. must be the way, that he must take to-
wards the King; and that he would truly
tell me all that he knew about the King's
prejudice against me—that his Majesty
was angry at my quitting, though he re-
ceived it better than he expected, as he
had told me before: but at my going into
the Prince's service afterwards, the King
broke out and said to him, here is a fine
end of civilities; here is Dodington, you
made me give him, the other day, a great
employment, and, now, he has thrown it
at your head, and is gone over to my son,
and besides, a nominal place is made for
him, to give him a pretence of putting
himself at the head of his measures, and
more to this purpose—after this, upon my
coming to Kensington, on a Sunday, some
time after the Prince's death, the King
said, I see Dodington here sometimes,
what does he come for? to which Pelham
replied, that he did not know, indeed, but
he did not believe that I had any particular
views, because he had never had the least
hint of any; which, if I had formed any,
he

he thought, he should, sooner than another, have heard of them from the long acquaintance between us: that, he was sure, my coming to Court was to shew my duty, and that I desired to live in his favour, and, he supposed, that I might wish for his (Pelham's) protection and desire to come into his service: but that was guess only—the King replied, no, there has been too much of that already—and that the conversation did not end well. That he would tell me the bottom of all his politics and his brother's too, for they must in the end be the same; and that was, to chuse a new Parliament, that should be all of a piece; such a one, as might serve the King if he lived, and be steady to put the young King in the right way, if the old one died:—that he meant a thorough Whig Parliament; for when there were factions, though a wise man was obliged to avail himself of them, as well as he could; yet they were not desirable, nor what he meant; but he wished to have a thorough Whig Parliament all of a piece. I replied, that I approved of what he said,
and

1752.

MAY 5.

1752. and thought, that the offers I now made
 MAY 5. him, from myself and friends, might contribute to facilitate that end—he said, it was for that end, that he told it to me: That they were, now, without competition, as well with the King as they could possibly hope for: but that he was not so weak as to imagine, that it depended upon any thing but the ease they procured his Majesty, in carrying on his service: that the King's temper was to be observed and complied with, &c. &c.

That, upon the present subject, he himself was most sincere and desirous to effect it, and would do his best, and he was sure his brother would do so too, and that he would write to him in conformity. That, as to borough matters, when he was pressed about Weymouth (as, to be sure, both of us must expect), he thought the best language he could hold was, that he and I lived very well together, and that he had no room to think, that any thing would be done there, that would be disagreeable or differ-

disserviceable to him; and that I should deal in the same general terms, &c.

1752.

MAY 5.

I said, that, as to quitting the King's service, I did not do it with any compact with the Prince; that it was full four months after, before his Royal Highness made me any offers, and he then did it in such a manner, that left me no option to refuse, without offending him for ever. That Mr. Solicitor General Murray knew this; and that I had living and written evidence to prove it incontestably. Since I came into the Prince's service, I could appeal to him, whether my behaviour was not entirely calculated to soften, rather than to inflame, even to the loss of my favour; whether, when the little, incendiary system prevailed, by which alone many of those about his Royal Highness's person could ever be of any significance, I did not endeavour to check it; and when I could not, did not absent myself from the House, rather than take a part, or countenance it. But, however, I desired the King should know, that I would not justify with my
Sovereign

1752. Sovereign and my master, but submitted
 MAY 5. myself to think that I was to blame, since he was displeas'd, and that I therefore humbly begged pardon, which was all in my power to do, except to shew him, by my future services, that I deserved it. That this, with the interest I could, and was willing to center in his Majesty's service, I thought, might be sufficient to remove objections, (which had in reality no foundation) especially, when conveyed through so able, so powerful, and, I trusted, so friendly a channel. That, upon the whole, he might see, and, I meant, he should, that I was very desirous this event should take place, from a sincere wish to attach myself to him, and to end my life with those, with whom I began it. That I was desirous to serve my country, and chose to do it with the good liking of the King—but if his Majesty should shut up that way, that then I must endeavour to do it by such ways as should offer in the course of things. Mr. Pelham renewed the assurances of his sincere wishes and endeavours, in a very decent manner, and
 added,

added, that he was restrained from saying 1752.
 what he wished, out of the regard he owed MAY 5.
 me, not to say any thing he was not sure
 to perform, and concluded, by inviting
 himself, in a most gentlemanlike and
 obliging manner, to Hammer-smith.

Went to the Speaker's in Surry, with 8.
 Mr. Chamberlayne, about Dr. Thomson's
 most disagreeable affair.

Sir Francis Dashwood dined with me, II.
 and I communicated to him what had
 passed between Mr. Pelham and me; I
 offered him to be of the party, but he de-
 clined it.

Prince of Wales's birth day. I went 24.
 to St. James's. Great court, but not in
 new clothes.

Dined with me, Lord Lincoln, Messrs. 25.
 Pelham, Vane and son, Solicitor General,
 and Furnese. Much wine, and as much
 good humour as I ever met with; both
 lasted till almost eleven o'clock.

L

Dined

1752. Dined at Lord Lincoln's with Mr. Pel-
MAY 31. ham, &c.—staid late.

JUNE 7. Dined with Mr. Pelham at Esher.
Much drink and good humour.

18. At the Cockpit: a complaint by Mr.
Webb against Mr. William Sharpe, for
taking exorbitant fees.

20. Went to attend Dr. Thomson's cause.
The court would not enter into proofs
whether he was, or was not, my servant.

21. I went to Mr. Oswald's. He expressed
much affection and attachment towards
me.

23. Went to the Cockpit. Mr. Webb's
accusation of Mr. William Sharpe, for
taking three guineas, as a council fee, in
every prize cause, from the gainer only,
heard; and adjudged to be false, ground-
less, and malicious.

Went to town to meet Lord Middlesex
and

and Counsellor Forrester. Lord Middle-
 sex gave me full power to make his sub-
 mission, and to endeavour to reconcile him
 to his father. Owen tried, and acquitted,
 for publishing Mr. Murray's case. This
 is the third great case, where the juries
 have insisted on judging the matter of law,
 as well as of fact. The first was of Bushell,
 the Quaker, reported by Lord Chief Jus-
 tice Vaughan: the second, was that of the
 Bishops in the reign of James the II. 1752.
JULY 6.

I waited on the Duke of Dorset. I
 chose to put the question to him hypothet-
 ically; if his son should throw himself
 at his feet, and declare an unreserved sub-
 mission and sorrow for what is past—what
 would he do? He was much moved. I
 desired he would not answer me then, as
 I had no commission to demand it, but
 that he would consider of it; because, as
 the family were to come to me at East-
 bury, if I should receive such commission,
 I should think it my duty both to him
 and his son, to lay it plainly before him,

1752. if it should be full and ample, as it ought
 JULY 7. to be.

15. I went early to town to take my leave of Mr. Pelham. After a little general conversation, I rose to go away, and said that the Solicitor General had told me, that it was not only his own, but Mr. Pelham's opinion, that nothing of our affair should be broken to the King, till his return from Hanover; and, therefore, I asked him no news. He replied, it was their opinion—that he had treated me with the utmost sincerity, and would continue to do so—that he sincerely wished the thing, and would do every thing to bring it about—that all reasons were for it—that he had told me the peculiarity of temper, the prejudices, &c. that made things disagreeable, but that he would do his best. I replied, that, considering the name he bore, I could have no doubt of his sincerity, and therefore would patiently wait the event. But that I thought, when, through a canal so favourable, the
 King

King was informed that, when I quitted 1752.
 his service, it was not by a bargain to en- JULY 15.
 ter into the Prince's, and that I never made
 the Prince any proposition at all—that it
 was more than four months after my quit-
 ting, that the Prince made me any. When
 his Majesty is desired to reflect, how much,
 when I came into the Prince's service, I
 endeavoured to bring a little temper and
 moderation into it, and when I could not
 succeed in that, I would not support the
 incendiary part, and therefore did not go
 to the House. That the Princess, the
 Solicitor General, and other living wit-
 nesses, which I could produce, knew the
 first, and that I could appeal to himself
 (Pelham) for the truth of the last. But,
 setting all this aside, when his Majesty
 should be informed that I would not jus-
 tify against my King and my master. That,
 since he was displeas'd, I was willing to
 think myself to blame, and humbly to
 demand his pardon, assuring him that my
 future services should deserve it. Here I
 desired him to observe that, when a gen-
 tleman asks pardon, he is with us entitl'd

1752. to it, and it was what I would not do,
 JULY 15. when I was in the right, to any subject in
 the world, or to any Prince, but himself.
 When his Majesty was assured that I was
 capable of facilitating his affairs, and that
 his chief servants were desirous of receiv-
 ing me——

If all this, represented by those he did,
 and ought chiefly to rely on, would not do,
 I hoped Mr. Pelham would think, that I
 had discharged my humble duty to his
 Majesty, and shewed how desirous I was,
 of passing the rest of my life with him,
 and under his protection; for, I thought,
 I had said and done as much as any man
 of honour could do, or say, and had gone
 as far as was possible. Mr. Pelham said,
 that he understood me perfectly well, that
 he wished the thing cordially, and would
 do all imaginable justice, and leave nothing,
 in his power, unattempted to persuade the
 King—that, in short, he had explained to
 me the bottom of his politicks—that he
 had a great regard for all Europe, but
 did not trouble himself much about it—
 that

that his concern was to keep things on a right foot at home—that if the King was willing to *arrondir* his affairs, and let them get together, as many as they could of those, who could best contribute towards it; in order to go on as he was bred up, and suffer them to endeavour to have a thorough Whig Parliament chosen, which would make the remains of his Majesty's life easy, and would settle the young Prince upon the throne, so as to secure him a prospect of a prosperous reign. If *they* would let him do this, he was at their service; if not, he could be contented to be a private man as well as another—not that he complained of the King, &c. In short, here he spoke à little Pelham, but intelligible enough to those who are acquainted with the language.

1752.
JULY 15.

We parted very kindly.

By the Princess's commands I passed the day with her at Kew. I arrived there about eleven in the morning, and we passed two or three hours together, alone, in the gardens.

16.

1752. I informed her, by her order, of the state
 JULY 16. of the Irish affairs, which had made so
 much noise. She asked me about a report
 she had heard concerning a reconciliation
 between the Duke of Dorset and Lord
 Middlesex. I said, it would be impracti-
 cable, unless Lord Middlesex would en-
 tirely submit to his father; and even then,
 his behaviour had made the wound so
 deep, that I could not be answerable what
 the Duke would do. She seemed desirous
 of it, and wished I would try. I told
 her that, as Lord and Lady Middlesex
 were to be with me, in the country, I
 would see what his Lordship could be
 brought to, for from thence only it could
 move, if at all. I opened myself no far-
 ther to her. We came in, an hour before
 dinner. I dined at the Bed-chamber wo-
 man's table, where was Mr. Cresset, who
 behaved very courteously to me, and is a
 very knowing man. After dinner, her
 Royal Highness sent for me: we walked
 round Richmond Gardens: she was at-
 tended by the Ladies Augusta and Eliza-
 beth, Messrs. Cresset and Blutworth.

When

When we returned, she ordered me to come in with her: we sat down, and she turned the discourse upon the Ministry. I soon perceived she had heard something of the late correspondence between Mr. Pelham and me; I therefore thought it fit to tell her that, from an opportunity which had arisen from them, I had lately renewed my correspondence with them, and that I had taken occasion to tell them, that I was desirous of ending my life, in quiet, with those with whom I had begun it, and whom I most esteemed, &c. That they received my offers of friendship very civilly, and seemed desirous of receiving me; but that they apprehended the prejudices of the King against me, from the honour I had of belonging to the Prince, &c. That the answer I made, was that my inclinations were sincere, as, I supposed, their kind acceptance was also; and that, for the rest, I must leave it to them. I then put her in mind, that I never asked any thing of his Royal Highness; that he never promised any thing to me, till four months after I had quitted my employment; and that

1752.

JULY 16.

1752.
 JULY 16. that I then testified my surprize to her, and acquainted her with all that passed. She said, she remembered it very well. I then reminded her, how, from my appearance as a servant at Cliefden, I formed a plan of temper and moderation: that, knowing her right way of thinking, I ventured to communicate the plan to her, and beg'd her protection, in the execution of it, even before we returned to town—that I always had persisted in it, and never would engage in any other. She replied, it was very true; she was a very good witness of it, and would always assert it, &c. I asked leave to wait on her at Kew, if she should be there at my return, which she gave me in a very obliging manner, and then I came home to Hammer-smith by ten at night.

20. At half past three, without going to bed, Mrs. Dodington and I set out in our post-chaise for Eastbury, where we arrived the same day, at six in the afternoon.

SEPT. 15. Messrs. Dodington, Ralph, and I went
 to

to Poole, to poll for a Sheriff and Mayor. 1752.
 We lost both elections, and I think Mr. Trenchard's election in danger. SEPT. 15.

We returned to Hammersmith. 26.

Went to Mr. Pelham's. He gave me an account of Earl Poulett's correspondence with him, about the vacancy at Bridgewater. I mentioned, that I had written to his Lordship, to make it a means of reconciling the family. He seemed much indisposed towards Mr. Vere. There was company, and so we could not talk fully. At council, there was nothing to do but to prorogue the Parliament, and issue a proclamation for a Scotch Peer, on the death of the Duke of Gordon. 28.

Went to town to meet the Duke of Dorset. I made his son's submissions to him, and endeavoured to procure a full reconciliation. We had a long conference. He alledged the many, almost unpardonable provocations, which I know to be true; but did not absolutely refuse
 to

1752. to forgive him. He boggled much at the
 Oct. 2. freeing his son from his debts, and said,
 that nothing but his distresses drove him
 to think of his duty, and therefore, he
 expected some actions, to convince him of
 his sincerity. To this I said that, as to
 enumerating provocations, I thought our
 most rational point was to look for reasons
 to forgive, instead of materials to continue
 the quarrel. That as to paying the debts,
 I wished it was come to that, for I could
 make that circumstance very practicable.
 As to the motives of his son's repentance,
 I allowed them: but he must allow that
 they were, too often, the same with those
 of us all to our common Father, to whom
 we were more obliged, than we could be
 to our natural parent—That God accepted
 our repentance, though grounded on dis-
 tress: should *we* then refuse it when offered
 to us? As to actions, what should they
 be?—would he please to subscribe. This
 was matter of some difficulty; and as the
 conversation had been very long, we agreed
 to meet again, to consider if any tem-
 perament can be found. I greatly doubt
 it:

it: but if Lord Middlesex would help himself—though I think he will not— it might succeed. 1752. Oct. 2.

I went to town to see Mr. Pelham, and laid before him the utility of his taking the occasion of Mr. Poulett's death, to make up the quarrel between the Earl and his brothers, by chusing Mr. Vere Poulett in his place. Mr. Pelham would not enter into it, as Mr. Vere had left them unhand- somely, and had treated him ill, personally, wherever he could be heard. He was in- deed for the union of the family, but he would have nothing to do with Mr. Vere, from his personal behaviour, though he could very well live and treat with those who opposed, and even personally opposed him; which, considering those he has about him, was, I thought, saying in ef- fect, that he would take a blow from a strong man, but not from a weak one. He then said, that they knew nothing positive as to the King's coming; but should know by the next courier, whether he designed to go to Hanover the next year. For that he had written to his brother, to beg to know
of

1752. of his Majesty, whether he would have
 OCT. 4. the Parliament meet before, or after Christ-
 mas. We touched upon the subsidies at-
 tending the election of a King of the Ro-
 mans: Mr. Pelham's face fell, and he
 grew very uneasy upon it, and expressed
 much dislike at the way it was conducted.
 He said, he was always against these sub-
 sidies; that his idea was, that, if the dis-
 senting electors would give in the ultima-
 tum of their demands, and perform the
 conditions before they received the re-
 ward, then, indeed, when we were sure of
 our bargain, it might be worth considering
 if it were prudent to pay the price: but,
 to be buying one elector after another,
 was what he abhorred and could not ap-
 prove of. It must have an end—he had
 declared so in Parliament, and, as I was
 not present at the debate, he would tell me
 what he said, for he found that he had
 been misrepresented. I told him, that I
 had heard from many quarters how he was
 understood; that though I was satisfied
 that he said nothing but what was proper,
 yet, whatever was the general acceptation

was worth attending to: I continued, that 1752.
 it was allowed on all hands, that he de- Oct, 4.
 clared against the subsidies in general, but
 that he was for the present demand, as it
 was to be the last, and as he had good rea-
 son to think, it would certainly attain the
 end: that it was, by somebody, fastened
 upon him, who, rejecting all that others
 had said, declared that he voted for them,
 singly on the assurances given by him.
 Mr. Pelham replied, Who? Pitt? I said
 No; I thought it was Mr. Fox. He re-
 peated, in a low voice; Oh, Fox! with
 great signs of uneasiness and discomposure,
 and in that situation I left him.

I received a letter from Mr. Cresset, that 9.
 her Royal Highness would see me this
 morning. I made haste to dress, and got
 to Kew by half an hour after eleven. I
 saw her Royal Highness very soon: she,
 the Ladies Augusta, Elizabeth, and I went
 out, and we walked, without sitting down,
 for near three hours. We had much talk
 upon all manner of private subjects, serious
 and ludicrous. Her behaviour was open,
 friendly,

1752. friendly, and unaffected. She commanded
 Oct. 9. me to dine, and to pass the afternoon with
 her. When we came in, we met Lady
 Middlesex, who had sent me word she
 was to be there. We walked in the af-
 ternoon till it was dark. As we came in,
 she said, that she had a petition from the
 Prince, that we would play at comet, of
 which he was very fond. The party was
 the Princess, the Prince of Wales, Prince
 Edward, the Ladies Augusta and Eliza-
 beth, Ladies Middlesex and Charlotte Ed-
 win and myself.

11. I received an account from Bridgewater
 that, at the Mayor's feast, Mr. Balch, who
 was present, was declared candidate to
 succeed Mr. Poulett. I sent an abstract
 of the letter, with one of my own, to Mr.
 Pelham.

13. Saw Mr. Pelham, and spoke to him
 about this sudden event at Bridgewater.
 He agreed that it was wholly Earl Pou-
 lett's fault, in not determining and recom-
 mending somebody sooner. He seemed
 to

to be well enough satisfied, from the cha- 1752.
 racter I had given him of Mr. Balch. Oct. 13.

The Princess having sent to desire me 15.
 to pass this day with her, I waited on her
 accordingly between eleven and twelve.
 I saw her immediately; her Royal High-
 ness, the children, and Lady Charlotte
 Edwin went walking till two, and then
 returned to prayers, from thence to dinner.
 As soon as dinner was over, she sent for
 me, and we sat down to comets. We rose
 from play about nine: the royal children
 retired, and the Princess called me to the
 farther end of the room, and the two la-
 dies (Lady Charlotte Edwin and Lady
 Howe) who were to sup with her, re-
 mained at the other end. She began by
 saying, that she liked the Prince should,
 now and then, amuse himself at small play,
 but that Princes should never play deep,
 both for the example, and because it did
 not become them to win great sums.
 From thence, she told me, that it was
 highly improper, the manner in which
 the Princess **** behaved at Bath; that
 M she

1752. she played, publickly, all the evening very
 Oct. 15. deep. I asked with whom? She said,
 with the Duke and Dutchess of Bedford:
 that it was prodigious what work she made
 with Lord Chesterfield: that, when his
 Lordship was at Court, she would hardly
 speak to him, at least, as little as was pos-
 sible to a man of his rank; but that now,
 at Bath, she sent to enquire of his coming
 before he arrived; and when he came, she
 sent her compliments of expecting him at
 all her parties at play; and that he should
 always sit by her in the publick rooms,
 that he might be sure of a warm place, &c.
 I asked her, how these demonstrations with
 him and the Bedfords, were to be repre-
 sented to the King? She said, she did not
 understand it. That, the Duke of Bedford,
 when he went out, treated the Duke of
 Newcastle very ill to the King, not only
 as to publick, but to private matters with
 relation to Lord Gower: but that, some
 time afterwards, in the summer, the Duke
 of Bedford relented, and asked an audience,
 when he unsaid great part of what he had
 said before (and on which account the
 King

King had been very much displeas'd with the Duke of Newcastle) and attributed it to misinformation. I ask'd her, if that could be so? She replied, she was sure of it, and knew it to be true. I observ'd to her, that, notwithstanding this, in the winter, his Grace (of Bedford) made a formal attack, and a very strong one too, in the House of Lords, against the Saxon subsidy. She said, it was true, and that then the King was again very angry, and told *her* that the Duke of Bedford did not know his own mind. She herself, indeed, had no opinion of his judgment, but said, that he was governed by Lord Sandwich, of whom she did not think very well; that he had made the Duke resign, and that they were, both, very much combined, and in intimate correspondence with the Duke of Cumberland. How they managed with the King, she did not know, but she thought that they did not mean to act, at least, to any purpose now: that *their* views were upon the minority. I said that, in this light, it seem'd highly imprudent in the Duke of Bedford to resign

1752.

Oct. 15.

1752. his office, which office gave him a settled
 Oct. 15. place in the council of Regency. She answered, it was very true—it was Lord Sandwich's doing—but that she was satisfied the minority was their point of action. I said, that it was necessary for her Royal Highness to look about her a little, and to secure friends in whom she could trust, to see that justice was done unto her in that event, not only from that quarter, but from all quarters; for she must have observed, that the present government had taken the best care, they could, to secure themselves. She said, Yes, good folks! they had not neglected themselves; and she would act as I had hinted, not only for her own sake, but the sake of her son and of the nation. I said that, not knowing what part her Royal Highness would take in the regency bill, I had prepared myself to oppose it; that I should have opposed it in a very different manner from those who meddled with it: that I would have opposed it upon principles, that should have made the King himself weary of the bill, not as an opposition to his
 I Majesty

Majesty and his Ministers, but as a measure 1752.
of his Ministers to secure their own power Oct. 15.
at the expence, and in the diminution of
the power of the Crown: and I did believe,
that with the assistance I was sure of, I
could have hung upon the bill so long,
and have shewn it in such lights, that, at
last, the King should have been out of
humour with it before it passed, as I had
reason to believe he was, since. That,
however, when I found, that she took the
party of acquiescence, which upon con-
sideration (though, I thought I should
hardly have had the prudence to advise the
measure) I was thoroughly convinced was
much the most wise and adviseable mode
that could be taken; that, then, I dropped
all shew of opposition and did not
go to the House, that I might not fur-
nish an handle to render me obnoxious:
that, with the same view in the late trans-
action between Mr. Pelham and me, I
had made ten steps to their one, so that if
nothing came of it, they could not say,
that I was desirous to continue and propa-
gate resentments, &c.

1752. That, I thought, the persons, now in
 Oct. 15. power, extremely proper for her to go on
 with in case of a minority, and all, that
 I meant by mentioning the Regency bill,
 was to shew, that, as they had taken all
 proper precautions for their own security,
 it might not be unreasonable that her
 Royal Highness should keep a look-out,
 and secure such friends, who, though they
 acted with government, might see that
 she had her due share of it; for that there
 was such a thing as being great, and at the
 same time inconsiderable; that we might
 be born the one, but must owe our con-
 sequence to ourselves. That, however,
 nothing was to be done at present, but to
 sit still and watch events: that all was
 very well, that the King was very kind to
 the royal children, and very respectful to
 her, &c.

She said, that, in general, she had no
 objection to the Ministry—she, indeed, saw
 very little of them: but, what she could
 not excuse them for or forgive, was their
 not doing something for the Prince's ser-

vants: that after so long a time and so many vacancies, taking no notice of any one of them, looked as if they had a studied design to keep old prejudices and resentments alive: that she was sure, they might assist them if they would; that they might have prevailed on the King before now, if they had set about it willingly: could they pretend, they could not prevail with him in behalf of persons who must be indifferent to the King, after what they had made him do for Pitt? I replied, that I agreed to all she said, with relation to their influence over his Majesty, where reason was so evidently on their side, and I was the more flattered with it, because it was my own way of thinking, so much that, if nothing should come of what was in agitation between me and them, and they should continue to hold up the King's personal indisposition towards me, I should impute it wholly to their want of inclination. She said that, notwithstanding what I had mentioned of the King's kindness to the children and civility to her, those things did not impose upon her—that

1752.

Oct. 15.

1752. there were other things which she could
 Oct. 15. not get over—she wished the King was less
 civil, and that he put less of *their* money
 into his own pocket: that he got full
 30,000*l. per ann.* by the poor Prince's
 death—if he would but have given them
 the dutchy of Cornwall to have paid his
 debts, it would have been something.
 Should resentments be carried beyond the
 grave? Should the innocent suffer? Was
 it becoming so great a King to leave his
 son's debts unpaid? and such inconsidera-
 ble debts? I asked her, what she thought
 they might amount to? she answered, she
 had endeavoured to know as near as a per-
 son could properly enquire, who, not hav-
 ing it in her power, could not pretend to
 pay them. She thought, that to the trades-
 men and servants they did not amount to
 90,000*l.* that there was some money ow-
 ing to the Earl of Scarborough, and that
 there was, abroad, a debt of about 70,000*l.*
 That this hurt her exceedingly, though
 she did not shew it. I said that it was
 impossible to new-make people—the King
 could not, now, be altered, and that it add-
 ed

ed much to the prudence of her conduct, 1752.
 her taking no notice of it. She said, she Oct. 15.
 could not however bear it, nor help, some-
 times, giving the King to understand her,
 in the strongest and most disagreeable light.
 She had done it more than once, and she
 would tell me how it happened the last
 time. You know, continued she, that the
 Crown has a power of resumption of Carle-
 ton House and gardens for a certain sum:
 the King had, not long since, an inclina-
 tion to see them, and he came to make me
 a visit there: we walked in the gardens,
 and he, seemingly mightily pleased with
 them, commended them much and told
 me that he was extremely glad, I had got
 so very pretty a place: I replied, it was a
 pretty place, but that the prettiness of a
 place was an objection to it, when one was
 not sure to keep it. The King said, that
 there was, indeed, a power of resumption
 in the Crown for 4000*l*. but surely, I could
 not imagine that it could ever be made use
 of against me! how could such a thought
 come into my head? I answered, no, it
 was not that which I was afraid of, but I
 was

1752. was afraid there were those who had a bet-
 Oct. 15. ter right to it, than either the Crown or I:
 He said, oh, no, no, I do not understand
 that; that cannot be. I replied, I did
 not pretend to understand those things,
 but I was afraid there were such people.
 He said, oh! I know nothing of that—I
 do not understand it—and immediately
 turned the discourse. I was pleased with
 the ingenuity of the attack, but could not
 help smiling at the defence, nor she either,
 when she told it. I said that, I thought,
 she had done all that could be expected;
 that prudence required letting this and se-
 veral other matters sleep: that I was con-
 vinced, that the high and just opinion
 people had of her, made them wait with
 patience. She said, they were very good
 to her; that George had no other way of
 thinking, and would, certainly, act accor-
 dingly; but yet, she durst not let any body
 have the comfort of knowing it, lest they
 should put every thing into a flame: upon
 which, she observed to me the delicacy and
 ticklishness of her situation. I, then, took
 the liberty to ask her, what she thought
 the

the real disposition of the Prince to be?— 1752.
 She said, that I knew him almost as well OCT. 15.
 as she did; that he was very honest, but
 she wished that he was a little more for-
 ward, and less childish, at his age; that
 she hoped his preceptors would improve
 him. I beg'd to know what methods they
 took; what they read to him, or made
 him read; and whether he shewed a par-
 ticular inclination to any of the people
 about him. She said, she really did not
 well know what they taught him; but, to
 speak freely, she was afraid not much:
 that they were in the country and followed
 their diversions, and not much else that she
 could discover; that we must hope, it
 would be better when we came to town.
 I said, that I did not much regard books,
 that what I the most wished was, that his
 Royal Highness should begin to learn the
 usages and knowledge of the world; be
 informed of the general frame and nature
 of this government and constitution, and
 of the general course and manner of busi-
 ness, without his descending into minutias.
 She said, she was of my opinion, and
 that

1752. that Stone told her, that, when he talked
 Oct. 15. to the Prince upon those subjects, he seem-
 ed to give a proper attention and made
 pertinent remarks: that Stone was a sen-
 sible man, and capable of instructing in
 things, as well as in books: that Lord
 Harcourt and the Prince agreed very well,
 but she thought, that he could not learn
 much from his Lordship: that Scott, in
 her opinion, was a very proper preceptor:
 but that for the good Bishop, he might be,
 and she supposed he was, a mighty learned
 man, but he did not seem to her very pro-
 per to convey knowledge to children; he
 had not that clearness which she thought
 necessary: she did not very well compre-
 hend him herself, his thoughts seemed to
 be too many for his words. That she did
 not observe the Prince to take very parti-
 cularly to any body about him, but to his
 brother Edward, and she was very glad of
 it, for the young people of quality were so
 ill educated and so very vicious, that they
 frightened her. I told her, I thought it a
 great happiness, that he shewed no dispo-
 sition to any great excesses, and beg'd to
 know

know what were his affections and pas- 1752.
 sions. She repeated that he was a very Oct. 15.
 honest boy, and that his chief passion seem-
 ed to be for Edward. I said that, as her
 Royal Highness had mentioned the nega-
 tive which the Ministry seemed to continue
 upon the Prince's friends, I presumed to
 ask her about the young Prince's affections
 towards his father's memory; because he
 was, now, bred in a manner, and in hands
 so totally unacquainted with the late
 Prince, and with those who had been
 about him, that he might very easily be
 brought to forget them; which, I feared,
 at the first setting out in life, would give
 a very disadvantageous, if not a dangerous
 impresson of him: that trifles are of con-
 sequence in the first outset (particularly
 those that relate to the heart) to Princes,
 whose lightest actions engage the attention,
 and whose elevation exposes them to the
 continual inspection of mankind: that
 many good things lose their gloss at least
 by untoward impressons: that a great
 deal of power might be required to do
 things, where affection and confidence
 were

1752. were wanted, which a very little might
 Oct. 15. bring about, where they were once estab-
 lished by first and favourable impressions. That, for these reasons, I should be extremely sorry that his Royal Highness should entirely forget those, who had been faithfully attached to his father, as that attachment was the only reason that could be given to justify the proscription which they, now, lie under. She said, that she agreed with me, that nothing could be more disadvantageous and hurtful to him: that it would affect her very sensibly; that she had no reason to apprehend it, as the Prince seemed to have a very tender regard for the memory of his father, and that she encouraged it as much as she could: that when they behaved wrong, or idly (as children will do) to any that belonged to the late Prince, and who are, now, about her; she always asked them, how they thought their father would have liked to see them behave so to any body that belonged to him, and whom he valued; and that they ought to have the more kindness for them, because they had lost their friend
 and

and protector, who was theirs also; and she said, she found that it made a proper impression upon them. I humbly beg'd that she would cultivate and improve the personal influence, which her many virtues, as well as natural affection gave her over the Prince: that I was sure, that, from her influence, and the settled opinion of her prudence with all mankind, all the disinterested and sensible amongst us, hoped for a happy settlement of the new reign: that I did not mean authoritatively and during a legal minority, but during the very young part of the King's life, and till time and inclination had brought him thoroughly, to weigh and understand what the government of a great country was. She expressed herself civilly for the regard I testified for her, and said she could have nothing so much at heart as to see him do well, and make the nation happy. N. B. I have forgotten something very particular, *viz.* In expressing her dislike to the Princess A——a and the Duke of Cumberland, she said, that, though she did not value those things, nor seem to see them, yet she

1752.

Oct. 15.

1752. she could not but wonder at the very lit-
 Oct. 15. tle regard which the Duke was pleased to
 shew her. That she had been at Kew
 the whole summer, and he had never
 vouchsafed to favour her with one visit.
 That she had been ill for three weeks, not
 much, indeed, but so that the town re-
 ports were that she was dying; but his
 Royal Highness never thought her worth
 sending after, even once, to know how
 she did: she continued, that she was very
 indifferent to these matters, but she could
 not help wondering what views were at
 the bottom of it. I came home between
 ten and eleven, and have been the more
 particular in this conversation, because it
 carries an air of friendship and openness
 which I, no way, expected from a great
 lady, who has established a character for
 prudence in not opening herself much to
 any body, and of great caution to whom
 she opens herself at all.

17. I saw Lord Middlesex, and had a long
 talk with him in presence of Lady Middle-
 sex; and in the evening I sent him a
 draught

draught of a letter from him to the Duke 1752.
 of Dorset, which he will not send, nor Oct. 17.
 do any thing, I believe, for himself: if so,
 he will render it impossible for me to do
 any thing for him.

I went to town with design to go to the 22.
 Prince's drawing-room in black, being in
 mourning for the Countess Temple. After
 a little time, the Earl of Hyndford was so
 obliging as to come and tell me, that, he
 believed, I had forgotten that they did
 not appear in mourning that day, it being
 the coronation-day. So I was forced to
 slip away. I spoke to the Solicitor General
 to consider, how I was to open the trans-
 action, between Mr. Pelham and me, to
 the Duke of Newcastle.

I received my draught from Lord Mid- 26.
 dlesex, with a letter in a good degree con-
 formable to it, from him to the Duke of
 Dorset. Sent him a draught of another to
 his mother, the Dutchess.

I dined with the Lord Mayor. No Nov. 9.
 N coun-

1752. counsellors, but those of the law, except
Nov. 9. the Speaker and myself.

14. Called at the Duke of Dorset's, and delivered a letter to him, and another for the Dutchess, from Lord Middlesex. Much conversation to induce a relation, but could not obtain a declaration of the conditions on which he would be reconciled. He objected to the usage he had received, in which he was too well grounded; and next, to the incapacity he was under of paying his son's debts. I told him we were not come to that yet—I wished we were, as I could point out means very easily, to shew that those debts were not so formidable, &c.—I hinted some. We were now interrupted.

18. The King came to town about five o'clock.

19. I called at the Speaker's, and proposed, upon supposition he was in the chair of the new Parliament, Dr. Sharpe for his chaplain. I received a general answer of
6 regard

regard for me, and esteem for the Doctor. 1752.
 I think, I find that he will be Speaker, and Nov. 19.
 I hope, he will get some reversion for his
 son as an inducement for him.

Went to the Duke of Newcastle, who 21.
 received me with very much kindness. I
 kissed the King's hand.

I waited on the Princess, and gave her 22.
 a full account of the transaction about a
 reconciliation in the Dorset family. She
 received it with great pleasure, and treated
 me with uncommon condescension.

Monf. Lamberti, the French agent, 26.
 called on me. He insisted that the King
 must go to Hanover early in the spring—
 that the election of a King of the Romans
 was the thing next his heart—that, by
 the Golden Bull, *absolute unanimity* of the
 Electoral College, as also of that of *the*
Princes, was required—that, upon those
 conditions, and satisfaction to her allies,
 (the Palatine and Prussia) France would
 not oppose it; but that she would, without

1752. that satisfaction—that the pecuniary fa-
 Nov. 26. tisfaction of 1,200,000 florins, and the
 barony to the Palatine, was settled, but
 the expectation of Ortenaw was not—that,
 when Bavaria left France for the House of
 Austria, the recompence was fixed by the
 treaty of Fussen; that we engaged for the
 performance—that a private treaty was
 since signed by the Duke of Newcastle,
 Messrs. Munchausen and Haslang, by which
 we further engaged to make it good—that
 the Bavarian subsidy was to be augmented—
 that of Cologne to be settled. I asked
 why all these things might not be nego-
 ciated at London, as well as at Hanover:
 he replied, because the Ministers, who
 treated those affairs there, did not come
 hither—that these were another sort of
 men, men of business and abilities, wholly
 bred for negotiations, and not for charac-
 ters and shew—that the German Princes
 also sent thither their confidants and Mi-
 nisters of State, who never came to London
 as resident Envoys—that nothing farther of
 effect could be done here, this winter, in
 that matter, and that all the negotiations
 would

would be with France about the limits in 1752.
 America; and, as to that, they had cart Nov. 26.
 loads of memorials to exchange with us,
 whenever we pleased.

King's birth-day kept. Lord Hillsbo- 27.
 rough began a conversation with me at
 Court. He thought there must be some
 disturbance arise from the Pitt party:
 that, though they were so well placed, they
 were still uneasy: that they neither liked
 others, nor were liked by them. I said,
 I could not conceive that they would stir.
 He said, Yes; for that Pitt's passion was
 ambition, not avarice—that he was at a
 full stop, as things were, and could have
 no hopes of going farther: he was once
 popular; and if he could again make a
 disturbance, and get the country on his
 side, he then might have hopes: now, and
 on the present system, he could have none.
 I replied, I thought they could not part
 with what they had, &c. &c. He said, they
 had the Temple pocket—that, to his know-
 ledge, they were all as one, and would
 stand and fall with Pitt, as their head.

1752. Lord Hillsborough wondered that they did
 Nov. 27. not break out; he daily expected it. I said,
 that, in all likelihood, if such a scheme
 was on foot, his Lordship would know it
 as soon as any body; for he must be sensi-
 ble, that it was impossible for them to at-
 tempt it, without holding out a hand to
 people, to extend and fortify their own
 connections, &c. He said, to be sure, but
 not to him—that they knew his opinions
 too well—that, when they broke from me,
 he followed me—that he never was more
 than commonly acquainted with Pitt—that
 Pitt had once dined at his house, and they
 might visit perhaps once in a winter—that
 his Lordship loved George Grenville per-
 sonally, but no ways espoused his politicks:
 that, for himself indeed, his alliance with
 Lord Kildare naturally led him to Mr. Fox,
 and that he was much more likely to suc-
 ceed than Pitt—that the Pitts could not
 be quiet, but had been dabbling with the
 Prince, and that their plans were pre-
 vented by the Prince's death, as to be sure,
 I knew, and Mr. Pelham knew; therefore
 they must be disagreeable to each other,
 and

and they could have no hopes of rising by 1752.
 him. That Mr. Fox had something very Nov. 27.
 frank and open about him, and that he re-
 solved to push for his turn—not by oppo-
 sition, for he had a family, and could not
 afford to part with his emoluments; but,
 if accidents should happen, he pretended
 to succeed—that, indeed, Mr. Pelham's
 life was as good as his, and he would not
 oppose him; but that he should endeavour
 to be next, and would consider himself as
 such. I asked, whether he held out his
 hand, &c. His Lordship said, Yes, to all
 the world; that it was prodigious how
 many friends he had made. He had got
 the Duke of Cumberland, the Dukes of
 Marlborough and Bedford, Lord Sandwich,
 and the Duke of Richmond of course.
 That he was very well with Lord Halifax,
 who seemed to trim, as near as he could,
 between Mr. Pelham and him, and that
 now he was endeavouring to get Lord
 Hartington. That, if Mr. Pelham was out
 of the way, he thought that the Duke of
 Newcastle did not like Fox personally, nor
 did the Chancellor. As to Pitt, the King

1752. himself would be against him. But, said
 Nov. 27. he, I think you are not acquainted with
 Fox. I replied, that I had always known
 him, and always liked him very well, but
 had not conversed much with him of late.
 He said, he wondered at it, and what
 should be the reason of it? I said, that
 I fancied it was occasioned by the other
 side, for though I liked Mr. Fox very well,
 it was possible he might not much like me.
 He said, he could not believe it. I said,
 some lies might probably be told him,
 but that I had never deserved ill of
 him; if it was so, his opinion of me must
 be, and ought to be, extremely indifferent
 to me. He said, he had never heard any
 thing drop from him of that kind, and if
 he had any dislike to me, it must be from
 my pushing Sir Robert Walpole, for Fox
 really loved that man. I said, surely my
 breaking with Sir Robert Walpole was
 nothing personal to him; I did it pub-
 licly, at the expence of a considerable
 employment, and what Mr. Fox thought
 of it was, what never did, nor ever could
 give me any the least concern. Then the
 con-

conversation became general, the beginning of which I thought very singular. 1752.
Nov. 27.

I went to the Duke of Dorset, and obtained of him, that he would willingly see Lord Middlesex, on condition that he would form no pretension to have his debts paid, or to a seat in Parliament, or to a place. I took this down in writing, but I doubt Lord Middlesex will not go: if he does, and resolves to continue to use all his advantages, he will succeed. But it must be the work of time, perseverance, and insinuation. 28.

I delivered the Duke of Dorset's message to Lord Middlesex, and gave him an account of the conversation; I then said what I thought was proper. 30.

Lord Harcourt resigned being Governor to the Prince. He offered to do so, unless Mr. Stone (placed as Sub-governor by the Ministers), Mr. Scott, tutor in the late Prince's time (but recommended by Lord Bolingbroke), and Mr. Cresset, made treasurer DEC. 5.

1752. furer by the Princess's recommendation,
 DEC. 5. were removed. The King desired him to consider of it; but Lord Harcourt continuing in the same resolution, the Archbishop and Lord Chancellor were sent to him, to know the particulars of his complaints against those gentlemen. He replied, that the particulars were fit only to be communicated to the King, and accordingly he waited on his Majesty, which ended in his resignation. The Bishop of Norwich sent his resignation by the same Prelate and Lord. His reasons, if he gave any, I should have known, if a gentleman, who was going to tell me, had not been interrupted by company,

6. The Duke of Dorset came to tell me that Lord Middlesex had written to the Dutchess for leave to wait on her, and that she had appointed to-morrow morning. I hope all will, in time, end well.

8. Lord Middlesex informed me that he had seen the Duke and Dutchess of Dorset; that he was very coldly received by the Dutchess,

Dutchess, and not much better by them both together. This is very injudicious in their Graces, but his Lordship must persevere.

1752.
DEC. 8.

Mr. Pelham sent for Cary, the surgeon, on pretence of the Westminster election, but, in reality, to question him about a letter which he had written to Mr. Vane, and which Mr. Vane had sent to Mr. Pelham, who interpreted it to insinuate, that I was out of humour because nothing was settled or said to me. Mr. Pelham said, I must know how much this squabble with Lord Harcourt had engrossed their whole time and thought, and in a disagreeable manner. That they could not be *throwing at the King every day*—that he had the greatest kindness and esteem for me, and that a proper person should shortly speak to me.

12.

Went to the Duke of Dorset, and, I think, left him disposed to receive his son kindly. I saw Lord Middlesex, who, I hope, will make a proper use of all opportunities.

17.

Lord

1752. Lord Waldegrave declared Governor to
 DEC. 18. the Prince, and on the 20th, was sworn
 of the council.

22. Was with the Duke of Dorset. We talked over the affair of the Prince's family, and agreed that there must be a counter story of the court side, or the resigners would run away with the publick opinion. I left him, still, well disposed to his son.

28. I waited on the Princess: she was pleased to send the royal children to prayers, and to stay with me. I resolved to avoid mentioning all public affairs, on account of the disturbances, now fresh, in the Prince of Wales's family; and therefore, I began by acquainting her with what had passed, relating to the reconciliation in the Dorset family, since I had seen her Royal Highness. She said, she was afraid it would be hard to complete it so, as to answer Lord Middlesex's ends entirely; and she seemed to be of opinion, that, though Lady Middlesex was no ways in fault, and though neither the Duke nor the Dutchess had
 dropt

dropt the least word about her; and though 1752.
 Lord George had been with Lady Middle- DEC. 28.
 sex twice, in the same house with her, and
 never once saw, or asked after her, yet she
 was inclined to think, that Lady Middle-
 sex should go to wait on the Dutchess. I
 was glad to learn her opinion, for I wanted
 to know it. I replied, that there were odd-
 nesses about them, which were peculiar to
 that family, and I had often told them so.
 She said, there was something very odd
 amongst them, and, laughing, added, that
 she knew but one family that was more odd,
 and she would not name that family for the
 world. I said, it did not become me to
 guess at her Royal Highness; but if it did,
 I was sure I could not guess it in a hun-
 dred years. She laughed and said, *à propos*,
 there has been fine doings in our family;
 a very fine bustle indeed! I am glad we
 are rid of them. I said, it had indeed oc-
 casioned a great deal of talk. She replied,
 she was quite weary of hearing it—that
 there was such an outcry at two people's
 leaving them, as if they were the most
 considerable men in the nation; and who

1752. occasioned as much wonder and outcry,
 Dec. 28. two years ago, when they came to them, on account of their being too unknown to come thither—that she knew nothing of the Jacobitism, the arbitrary principles, the dangerous notions of those who were accused, or any such, attempted to be instilled into the children—that she could not conceive what they meant—that the Bishop, indeed, was teaching them logic, which, as she was told, was a very odd study for children of their age, not to say, of their condition. I said that, whatever they meant, they both must often, before things came to these extremities, have applied to her Royal Highness, and have laid before her some ostensible reasons, at least, for a ground for their resolution to resign, when the King returned. She replied, never:—that she knew nothing of their intention, till Lord Harcourt had been with the King—that the Bishop had, several times, given her an account of the progress the children made—that he behaved in the most flattering and servile manner, in the accounts he gave: and then
 he

he often insinuated, that there were those 1752.
 about the Prince, who encouraged his DEC. 28.
 Royal Highness against him, &c.—that
 she told him, as the truth was, that she was
 entirely innocent of any such practices her-
 self, and did not know of any body who
 could be accused of it; and particularly,
 could not perceive by the children, when
 they were with her, that any ill offices
 had been done him—that the last time the
 Bishop had been with her, he complained
 more strongly of being disregarded; he
 beg'd her protection, shewing the great ne-
 cessity of a preceptor's being respected and
 supported, &c. Upon which she told him,
 that she always inculcated in the children
 to shew him great respect, and was very
 far from endeavouring, or even wishing,
 that it should be lessened: and this, says
 she, not for love of you, my Lord, but be-
 cause it is fitting and necessary; for if they
 are suffered to want respect that is due to
 one degree, they will proceed to want it
 to another; till, at last, it would come up
 to me, and I should then have taught them
 to disregard me. This, she said, was the
 last

1752. last conversation she had with the Bishop.
 DEC. 28. I asked her, if she could remember when it was: she answered, she thought about the end of September, or soon in October. That, as to Lord Harcourt, he never took the least notice of her; that she had hardly seen him, three times, the whole summer, though they lived so near together at Kew: that, when he came for the Prince, so far from sending in to her, he would stay in the hall; and though pressed to it by the servants, he would not come into the picture-room, where we always sat, when she was above, till she came to us or sent for us up. I asked, if he always fetched the Prince home: she said, Yes; at a certain hour. I said, I had heard so, and did, indeed, a little wonder in myself, that I had never seen Lord Harcourt, when I had the honour to play at cards with their Royal Highnesses in private; for as the game could not be up to a moment, I thought it natural his Lordship should let his Royal Highness know that he was below; and I presumed she would, as naturally, send for him up: she said, to be sure she should; and

and I might well wonder. But so far from that, he never came near her: that he had been twice this year in Oxfordshire, and that she never knew when he went, or when he returned: I then said, that I could not conceive, according to the common form of things, even though his resolution might be taken, how it was possible that he could avoid waiting upon her, to lay some reasons before her Royal Highness, by way of expostulation or apology, before the King came home: she said, he never did, nothing like it: that, since his return from Oxfordshire, the very first time she saw him, was at the foot of the stairs at St. James's, the night the King came (Nov. 18); that the next time, was the birth-day (27th) in the private rooms; that he endeavoured to avoid her, but she got between the door and him, and took him by the coat, and said, he was very fine: he said, Madam, it is all the manufacture of Spitalfields, and so walked off. That, the Tuesday before, he had been with the King, to represent that her children were in the way of imbibing dangerous notions,

1752.
DEC. 28.

1752. tions, &c. That he had no authority, and
 Dec. 28. could do no good, unless Stone, Cresset,
 and Scott were dismissed; that they were
 Jacobites, &c. and had been bred so, they
 and their families. I said, this charge
 upon their families and education made
 me smile; for that, though I had a per-
 sonal regard for Lord Harcourt, and did
 stedfastly believe, that he was as faithful a
 servant and subject, as any the present fa-
 mily on the Throne had: yet I was sorry
 to say, that I remembered his predecessor,
 following the Oxford circuit, a very poor,
 but reckoned a very shrewd lawyer; which
 shrewdness in the poor professor, as he rose,
 had justice done it, and was called genius
 and abilities as it really was; for he was
 very able, very skilful, and more eminent
 by his talents and capacity than by his post.
 But, till the last years of his life, he was
 always esteemed a thorough Jacobite: he
 even stands impeached upon these princi-
 ples, and though not proceeded against,
 he is excepted in several acts of grace.
 That I was sure, Lord Harcourt abhorred
 those principles, and would, with cheer-
 fulness,

fulness, risque every thing for this royal family; but I thought it strange that people should not allow conversion to be as natural and sincere in other families, as we had happily experienced it in his; and that, upon the whole, I could not imagine what they meant by this whole transaction, as to the matter, and yet less, as to the manner. She said, that, however it was, the King was very well pleased with them; but that she could easily guess what they meant. I said, that now I was serious in assuring her Royal Highness that I could not guess. She replied, one might guess by their falling upon Mr. Cresset, who had no more to do with the Prince's education, than I had—that they had a design to get his place for another, and she thought it was for Lord Talbot's brother; but as the King took her recommendation, now Cresset was to be brought into the quarrel—that these gentlemen were leagued with some greater people, whom she need not name to me, to get the Prince to their side; and then, by their behaviour, to throw her off from

1752.

DEC. 28.

1752. her temper, and so make their complaints
 DEC. 28. to the King stronger, and then to make
 her disoblige his Majesty, in defending
 the accused; not doubting, if they could
 once force her into any indiscreet warmth,
 to make so plausible a story to the King,
 as might compass their design; which is,
 to carry the Prince into those other hands
 at last, by taking him from the people,
 now about him, and by degrees, conse-
 quently, from her. This failing, behold
 the next step—the Bishop comes to take
 his leave of me, and with abundance of
 fawning and flattery, thanks me for all
 my goodness to him, and all the regard
 I had been pleased to shew him, &c. when
 he was in the family; hoping that I
 would believe, that he left it like an honest
 man. I replied, continued she, that, for
 the regard I had shewn him, or any ser-
 vices I had done him, he owed me no obli-
 gation; it was no more than was his due,
 and what I should always pay to any body,
 whom the King was pleased to put about
 my children in the same station—that as
 to the motives of his leaving the family,

as I was not acquainted with them, I 1752.
 could say nothing about them. Then, Dec. 28.
 said she, comes my Lord of Harcourt,
 and he, in a drier way than the Bishop,
 takes his leave, by thanking me for the
 favours and support he had received from
 me, while he was in the family: and in
 return, I thanked his Lordship for the
 constant care and attendance he had be-
 stowed upon my sons. I replied to her
 Royal Highness, that I was surpris'd at the
 whole before, by what I had heard from
 the publick talk; but that, now, I was
 astonish'd. She said, she thought she had
 some little reason to take it ill, that such
 grievous complaints should be made of ma-
 nagements about her son, without giving
 her the least previous intimation of them;
 that Lord Harcourt complain'd strongly to
 the King of dangerous notions, and arbi-
 trary principles being instilled into the
 Prince; and that he could be of no use,
 unless the instillers of that doctrine, Stone,
 Cresset, and Scott, were dismiss'd. That,
 as he nam'd no particulars, the King had
 sent the Archbishop and the Chancellor to

1752. command Lord Harcourt to acquaint them
 DEC. 28. with the particulars—that his Lordship's
 answer was, that the particulars were fit,
 only, to be communicated to the King,
 and that he would wait on his Majesty with
 them. (All this I knew before.) That
 he did so, and that she had since talked
 with the King, and his Majesty told her,
 that Lord Harcourt had only run over the
 same general topicks again, without enter-
 ing into any particulars at all: that the
 King had assured her of this, and she be-
 lieved, he had told her the truth. But,
 continued she, they have missed their ends,
 for the King was in very good humour
 with her and the children, and imputed
 nothing to them in this whole transaction.
 I said, that I was extremely pleased her
 Royal Highness had not been thrown off
 her temper by this behaviour, considering
 how offensive it was, how deep it was laid,
 and who were at the bottom of it: for that
 I, particularly, and I believed, all good men
 placed their chief hopes in the Prince's
 continuing in her hands and under her di-
 rection, and in her preserving that influence
 over

over him, which was justly due to her, as 1752.
well from her prudence, as from nature.— DEC. 28.

she replied, they would not find it easy to make her lose her temper. I told her of an anonymous letter sent to Dr. Newton, a popular preacher, of St. George's, setting forth the dangerous way the Prince's education was left in, and, after touching on the Doctor's popularity, concluding by putting it to him as a duty to take notice of it in the pulpit. She had not heard of it, and seemed at a loss to guess what it meant. I said, the only meaning I could give it was, though perhaps with too much refinement, that they had or would write anonymous letters to the same purpose, to forty or fifty of the London clergy; in hopes that, among so many, one hot-headed fellow might be found, who would take fire at it, and endeavour to distinguish himself by trying to raise a flame about it. But I did not think proper to tell her Royal Highness of another anonymous letter, which was sent to General Hawley, on Wednesday the 20th inst. which, when it was opened, contained nothing to him, but

1752. was a sort of a representation or remon-
 DEC. 28. strance to the King from the Whig nobi-
 lity and gentry; setting forth (as may be
 seen in my papers No. 9,) their great con-
 cern and apprehensions for the Prince's edu-
 cation from the hands in which he, now,
 is; their dissatisfaction at the manner, in
 which the power of the crown was lodged;
 that, indeed, some of those who, by their
 offices, were called Ministers, and ought to
 be so, were sometimes tumbled and tossed
 about, but that there was a permanence of
 power placed in three men, whom they
 looked upon as dangerous; and that these
 men entirely trusted, and were governed
 by two others; one of whom had the ab-
 solute direction of the Prince, and was of
 a Tory family, and bred in arbitrary prin-
 ciples; and the other, who was bred a
 professed Jacobite of a declared Jacobite
 family, and whose brother, now at Rome,
 was a favourite of the Pretender and even
 his Secretary of State. In short, the co-
 rollary was, that Murray, (Solicitor Gene-
 ral) and Stone, governed this country. This
 letter was sent to General Hawley with an
 intent

intent no doubt, that he should immediately carry it to the Duke, that his Royal Highness might lay it before the King and make what first impressions he could. Whether the General did so, I don't know, but I do not suspect him of so much finessè; but what is certain, is, that he sent it or carried it to the Secretary of State, who laid it before the King. What was the effect, I can't tell; but I know they were very much intrigued to find out whence it came, and who was the author.

1752.

DEC. 28.

Mr. Furnese called on me, and from a conversation with the Solicitor General, brings me new proofs of the King's indisposition towards me.

1753.

JAN. 3.

The Bishop of Peterborough made Preceptor to the Prince of Wales.

9.

I had a long conversation with Mr. Vane about our negociation with the court, and he seemed to think it much for their interest to agree with us. He expressed great apprehensions of the Duke and his party.

20.

The

1753. The Princess sent for me—I found her
 JAN. 25. with the Ladies Augusta and Elizabeth—
 we began with talking of the reconcilia-
 tion in the Dorset family: from that, she
 spoke of the Prussian memorial, of which
 I gave her my sentiments, which were,
 that it was, no doubt, meant to be very
 offensive, not only in matter, but in man-
 ner: for that, through the whole, there
 is no mention made of the King, but the
 representation is made to the nation and
 to the Ministry, which I thought highly
 indecent—she replied, she thought it per-
 plexed them very much—I said, it must
 do so, from the difficulty of finding a way
 to resent the affront. She said, if we did
 resent it, that Hanover was open, and the
 King of Prussia could do what he pleased
 with it, as easily as I could come into the
 garden where we were, from my terrace.
 I replied, he had taken an imprudent occa-
 sion to insult the King, because the pre-
 sent quarrel was upon a point purely
 English, without the least mixture of Ger-
 man, and could not be resented on the
 Electorate without alarming every Prince

in Germany. That the King of Prussia 1753.
 must know, that the House of Austria JAN. 25.
 watched with impatience to recover Silesia:
 that he was less a match for Vienna, than
 Hanover was for him: that I knew, he
 wanted a war, because he felt his country
 sinking under the number of troops, which
 he kept in it, in time of peace. That I
 did not think France was in a condition,
 or in the disposition to enter into a war
 immediately, and, if he was not very sure
 France would, that he played very deep and
 very dangerously indeed. This part, as
 well as the rest, of the conversation which
 was long, being carried on in the cold air,
 the Princess muffled up, and mostly speak-
 ing low that the children might not hear
 it; I shall choose to throw the principal
 parts together, as shortly and as clearly as
 I can, though not exactly in the order they
 were spoken, but as much in the words as
 I can recollect—the Dutchess of Devon-
 shire's assembly, of last Monday, was men-
 tioned; from thence Mr. James Pelham's
 of last night, which was professedly for
 hazard, and for the Ministry and Court.

1753. She expressed great dislike at playing pub-
 JAN. 25. lickly at forbidden games: she spoke, rea-
 sonably and warmly, of the ill example and
 encouragement it gave to all sorts of dis-
 sipation, &c. &c. I agreed with her, and
 mentioned the precautions, which Lord
 Treasurer Godolphin used, to conceal his
 passion for play, though he practised it to the
 last: (but added, to change the discourse)
 that it was but once a year, at a relation's
 house; that they had little to do, for all
 Parliament opposition was over; no body
 attended, and therefore it was natural that
 they should amuse themselves a little.
 She said, Yes, all seemed to be quiet now,
 but how long would it continue so? they
 never were in so ticklish a situation, as at
 present: that they were frightened three
 years ago, but with very little or no rea-
 son; that now they had reason; they must
 know it and feel it, and she was amazed
 they did not look out for assistance and
 friends whom they could depend upon,
 but that their cowardice would be their
 ruin. I said, I wondered at it too, that
 their own real friends and dependants were
 very

very much narrowed; but at the same time, she would please to consider, that it was not easy for them to make new connexions; for people of rank and real efficiency, who were unengaged and truly neuters, were but few; and against almost every one of those few, either from false representations or caprice, the King had taken prejudices, which the Ministers did not care, or did not dare to combat, which, I supposed, was the occasion of their not strengthening themselves. She said, with great warmth, that, when they talked to her of the King, she lost all patience, for she knew it was nothing: that, in these great points, she reckoned the King no more than one of the trees we walked by, (or something more inconsiderable, which she named) but that it was their pusillanimity which would make an end of them. I said, that it was, indeed, surprising; and if they were willing to accept of assistance, which I was confident, they really wanted, and would not, I was much concerned for them: because, to be sure, in great things the King must comply with what

1753.

JAN. 25.

1753. what was reasonable. For instance, Ma-
 JAN. 25. dam, to put a Lady of your Bedchamber,
 or a Groom of the Stole about your Royal
 Highness, with whom you must live; or
 your Private Treasurer, who must enter
 into all your little domestick, personal de-
 tails, I ought to consult your inclinations,
 nay, even your caprice: but to recommend
 one of your Receivers in Cornwall, your
 interest and the facility of your service
 ought only to be considered, and you
 ought not to be indulged in rejecting him,
 by having taken unfavourable impressions
 against him, because it would render your
 service impracticable; and all, so rejected,
 must believe that I never meant to serve
 them, or that I had no interest with you,
 and should not, long, be able to support
 myself. She said, it was most certainly so,
 the King was nothing in these things;
 and every body would drop from them,
 one by one, on account of their own
 cowardice. I told her that, surely, she
 had a right to insist upon their acting
 otherwise, considering the great support
 she had given them in the late ticklish,
 family

family tranſaction. She ſaid, ſhe had done 1753.
 them ſervice; but it ſignified nothing, if JAN. 25.
 they would not help themſelves. I replied,
 it was great pleaſure to me, to find that
 her Royal Highneſs favoured thoſe gen-
 tlemen; becauſe, for my own part, I really
 liked and eſteemed them, much more than
 any, who might probably, and who were,
 now, endeavouring to, ſucceed them;
 and becauſe I was deſirous to live with,
 and ſupport them: that I knew nothing
 of particulars, but that I ſpoke the lan-
 guage of the town, in ſaying, that ſhe had
 very greatly and uſefully eſpouſed their
 cauſe, and, therefore, that ſhe ought to
 have great weight with them. She ſaid,
 ſhe was afraid the town ſaid more of it,
 than ſhe deſired; that the truth was, it
 was certainly her's, and her family's buſi-
 neſs, to keep well with the King, and
 conſequently to countenance thoſe Miniſ-
 ters he employed, and ſhe had done ſo;
 but ſhe did not underſtand that ſhe was
 bound to them ſo, as to be in their hands.
 I replied, that this was the difficulty, and
 that it was hard to avoid falling into the
 hands

1753. hands of either one side or the other; it
 JAN. 25. was a ticklish situation: and here I stop'd.
 She said, she had helped them, and was
 astonish'd at their cowardice, in not making
 new friends. What ground did they stand
 upon? Could they doubt, but that her
good brother and sister were, the whole day
 long, doing them all imaginable mischief
 at St. James's? That, while they were
 lessening every favourable thing, they were
 heightening and exaggerating every unfa-
 vourable one? The Duke of Bedford stir-
 ring Heaven and Earth in the country;
 opening his house and courting every body
 in town? What would become of them?
 Every body would leave them by degrees,
 on account of their pusillanimity. I said,
 I was very sorry for their inaction, for that
 her Royal Highness would please to ob-
 serve that, to people, who by their situa-
 tion are thrown into politicks; action, in
 that case, is what life is to the body: we
 cannot cease to live for a time, and then,
 take up life again: so in politicks, we
 must act in some way or another, and we
 cannot cease action for a time, and then
 take

take it up, again. That I wished the present Ministry unfeignedly well, and was desirous to employ all my credit and friends in their service; that, besides, my friends and their interest, I would undertake to chuse five members for them, without putting them to a shilling expence, or desiring them to make a tide-waiter: that I thought much, if not their all, depended on a new Parliament, and I was willing to give them my poor assistance, as her Royal Highness had espoused their cause; and as I was, in my opinion and inclination, made more prepossessed in their favour, than for any body, who was in any likelihood to succeed them. Here ended all that was material. I am at a loss to guess, why this great lady presses conversations of this nature upon me; I neither attempt, nor deserve her confidence, nor am I so low, as to be fond of half confidences. I think she must become nothing; by either siding with the Ministry or the Duke. A third party, of her own, is her only resource in case of a minority, but where she will find that

1753. party, may be difficult; and whether she
 JAN. 25. will find resolution to attempt it or to support it, may still be more difficult. It may, possibly, be her wisest party, and, probably, the party she has or will shortly take, to take hands privately with the Duke of Cumberland, and, instigated by the timidity of the Ministers, agree with him and repeal the regency bill, and be thus sole regent in appearance, and he in effect. This I think certain, that, if they do not immediately remove the Duke from the army, and with éclat, he will overpower both her and the Ministry, who will probably think of struggling when it is too late, but who will not, I think, dare to strike when it might be easy and decisive.

FEB. 1. I went to the House to vote for the liberty to import Champaign in bottles. Lord Hillsborough moved it; Mr. Fox seconded it. We lost the question—ayes 74, noes 141.

8. I waited on the Princess and saw her alone.

alone. I entertained her with town talk, 1753.
 and pleasantries that had passed where I FEB. 8.
 dined. She began, at once, by saying she
 had good news to tell me: that they were
 very happy in their family; that the new
 Bishop gave great satisfaction; that he
 seemed to take great care, and in a proper
 manner: and that the children took to
 him, and seemed mightily pleased. I said
 I was very glad that all their Royal High-
 nesses were pleased with the Bishop, whom
 I did not know by sight; but that she
 would give me leave to hope, that they
 were all very well pleased with the new
 Governor also, who was my very good
 friend, and for whom I had a very great
 regard. She replied, yes, indeed; that she
 was but little acquainted with him, but,
 from all she saw, she had a very good
 opinion of him; that he was very well
 bred, very complaisant, and attentive, &c.
 and the children liked him extremely: but,
 says she, I took upon a Governor as a sort
 of pageant, a man of quality for show, &c.
 I stick to the learning as the chief point:
 you know how backward they were, when

1753. we were together, and I am sure, you
 FEB. 8. don't think them much improved since.
 It may be, that it is not, yet, too late to
 acquire a competence, and that is what I
 am most solicitous about; and if this man,
 by his manner, should hit upon the means
 of giving them that, I shall be mightily
 pleased. The Bishop of Norwich was so
 confused, that one could never tell what
 he meant, and the children were not at all
 pleased with him. I said, that the whole
 transaction was a very odd thing, that, cer-
 tainly, there must be some bottom to it,
 which we at a distance could not discern.
 She replied, she thought so; that the
 stories about the history of the Pere
 d'Orleans were false: the only little dis-
 pute, between the Bishop and Prince Ed-
 ward, was about le Pere Perefis's history
 of Henry the IVth, and that was nothing
 at all to produce such consequences. That
 there must be politicks at the bottom:
 that there was a story of the Bishop's hav-
 ing said, that Murray, (the Solicitor Gene-
 ral) when he was first appointed, told him
 that Lord Harcourt was only a cypher;
 that,

that, as he (the Bishop) had parts and abilities, he might easily get the whole into his own hands, and at the same time advised him not to omit so fair an opportunity: that she believed it was a lye, but if it was true, the Bishop must be a bad man to betray the private advice of a friend. I said, I was most confident it was false: that Mr. Murray had too much sense to meddle at all, with what did not belong to him; but if he had done it (which I could never believe) I was sure it could only be in favour of his friend, Stone, with whom he was closely connected: that I looked upon Mr. Murray to be a very eminent man, and much the most able and efficient of all those, who were openly and honourably attached to the Ministry. She said, it was very likely; she thought they had very few friends, and wondered at their not getting more, and that it was their cowardice only which hindered them: that, if they talked of the King, she was out of patience; it was as if they should tell her, that her little Harry below would not do what was proper for him; that just so,

1753.

FEE. 8.

1753. the King would sputter and make a bustle,
 FEB. 8. but when they told him that it must be done from the necessity of his service, he must do it, as little Harry must when she came down. I replied, I was sincerely sorry, not for the present, but that I apprehended this want of real, attached, and declared friends might produce ugly consequences and contests, in case of a demise. She said, it was to be apprehended, but she could not help it. I said, that they ought, for her sake, and from what they owed her, to think of those consequences. She answered, they owed her nothing; that in regard to the last disturbances in the family, she protested, she knew no more than she had told me—that she never conceived it would come to an open rupture: and again protested that, when she heard that Lord Harcourt had been with the King, on his arrival, to resign, she was as ignorant of it, and as much surpris'd at it, as I could be: that what had been done since, in the replacing them, was done in the puzzled way which I knew, and in which she had very little or no share; and that,

for the Ministers, she had never seen them in her life. Madam, says I, your Royal Highness will forgive me, but if I had not caught myself, I was just going to say, Lord, Madam! what do you mean?—I mean, answered she, just as I say; the only way I could see them in the Prince's time, I don't call seeing them; and since that time I have never seen the Duke of Newcastle, what I should call more than once, but as I am speaking to you with great exactness, it was twice; and I have not seen Mr. Pelham at all—no, not once. The Duke was, once, here, with the Archbishop and the Chancellor, upon some formality; and last year, when the King was out of the way, he stole over to Kew, to take his leave, but has never been here, since his return, though almost every body has, as Lady Yarmouth, Munchausen, Lord Anson, &c. Mr. Pelham has behaved better, and always very civilly: he had not the same reasons; he might indeed at first, before our money matters were settled, have taken that occasion to come; but as he did not do it, he has had no call; and fears,

1753.
FEB. 8.

1753. I suppose, the King's jealousies and suspi-
 FEB. 8. cions, who is never without them. When
 the Duke of Newcastle was with me, I
 very strongly testified my surprize to him,
 that he should neglect such a body of the
 late Prince's servants; that, though they
 had wished me and my part of the family,
 better than any other party; yet, as that
 was over, and they were willing to come
 under him, surely some of them were
 worth accepting. If they were not to be
 rewarded for their attachment, it was sure-
 ly strange that they were to have an exclu-
 sion put upon them for it. He shuffled
 and hesitated upon this; but at last said,
 to be sure it should be thought of, and
 brought about. I said, it was indeed sur-
 prising; for, that those gentlemen, instead
 of having acquired any merit by their ser-
 vices, were not even allowed the fair play
 that they would have had, if they had
 never entered into the service of the Royal
 family: I thought it very disadvantageous,
 because, in case of a demise, that all would
 be to be done, which ought to have been
 long settled, and ready to be done, in case
 of

of accidents. She said, that the Duke durst not come near her for fear of her sister Amelia. I asked her, if she thought he could be ignorant of her dislike to him, even to inveteracy. She answered, no; but still he was afraid of her. That he had once, since he came, got leave to see her, but on condition that somebody should be in the room: but that, in the case I mentioned, she should soon enough have him trotting on all fours to her. That she had nothing to do with them: could they believe, if the time ever came, that she should forget those whom she had mentioned to them?—that she should forget, what she ought most to remember, from duty, from interest, and from gratitude? She could not help it—it must be *alors, comme alors*. Perhaps the fewer engagements she was under the better. Thus ended this other very singular conversation.

1753.
FEB. 8.

Mr. Glover dined with me, who read his tragedy of Medea.

11.

The

1753. The Duke of Bedford moved for Nova
 FEB. 13. Scotia papers very ably.

15. The cabinet met, and sat late, on the
 strange imputation of Bishop Johnson's,
 Messrs. Stone's and Murray's being Jaco-
 bites, and having drunk the Pretender's
 health at Vernon's, the linen-draper's,
 about twenty years ago. They got but
 half through, and will sit again to-morrow.

23. Lord Ravensworth's extraordinary com-
 mittee ended, which began the 15th inst.
 and sat seven nights.

26. I went to Lord Hobart's concert, which
 is extremely good, and perfectly well un-
 derstood. The cabinet met to settle the
 report to be made to the King upon Messrs.
 Stone's and Murray's affairs, of which
 more hereafter.

MAR. 3. I waited upon the Princess, who was
 pleased to inform me, that Mr. Stone was
 determined to prosecute Mr. Fosset for de-
 famation; that his council were the Attor-
 ney

ney General, Mr. Hume Campbell, Mr. 1753.
 Ford, and Sir Richard Floyd. I said, MAR. 3.
 though I was in no connection with Mr.
 Stone that entitled me to call him friend,
 yet I had long known and observed him;
 that I had a real esteem for him, and
 thought him very honest and very able,
 and I was convinced, that the King had
 not a more faithful subject, nor one more
 truly affectionate to every branch of the
 Royal Family! that upon this foot, I was
 not without apprehensions of bringing
 such an affair into a Court of Justice.
 Failure, in the least circumstance of proof;
 tampering with evidence or juries, &c.
 made me a little uneasy. She replied, she
 was so too, but they would have it so:
 that Stone had behaved very well to her,
 and to the children; that, though it would
 be treason if it was known, yet he always
 spoke of the late Prince with great respect,
 and with great civility of all those whom
 he knew the Prince had a real value for.
 That Lord Harcourt behaved very differ-
 ently; that he not only behaved very ill
 to her, but always spoke to the children
 of

1753. of their father, and of his actions, in so
 Mar. 3. disrespectful a manner, as to send them to
 her almost ready to cry; and that he did
 all he could to alienate them from her, in
 so much, that they themselves were sen-
 sible of it; and that George had mentioned
 to her once, since Lord Harcourt's de-
 parture, that he was afraid he had not be-
 haved to her, sometimes, so well as he
 ought, and wondered how he could be fo-
 rgiven; to which she answered, no, but
 that, now and then, not with quite so much
 complaisance, as a young gentleman should
 use to a lady. I said, I flattered myself she
 would find a very different behaviour in
 Lord Waldegrave. She said, yes indeed;
 that she liked very well all she saw of him.
 I hinted that this whole thing seemed
 much deeper laid than at Murray and Stone,
 and that it struck at the Pelhams. She
 said, most certainly—they must be blind
 if they did not see it, and the greatest
 cowards alive, if they did not repent it:
 that, now, was the time; and they were
 undone, if they neglected the opportunity:
 she repeated, they were undone; that the

King took the thing highly in their favour; and talked of it as the most unworthy attack, and told her that Stone had served him faithfully these twenty years, and that he knew all that he himself knew: that if he was a Peer, every body would think him proper to be Secretary; that his Majesty had been with her an hour and held this sort of conversation. I said, I was happy the King had taken so favourable an impression; that I hoped and believed it would last: but, however, that it should be made use of, while it was so strong; because it was possible it might cool; considering, as her Royal Highness herself had been pleased to observe to me, who those persons were, who were always about the King at St. James's, and that the Ministry had nobody there. She said, to be sure: they must strike while the iron was hot, or be ruined: that she had told Stone so, who said, they had promised to do what was proper: and that she had replied, Mr. Stone, it is actions, now, and not words that must be expected: that she had seen her great, great fat friend (the Duke) who talked to her

1753.
MAR. 3.

1753. her about it, and asked her if she did not
 MAR. 3. think it a very disagreeable affair: that she
 answered, yes, but that she did not regard
 it. He asked her, if she was not very
 sorry it happened: that she replied, not at
 all, if the Ministers would make a proper
 use of it. She told me then, that Murray
 had behaved with spirit, and made an ex-
 ceeding good speech, of which she gave
 me a detail as far as she remembered, and
 particularly took notice that he had marked
 strongly that it was not he nor Stone that
 were principally struck at, but that it
 went home to the Ministry.

6. I went to a cause at council; the Soli-
 citor, who was for the appellant, left the
 reply to the Attorney, during which we
 had a conversation, wherein he acquainted
 me with his behaviour; that he was brought
 in by implication only; that Stone was
 principally meant and named by Lord Ra-
 venworth, who, from what Foffet had
 said to him in private conversation, came
 up and insisted that Stone should be dis-
 missed, and that so peremptorily to the
 Duke

Duke of Newcastle, that he was obliged to lay it before the King, who slighted it: but Stone insisted with him, to have it examined into, which gave occasion to the bringing it before the council. When he (Murray) heard of this, he sent a message to the King, humbly to acquaint his Majesty, that, if he should be called before such a committee, on so scandalous and injurious an account, he would resign his office, and would refuse to answer—that the King highly approved of it—that when it was over, and Stone had been heard, he thought proper to demand an audience, and made a speech, part of which he repeated to me. It was full of spirit, and charged the matter home, as a deep-laid combination against the Ministry, &c. I said, every body saw it in the same light, and thought, that if they did not act, they were undone: that the King was now in the most favourable disposition; but how long it would last, might be doubted, considering who were nearest to him, and that there was nobody to parry for the Ministers. That I had some reasons to think the Princess was much

1753.
MAR. 6.
alarmed

1753.
MAR. 6. alarmed at their inactivity: that, unless they could shew they had strength of friends to second her, how could she support them? That I had it from coffee-houses, that the design was to end in repealing the regency act, and making the Duke regent; that (if they did not represent strongly to the King, that, if he liked the absolute tranquillity of the two houses, he must leave it to them to make use of such instruments, as they thought proper, to continue it) they were ruined. The Solicitor approved of all I said, step by step, in very strong terms. He seemed much alarmed at the repeal of the regency bill, and said, that all I said was true; that they must act or be undone: they themselves knew it, and he thought they certainly would act, and he particularly approved of what I proposed should be said to the King.

8. We went to see the manufacture of tapestry from France, now set up at Fulham by the Duke. The work, both of the gobelins and of chaillot, called favonnerie, is very fine, but very dear.

Mr.

1753.
MAR. 16.

Mr. Pelham, Mr. Vane, Mr. Furnese and I dined together, by appointment, at Mr. Vane's. The offer of our thorough attachment, in return for Mr. Pelham's thorough friendship and protection in bringing us into court, was renewed, and my views of meaning to support their power, and not sharing it as a Minister, was explained. Mr. Pelham, in a very frank and honourable manner, declared his real desire and inclination to accept our friendship, and return his own: that, if his friendship was sufficient to effect the whole, he would with pleasure engage for the whole: but that he could not answer for the King, whose prejudices were very strong against me, and chiefly, for my having quitted his services for his son's, &c. but that every thing in his power he would do to remove them, to make way for a measure so truly agreeable to him. I then entered into a detail (which I offered to prove) of the injustice and unreasonableness of these prejudices, and then said, that from this long account, he might naturally expect a request to enter into a justification,

Q

either

1753. either by myself or by him : but that I did
 MAR. 16. not desire to justify with the King. That
 all I desired him to say to the King was,
 that, though it was never in my intention
 to offend his Majesty, it was sufficient that
 he was displeas'd, for me to think myself
 to blame ; and that, to induce him to for-
 give me, I humbly offer'd him my services
 and all the interest I had in the House,
 and out of it, for the rest of my life. I
 added, that I thought this submission and
 this offer of five members at least, should
 be sufficient to wipe away impressions, even
 if I had been a declared Jacobite. He said,
 it was all that could be said, and all should
 be made of it, that his credit could make.
 But that, if it should be practicable, and I
 should be in any station, and the King
 should not be prevail'd on to behave to me
 as I might justly expect, I might grow un-
 easy and be dissatisfied, as in the case of
 Pitt ; to whom they could never persuade
 the King to appear commonly civil. I
 answer'd, no, not in the least. He said,
 yes, I might fancy so, and he believed I
 should. I replied, that I answer'd with

1753.
MAR. 16.

certainty, because I had considered and made up my mind about that. That all I wished of the King was, to make me over to him (Pelham,) to let him dispose of me, as he thought fit, and suffer him to receive my friendship, attachment, and services. That I desired by no means to encroach upon his Majesty's time, or thoughts, or behaviour, provided he would give him (Pelham) leave to employ me, for his Majesty's service, in the way that was most agreeable to him. That I would give him my reasons with the utmost freedom; which were, that, indeed, if I was a new man, and in any station, I should, in paying my court, expect that sort of civil return which was my due: but after such unworthy prejudices, and so void of all foundation taken against me, I should never desire any conversation or intercourse with his Majesty, more than a distant, but profound respect on my side, and that, as seldom as was consistent with the duty of a most faithful and respectful subject. Upon the whole, Mr. Pelham behaved in so open and noble a manner, as to chuse to make it

1753. plain, ten times at least, (though he did not
 MAR. 16. make use of the expressions precisely) that
 I should rather see that he wanted power,
 than have any doubt of his sincerity, if it
 did not succeed; and that the doubt of his
 strength and power alone, hindered him
 from promising positively to effect it: and
 therefore, if I judge this right, I am obli-
 ged to him, and am determined to be his
 friend, whether it succeeds or not.

22. Went to the House of Lords, the Duke
 of Bedford opened the affair of Fosset's re-
 port against the Bishop of Gloucester, Stone
 and Murray, and appealed to Lord Ravenf-
 worth, who opened the whole transaction
 in a long narrative. Then the Duke, in a
 long speech, founded his question upon
 that narrative, which, in substance, was to
 address the King for the whole proceeding
 before the council: The Chancellor and
 Duke of Newcastle answered him, and to
 make this question (which was foreseen,
 and I think needed not to be so timorously
 apprehended) the more unnecessary, they
 had obtained of the King to dispense with
 the

the oath of those Lords of the council upon this occasion, and to suffer them to acquaint the House with the whole proceeding, which those two Lords did pretty much at large. The debate was long and heavy; the Duke of Bedford's performance moderate enough; he divided the house, but it was not told, for there went below the Bar with him, the Earl Harcourt, Lord Townshend, the Bishop of Worcester and Lord Talbot only. The Bishop of Norwich and Lord Harcourt both spoke, not to much purpose; but neither of them, in the least, supported the Duke's question. Upon the whole, it was the worst judged, the worst executed, and the worst supported point, that I ever saw of so much expectation.

1753.

MAR. 22.

I will now set down in writing the exact truth of this strange, important trifle.

Mr. Foffet, Messrs. Murray and Stone, were much acquainted, if not school-fellows, in early life. Their fortune led them different ways: Foffet's was to be a

1753. country lawyer and recorder of Newcastle.
 MAR. 22. Johnson, now Bishop of Gloucester, was one of their associates. On the day the King's birth-day was kept, they dined at the Dean of Durham's, at Durham; this Foffet, Lord Ravensworth, Major Davison, and one or two more, who retired after dinner into another room; the conversation turning upon the late Bishop of Gloucester's preferments, it was asked who was to have his Prebend of Durham: the Dean said, that the last news from London was, that Dr. Johnson was to have it: Foffet said, he was glad that Johnson got off so well, for he remembered him a Jacobite several years ago, and that he used to be with a relation of his who was very disaffected, one Vernon, a mercer, where the Pretender's health was frequently drunk. This, passing among a few familiar acquaintance, was thought no more of at the time: it spread, however, so much in the north (how, I never heard accounted for) and reached Town in such a manner, that Mr. Pelham thought it necessary to desire Mr. Vane, who was a friend to Foffet and who employed

employed him in his business, to write to Foffet, to know if he had said this of Johnson, and if he had, if it was true.

1753.

MAR. 22.

This letter was written on the 9th of January; it came to Newcastle the Friday following. Foffet was much surpris'd; but the post going out in a few hours after its arrival, he immediately acknowledged the letter by a long, but not very explicit answer. This Friday happened to be the club-day of the neighbouring gentlemen at Newcastle—as soon as Lord Ravensworth, who was a patron and employer of Foffet, came into the town, Foffet acquainted him with the extraordinary letter he had received: he told him, that he had already answered it, and being asked to shew the copy, said he kept none; but desired Lord Ravensworth to recollect, if he held such a conversation at the Deanry of Durham, the day appointed for the birth-day. Ravensworth recollected nothing at all of it. They went to the club together, and Ravensworth went the next morning to see his mother in the neighbourhood,

1753. bourhood, with whom he staid till Mon-
 MAR. 22. day; but this thing of such consequence,
 lying upon his thoughts, he returned by
 Newcastle. He and Foffet had another
 conversation, and in endeavouring to re-
 fresh each other's memory about this
 dreadful delinquency of Johnson, Foffet
 said, he could not recollect positively, at
 such a distance of time, whether Johnson
 drank those healths, or had been present
 at the drinking them, but that Murray and
 Stone had done both, several times. Ravens-
 worth was exceedingly alarmed at this, with
 relation to Stone, on account of his office a-
 bout the Prince; and thus the affair of John-
 son was quite forgotten, and the episode be-
 came the principal part. There were ma-
 ny more conferences between Ravensworth
 and Foffet, upon this subject, in which the
 latter always persisted, that Stone and
 Murray were present at the drinking, and
 did drink those healths. It may be ob-
 served here, that, when he was examined
 upon oath, he swore to the years 1731 or
 1732 at latest. Foffet comes up, as usual,
 about his law business, and is examined by
 Messrs.

1753.

MAR. 22.

Messrs. Pelham and Vane, who never had heard of Murray or Stone being named: he is asked and answers, only with relation to Johnson, never mentioning either of the others: but the love of his country, his King, and posterity, burned so strongly in Ravensworth's bosom, that he could have no rest, till he had discovered this enormity. Accordingly, when he came to town, he acquainted the ministry and almost all his great friends with it, and insisted upon the removal of Stone. The ministry would have slighted it, as it deserved; but, as he persisted and had told so many of it, they could not help laying it before the King, who, though he himself slighted it, was advised to examine it, which examination produced this most injudicious proceeding in Parliament. The Duke of Devonshire was the only one of the committee, who was absent from the House. The ministers, and indeed, every body else, did imagine, and, I believe still do, that this whole affair is combined with the resignations, and that there was a set of pretended friends to the Pelhams ready to take advantage

1753. vantage of it; and, I know, that Mr. Pel-
 MAR. 22. ham did think that this motion would give
 great lights to it. How far their expecta-
 tions are answered, I cannot say; mine
 were entirely disappointed, for the whole
 was so ill conducted and supported, that I
 should almost be tempted to believe, that
 the grounds, which carried our conjectures
 into a sort of certainty, had no foundation
 at all.

29. I waited on the Princess, who seemed
 much pleased that the affair had ended so
 well in the House of Lords, and said, that
 it was owing to the King's steadiness and
 resolution, that it went no farther: that
 his Majesty took it with good sense and
 proper firmness, without which the Lords
 of the Cabinet would not have behaved as
 they did. It is remarkable, that this is
 the first time, that I ever heard her speak
 favourably of the King. In mentioning
 my reasons for having an opinion of Mr.
 Stone, without having any friendship with
 him, I said, that from thence I was glad
 when I heard he was placed about the
 Prince.

Prince. She replied, she was not; on the contrary, she was very sorry, and much alarmed at it. I was surpris'd, and asked why? She answered, because the Prince had always taught her to believe, that Stone was a Jacobite, and that she did firmly believe it: that the Prince was convinced of it, and, when affairs went ill abroad, used to say to her in a passion, how could better be expected, when such a Jacobite as Stone was trusted?

1753.

MAR. 29.

Lord Middlesex and Mr. Forrester were with me to suggest a plan for laying a state of his Lordship's debts before the Duke of Dorset: they amount to 15,000 £.

MAY 2.

Mr. Ralph gave me an account that Mr. William Beckford was with him last Saturday, and told him, that they had a body formed, not a large one, which would act together: that they found it necessary to employ the press, and that they thought him the ablest person, &c. That they proposed setting forth a paper: He desired to know, with whom he was to be engaged, besides

7.

1753.
MAY 7.

besides Mr. Beckford? and asked, if the Duke of Cumberland was to protect them? he was answered, with the Duke of Bedford, but Mr. Beckford could not tell whether his Royal Highness was concerned. Ralph then asked, if he, with his instruments, was to be secured and protected against all law prosecutions? what establishment for himself? and if he was to lay down his own plan and write in conformity to it, or, if it was expected that he should be confined? answered, that he should be thoroughly protected, and by those who would own him in both Houses—that his allowance should be handsome, but could not then name the sum, and that he was to be at entire liberty. Upon which, being pressed to go to the Duke of Bedford, who desired to see him soon; he promised Mr. Beckford to take an early opportunity of waiting upon his Grace.

8. Mr. Vane, now Lord Barnard, called upon me: I talked very strongly to him, and told him of the open manner of inlifting all sorts of people against the Pelhams. I mentioned Ralph's resolution, and put him in
mind,

1753.
MAY 8.

mind, that I had offered his (Ralph's) services as my friend, and bade him recollect in how improper a manner Mr. Pelham had rejected him: I told him, that I had reason to expect that Pelham should have given up his resentments against him, on my account; but that, certainly, prudence should have made him do it, for his own sake. Lord Barnard thought writing of great consequence, though, he said, Mr. Pelham did not. I replied, that Mr. Pelham mistook himself; that no man was more susceptible of its effects, and no man more easily hurt by it: was there a stronger proof of it, than the present case? What was this irreconcilableness against Ralph occasioned by, but the impression of a pamphlet, which, after all, the man did not write? That I was sure, Mr. Pelham would repent it very soon, and that I no way farther interfered in it; yet I desired he should know this, and more particularly, that (as I had given him the offer of a most useful, honest, and able man, and upon his rejecting it, had, some time since, given him fair warning

by

1753.
MAY 8. by him, Lord Barnard, of what would happen) I must have no complaints, or insinuations, or even thoughts, that I was any way, act or part, in any thing that might come out : it was language I would not hear, and insinuations I would not suffer. I was sorry for the step, because I knew how naturally people were misled when they were hurt. Who could tell, what a man, that had been Secretary of State, might furnish ? and how galling it might be rendered by the ablest pen in England ? That I was grieved to see so little spirit opposed to so much vehemence and virulence, as their declared enemies acted with ; that their efficient enemies, it was true, were but few in number, but yet, they were the King's son, and daughter, and a Duke of Bedford : that I thought the Pelhams had not three such efficient friends, in or out of St. James's : that my fears suggested, and reason confirmed me, that, if they did not exert themselves, and give proofs of their power to the world, by their protection to their friends, numbers would gradually drop from them :
that

1753.

MAY 8.

that their all depended upon the new Parliament: that I hoped they were active about it: that I had some little influence, as well as positive interest, in that election; but that I knew no more, what they were about, and how to apply that influence, than if I had never known their names: he was, however, to understand me, that these were the fears, not the complaints of a friend: that I meant no complaint, for that I had nothing to complain of: that I meant and asked the Pelhams' friendship and good-will, and in return offered them my services and attachment: that Mr. Pelham was pleased to accept this offer, and to promise his friendship and countenance in return: that I never asked him for any emolument, at any time, or in any manner: that his Lordship knew, I had been requested to do so, but that I never would; having resolved to leave it wholly to Mr. Pelham, how he thought proper to make use of my personal services; those, that were in my power, in my present situation, I had promised, and he should have them. Nothing but words had, as yet, passed

1753.
MAY 8.

passed between us, but he should see that I would act. In my present state, all I could give him, was my country interest, and influence in the elections, and he should have them. I would certainly chuse any two he pleased at Weymouth, and, though I knew nothing of his measures, all my influence should go in the way that I could guess he most wished: that I did, and should leave the rest entirely to him, with regard to his fulfilling his part. If he thought I could be of no further use, I could not help it; but if he thought I might, he would produce me in the way in which he could best enable me to perform it: that this was wholly Mr. Pelham's affair—it did not depend upon me; for what depended upon me, I should certainly perform: that, therefore, though I desired he should know all this clearly and explicitly; yet I expected he should understand it, as it really was, the naked sentiments, only, and apprehensions of a friend, without any mixture of complaint, or having the least intention to complain. I have forgotten to insert, in its place,

1753.

MAY 8.

an instance of their timidity towards their friends, which I mentioned to Lord Bernard, and which is too striking to be omitted. I asked his Lordship, how he thought our friend Murray felt, to find that his friends in power suffered a most offensive and hurtful calumny, meant at them also, to be fixed on him and made matter of examination; instead of being rejected with indignation, by a Court the most unprecedented, through the whole proceeding, that ever met! I suppose, said I, you will tell me, that there were reasons that made it unavoidable: I know them, the Cavendishes would not stand it, but leaned the other way. Stop here a moment—is not that saying, let it hurt whom it will, let it be never so inconvenient and lessening to you; we will not forfeit, nay, not venture one atom of our credit with the herd. Murray condescends to defend himself; he treats calumny and clamour with the noble spirit they deserve, and artfully winds in an apology to them: they are then satisfied. That is, after his having been the subject

R

of

1753.
MAY 8.

of an illegal enquiry into an impertinent, disgraceful imputation, and not having the least speck appear upon him, the ministry are satisfied. To be sure, Murray must think himself greatly obliged to them. After all this, and when the same scandal was brought into the most public assembly, with the impotence of proof, in order to spread it through the nation: what do his friends in power do? they say, he was effectually justified, without doing one act to shew their resentment of the persecution he had suffered, either by disgracing the abettors or punishing the authors of it. How must a most able, active, openly attached friend feel such tameness! he replied, he thought (and I believe he did think) as I did. Mr. Pelham spoke to me at council, and told me that he had seen Lord Barnard, and that he thought himself extremely obliged to me for what had passed between us; he said, he was highly sensible how much he owed me, and that he would soon find an opportunity to talk with me at large.

Mr.

Mr. Ralph was yesterday with the Duke of Bedford; he was very well received, but nothing was positively settled. I think he has acted precipitately, but I dare not restrain him, for fear of becoming answerable for consequences beyond my power.

1753.
MAY 10.

Lord Barnard, Colonel Vane, Mr. Pelham, and Mr. Furnese dined with me. We had not a single word about business, so that I look upon that transaction to be over.

JUNE 26.

I passed the day with the Princess of Wales by her order. I was very friendly and kindly received; our conversation was chiefly of a domestick familiar nature. Nothing very remarkable in politicks, except my observing that people, who, chiefly out of regard to her, had declined all opposition, and were very ready and desirous to contribute to the service of the present ministry, notwithstanding this, were still to remain in a state of proscription: that such people were pretty much snaffled by the apprehension that if they resented it, they might be considered as being in op-

JULY 18.

1753. position to her and to the young Prince, to
 JULY 18. whom their attachment and affection was
 inviolable and invariable. Whereas it was
 hard to believe that the treatment, which
 their Royal Highnesses met with, was so
 cordial and endearing, as to oblige them
 to espouse the quarrels of the present
 Court; especially against those, who were
 driven into those quarrels by the treatment
 they met with from their attachment to
 their Royal Highnesses and to the late
 Prince. She said, to be sure it was so,
 but she was not so explicit upon the head
 as I wished. She gave into it, but rather
 seemed to allow it, than declare it.

29. I went to Eastbury, and on the Saturday
 following I dined at Lord Shaftesbury's,
 who was determined not to go to the
 meeting at Dorchester, for the nomination
 of the Knights of the Shire. But finding
 that I was to go, he was perplexed, and
 more so, by a letter he received at dinner
 from Lord Digby, requesting him to at-
 tend. We left his Lordship uneasy and
 irresolute.

I was

I was at Dorchester to assist at the meeting. Lord Digby was brought, in the winter, to me by Lord Hillsborough, from Messrs. Pelham and Fox. He asked for my interest, as determining to stand on the Whig interest. I told him that, if no relation, or person with whom I had particular connections, should set up on the same interest, mine was at his service: from that time to the present moment, I never saw Lord Digby, nor was I consulted with by any of his friends.

1753.
Aug. 7.

Soon after my coming to the Antelope, at Dorchester, he came to me and requested my favour; I told him that was my only business there. He soon returned with Lord Ilchester, and they both pressed me to stand with him, which I declined. Lord Milton, Messrs. Drax, Trenchard, and most of the Whig party came to me. I found that Mr. Trenchard was to propose Lord Digby, but that neither he nor his uncle Ilchester had consulted, or concerted any thing with any body. I said, there could be no doubt of the Whigs carrying the election,

1753. if they resolved upon it, because, to my
 Aug. 7. knowledge, two-thirds of the property
 of the county were in their hands, and
 because I had carried it for Mr. Pitt's fa-
 ther (who was scarcely capable) when our
 property was considerably less. But, whe-
 ther they would resolve to go through it
 at all events, I did not in the least know:
 that I supposed Lord Digby's adviser had
 asked and knew: but, if not, a party meet-
 ing should be held and consulted. Every
 body appeared to approve of this: the
 Lords Ilchester and Digby, both told me,
 privately, that Mr. Pelham encouraged
 Lord Digby to stand, and that a little be-
 fore the Parliament rose, Mr. Pelham took
 Lord Digby aside in the House, and said,
 that he was informed it would certainly
 do, and pressed him to go on with it. I
 replied to him, that I did not know from
 whom Mr. Pelham had his information,
 but that it did not come from me: that
 I would do him all the services I could,
 and all the return I desired was, that he
 would remember I was, no ways, consulted
 nor advising in the affair. We went up
 to

to the meeting about noon. I believe, of Whigs we might be somewhat more than thirty gentlemen ; when the Tories came, we were about one hundred.

1753.
Aug. 7.

Sir Robert Long proposed Mr. Pitt. Mr. Bingham returned Mr. Chafin's thanks to the county, and his excuses for declining ; and then Sir Robert proposed Mr. Sturt to join with Mr. Pitt. Mr. Trenchard proposed Lord Digby—nobody said a word. When Mr. Francis Seymour spoke a few words in support of Pitt and Sturt, in order to keep the county out of *ministerial dependence*—to this nothing was offered on our side till people began to move ; when I thought it necessary to take some notice of the expressions, which I did, and concluded by saying, that I should give my interest to Lord Digby alone, till I saw farther. Thus it ended, with very little spirit of their side, and with none at all, of ours.

I was at Bridgewater, and, with Mr. Balch, canvassed near half the town. The

11.

1753. people did not chuse to ſpeak out, though
 Aug. 11. very few declared they were engaged to
 Lord Egmont.

18. We returned home to Eaſtbury. The
 exceſſive badneſs of the roads and weather,
 with the nature of the buſineſs, made it
 much the moſt diſagreeable journey, and
 the moſt fatiguing week I ever paſſed. All
 this trouble, vexation, and expence, as well
 as that to come, flows from a ſet of low,
 worthleſs fellows, who finding they ſhall
 not be bribed without an oppoſition, have
 prevailed on Lord Egmont to lend his
 name, to whom they will give one vote,
 that they may be able to ſell the other.
 And, notwithstanding, as things now ap-
 pear, his Lordſhip has no chance of making
 his election. This he does not ſee, nor
 that the Tories (though partly for other
 reaſons) make his greateſt ſtrength; ſo that
 he is ſetting up an intereſt, which, if it
 ſhould ſucceed, he could never fit in quiet
 for that place. But though, I think, he
 has no chance at preſent, yet the unea-
 ſineſs

finess and expence will be the same to me,
as if he was sure of success.

1753.
Aug. 18.

We returned to Hammermith from the
country.

Oct. 3.

Mr. Fox called on me, and expressed
great civilities on account of my behaviour
to his nephew, Lord Digby, at Dor-
chester.

8.

I went early to Mr. Pelham, and talked
with him about Bridgewater: he gave me
the strongest assurance of his assistance,
and promised to write immediately him-
self to Philip Baker, to convince every
body of his friendship for me; and that
the Custom-house officers should be pro-
perly taken care of. I am persuaded he is
sincere.

9.

I was with Mr. Pelham again, who has
done all that can be expected hitherto, and
promises to continue all his endeavours to
support my election at Bridgewater against
Lord Egmont's opposition. In this affair

22.

he

1753. he has acted, and, I am convinced, he will
 OCT. 22. act the part of a real friend. But I do not
 find that he has made any progress in the
 great point of smoothing my way to the
 King.

23. The Princess of Wales and Lady Augusta,
 attended by Lady Middlesex and Mr. Bre-
 ton, did Mrs. Dodington and me the ho-
 nour of breakfasting with us. After break-
 fast, we walked all round my gardens: we
 then came in, and they went into all the
 rooms, except the common dining-parlour:
 when we were coming down stairs, I told
 their Royal Highnesses, that there was one
 room, which I had forgotten to shew
 them; they desired to see it, and found a
 cold collation (for it was near three o'clock.)
 The Princess very obligingly sat down,
 and we all ate a very hearty and very cheer-
 ful meal: she staid with us till the day
 began to decline, and behaved with infi-
 nite ease and condescension.

29. The Duke of Cumberland is dangerously
 ill

ill of a quinsy, but the truth of his illness
 proceeded from a fall from his horse. 1753.
 Oct. 29.

Mr. Ralph told me, that he had made
 his peace with the ministry, by the means
 of Lord Hartington, to whose favour he
 was recommended by Mr. Garrick: that
 he was to have 300 *l.* a year and 200 *l.* im-
 mediately down, to repay to those he was
 engaged with, the money they had advanced
 to him. Mr. Pelham had told me all this
 before, as also, that it was contrary to
 his opinion, but that his brother was un-
 easy about it, and therefore he had acqui-
 esced. Nov. 3.

I saw Mr. Pelham: he told me that
 Lord Poulett went immediately out of town
 from waiting, and that he had had no
 conversation with him, but a broken one,
 while he was waiting to be called in by
 the King. His Lordship had told him he
 had seen his letter, and denied, that he had
 ever said Mr. Pelham was for Lord Eg-
 mont, but that he (Lord Poulett) was for
 him, and would fairly own it. Mr. Pel-
 ham 7.

1753. ham replied, that it was not material ; but
 Nov. 7. that he (Lord Poulett) should publicly
 declare at the Mayor's feast, that he (Pel-
 ham) was indifferent between the three,
 when his Lordship knew he had so expli-
 citly declared himself in favour of me and
 my friend, was very singular ; as was also,
 his being for Lord Egmont, when he
 (Poulett) had offered and promised both
 his brother and him, to do as they should
 desire him, which, they told him, was en-
 tirely to assist me in every thing. He was
 called in, to the King, before Lord Poulett
 could make an answer. The King asked
 him about this election, and Lord Poulett's
 behaviour, and said, that he knew, he had
 made up with his son before he died, but
 the King could not tell whether the recon-
 ciliation was owing to me or Lord Egmont,
 but that one or the other had a hold upon
 him. Mr. Pelham said to the King, that
 he knew nothing of his own knowledge,
 but he conjectured it might be by both,
 and that, he believed, Lord Poulett's plan
 was, as far as he could contrive, that the
 election should fall upon Lord Egmont

and me. The King said he thought so too, but that was not enough, and then asked him, how he thought it would go? Mr. Pelham answered, that he did not find by me, that I was disposed to give up the interest; but when it came to much expence and much trouble, which must be the consequence, he supposed, as his Majesty did, that their design was to let me see my own election, and in that case I could not say how it would go: for that he did not think he had a right, in the present situation I stood, to insist upon my engaging to go through that expence and trouble, to keep out an opposer, when my own election would be easy without it. I told Mr. Pelham, that I would be at a word with him: that the fact and the interest was exactly, as the King and he understood it: that as to the interest, my seat did not depend upon it—that I had nobody to succeed me, whom I could wish should be the better for it—to this he agreed. I added, that when I did things, I never did them by halves: I professed attachment to him, and that where I had
any

1753.
Nov. 7.

1753.
Nov. 7. any interest, I meant to exert it against those who opposed his administration : that, therefore, I desired him humbly to assure his Majesty in my name, that my election was not the object, for that I would undergo the same trouble and the same expence, to keep out any body that differed with his ministers, as I would, if my own seat was in question. Mr. Pelham promised me, he would make the kindest use of my declarations.

8. I waited upon the Princess, who received me with great goodness : she complained of the little regard paid to her recommendation of the late Prince's servants : she supposed, she said, the ministers meant a great regard to her ; meant it, but had not shewn it, yet.

15. The Parliament opened. I went to hear the speech, which was very unexceptionable. In the House of Lords, the Duke of Newcastle brought in a bill to repeal the act of last session in favour of the Jews. Doctors Secker and Drummond, of Oxford
and

and St. Asaph, spoke for the repeal, with sentiments of charity, comprehension, and liberty of conscience, highly becoming them, and to the honour both of the Church and State.

1753.
Nov. 15.

The Princess sent for me to attend her between eight and nine o'clock. I went to Leicester House, expecting a small company and a little musick, but found nobody but her Royal Highness. She made me draw a stool and sit by the fire-side. Soon after came in the Prince of Wales and Prince Edward, and then the Lady Augusta, all in an undress, and took their stools and sat round the fire with us. We continued talking of familiar occurrences till between ten and eleven, with the ease and unreservedness and unconstraint, as if one had dropped into a sister's house that had a family, to pass the evening. It is much to be wished that the Princes conversed familiarly with more people of a certain knowledge of the world. The Princess's attention to me seems an indication of a good heart, as if she resolved, as far

17.

1753. far as it is in her power, that the Prince
 Nov. 17. should not forget those, who were beloved
 by, and deserved well of, his father.

DEC. 11. I saw the Duke of Newcastle, and con-
 vinced him, that my trouble and expence
 at Bridgewater, was only to keep out a
 man, who opposed those to whom I at-
 tached myself: that my own seat was not
 concerned in it: that the maintaining the
 interest there was, to me, nothing, having
 nobody to bequeath it to. I then told him
 that, in these matters, those who would
 take money, I would pay, and not bring
 him a bill: those, that would not take, he
 must pay; and I recommended my two
 parsons of Bridgewater and Weymouth,
 Burroughs and Franklin: he entered into
 it very cordially, and assured me that they
 should have the first Crown livings that
 should be vacant in their parts, if we
 would look out and send him the first in-
 telligence. I then just touched upon what
 had passed between Mr. Pelham and me.
 He professed his knowledge and approbation
 of the whole. I said, I must think that so
 much

much offered and so little asked, in such hands as theirs, and at a time when boroughs were a commodity particularly marketable, could not fail of removing, at least, resentments, and of obtaining pardon, which language I was willing to hold to my own Sovereign, but to no other. His Grace was very hearty, and cordial, and protested that every thing should be done to shew their true regard and friendship for me. He did seem to lay no great stress upon difficulties with the King. I concluded by telling him, that I had no desires of being in favour with the King, or even well with him, or about him: that all I desired was that he, and his brother might be able to say, that the King left me to them—that was all my price. He answered very cordially to appearance.

1753.
DEC. II.

I waited on the Princess, and staid with her two hours. Much freedom and condescension—rather too much of the first on my side. I endeavoured (by her order) to explain to her the present unhappy divisions in Ireland, and begged her to make the

18.

1753. Prince thoroughly master of them. I told
 DEC. 18. her, that, though I did not doubt but that
 the present heats would somehow, and in
 appearance be allayed; yet, I was sincerely
 grieved at the consequences which might,
 from indisposing numbers of a rich and
 thriving people, most cordially attached to
 the family hitherto, arise in a new and
 young reign: that I did not like the pro-
 spect. She replied, with a visible alteration
 in her countenance to a mixture of fierce-
 ness and grief that I had never seen before,
 —it is true, and we have other very disa-
 greeable prospects. Then, very suddenly,
 she recovered her placidness of look and
 voice. I said, indeed, Madam, I do not
 see any. What at that moment struck her,
 I know not, but it was very forcibly: per-
 haps it might be the Duke. She told me
 some instances of the Prince's feeling the
 subjection he was under. (I have since
 heard, that Prince Edward complains of it,
 and of his brother's want of spirit.) I said,
 it was to be wished he could have more
 company. She seemed averse to the young
 people, from the excessive bad education
 they

they had, and from the bad examples they gave. She appears uneasy, and, indeed, her situation is very disagreeable, and much to be pitied. 1753.
DEC. 18.

The Earl of Home, on Sunday night, brought the account from Ireland, that the Irish Parliament had rejected the bill for the appropriation of the surplusses (which was altered in council, here, by the addition of the King's consent only) by five voices. A dangerous event, and productive of more mischiefs than I shall live to see remedied! 25.

I went to White's, to a ballot for increasing the old club, which passed in the negative, 34 to 10. At an election, the Earl of Huntingdon had one black ball, and the Earl of Hillsborough had three. 1754.
JAN. 8.

I had much talk with Lord Barnard, who gave me strong assurances of the friendship and regard of the Ministers for me: that they would do every thing possible for me with the King: that nobody died to make
S 2 room,

1754. room, and they could not turn out. Many
 JAN. 24. instances of their pusillanimity, without
 his perceiving it himself. He declared his
 and their detestation of Mr. Fox—George
 Grenville's insolence in refusing to come to
 town, and of opposing the number of sea-
 men without the least notice to Mr. Pel-
 ham—Pitt's perfidy, and his party's mak-
 ing up to the Prince—that Barrington
 would not accept of being chosen at Saltash,
 but would be elected at Plymouth, which
 borough was designed for Admiral Clinton,
 Lord Lincoln's uncle—that Fox had asked
 Mr. Pelham for the first vacancy in the
 Treasury for Barrington, but had been ab-
 solutely refused—that Dupplin was to have
 it, and Lord Northumberland was to have
 the first blue ribband.

29. Went to the Duke of Newcastle, and
 got the living of Broadworthy for Mr.
 Burroughs.

FEB. 3. My old and intimate acquaintance, poor
 Mr. Hampden, died suddenly.

I waited

I waited upon the Princess, who was sitting to Leotardi for her picture. Lady Augusta only was with her. 1754.
FEB. 14.

Council at St. James's. The Judges attended and were called in. A charge was delivered to them (the King present, and in his name) by the Chancellor, to be by them given on their respective circuits, against irreligion, immorality, murders, poisonings, &c. This was in consequence of a motion in the House of Lords, by the Bishop of Worcester, for something to be done by the Legislature to this effect, in consequence of the last paragraph of the King's speech, at the opening of the sessions. 28.

As soon as I rose, I received an account that Mr. Pelham died at six o'clock. MARCH 6.

I went to Lord Barnard and staid with him till five in the morning. We had a long conversation, and agreed that, if Mr. Fox came into Mr. Pelham's place, their interest was entirely undone: that Mr. Fox 7.

1754. had declared, he would have it ; that he
 MAR. 7. had served up to it, and it was his due,
 and that he was resolved to give way to
 nobody: that the Pitts, Lyttletons, and
 Grenvilles had written a letter, that, if
 Mr. Fox had it, they would oppose: that
 Lord Bath had sent a message to the Chan-
 cellor, that if Fox came in, old as he was,
 he would muster up a party to oppose:
 that he was sure Mr. Furnese, I, and my
 friends, would also do so: that Fox was at
 Lord Hartington's, between seven and
 eight on Wednesday morning: that Har-
 tington was for him: that he thought the
 Duke of Grafton was so too, who had be-
 haved most infamously to Mr. Pelham, and
 was a most perfidious man: that Mr. Pel-
 ham led a most uneasy life, from his bro-
 ther, as well as from some family affairs:
 that when Lord Barnard died, the Duke
 of Newcastle sent him a letter, directed to
 the Earl of Darlington, and told him he
 must take it as the only mark, then in
 their power, of their particular regard to
 him: that, some time after, the Duke pro-
 posed him, and the Lord Chancellor, to
 the

the King for that honour, who refused both, and told him, he supposed he designed to leave nobody on the Baron's Bench; and now that *he had cheated* Lord Barnard out of the settlement of succession to his estate, he wanted to make him amends by promoting him to be an earl.

1754.
MAR. 7.

The Duke went to Cambridge for ten days, but made his brother, Mr. Pelham, give his word, that he would not stir in this thing, during his absence. Somebody acquaints Lady Yarmouth with it, who puts the King in better temper about it. She bids Mr. Pelham move it to the King: he excuses himself upon his word given to his brother: she says, they must agree that, among themselves; for the King is prepared and expects to hear of it. Mr. Pelham moves it, and it is favourably received. The Duke returns, and the moment he sees his brother, flies into the most violent passion, that he had told him a lye, broke his word, &c. &c. with such intemperance, that Mr. Pelham went away to the Solicitor General, till he cooled.

1754. Friends interposed, but the Duke, another
 MAR. 7. day, flew into the same intemperance to
 Lord Barnard and Mr. Arundell, in presence of his valet de chambre, that he would *fourt* his brother, that he would make him know that he should not dare to do any thing in his absence, &c.—and they did not see one another for a fortnight. This story shews the uneasiness of Mr. Pelham's situation in his private life. Lord Barnard pressed me much, to suggest whom I thought proper to fill Mr. Pelham's place; I said, the Solicitor—that would not do—he would not take it—the people would not bear it. I said, then put a Lord at the head, and make a Chancellor of the Exchequer.—What Lord?—Why not Lord Carlisle?—the best he had heard named. Any but Lord Winchelsea; his behaviour had been such to Mr. Pelham, that he would never sit at a Board with him—that if ever the Duke of Newcastle suffered him in any employment, while he had any power, he should look on him as a very mean creature—that the Duke of Devonshire was sent for, who went to Chatsworth
 last

1754.

MAR. 7.

last Monday, but he doubted if he would come—that Mr. Pelham was my friend sincerely, had often mentioned me favourably to the King, and when I had executed what I had engaged in, about the elections, he hoped to be able to serve me, but would not tell me so, till he was sure he could do it—[this I took for *Moonshine*.] As an instance of Mr. Fox's perfidy to Mr. Pelham, he said, that he set the King upon him to repeal the place-bill, which Mr. Pelham absolutely refused; and now, lately, upon the endeavour to repeal the oath, in the bribery act; the day it was to be moved, he was with Mr. Pelham at two o'clock, and gave him his word, that he would *not* speak for the repeal, and then went to the House and *did* speak for it. Lord Barnard concludes, that he (Fox) went from Mr. Pelham to the Duke, who commanded him to speak; and the rather, because being at the House himself, he saw Lord Sandwich in the gallery, and observed, that, as soon as Fox had spoken, that Lord went away. He said, that Sandwich was a most dishonest man; that the Duke of Newcastle was, at first,

1754.
MAR. 7. first, in raptures of fondness for him ; and when he grew angry with him, Mr. Arundell told Mr. Pelham, 'twas his own fault, he had nothing to complain of ; when he knew, that he betrayed Chesterfield to him, what reason had he to think or to be surpris'd, that he should not betray him to the Duke.

9. Waited on the Princess. We began by laughing about the plays. I then told her that, as I did not design to trouble her long, my message should be short ; and it was only to put her in mind and desire her to remember, that, at this time of changes, and at all others that might happen, my first engagements were to her and her House, to which, when she would let me know her pleasure, all others were to give place, and should be subservient. She received it most kindly, and said, she was thoroughly convinced of it : and that no changes that could happen, ought or should make her and hers forget my friendship and attachment to them. And now, Madam, says I, if your Royal Highness pleases,
we

we will return to the play. But she could not quit the subject—asked what I thought they would do? I said, I had not seen any body, who could be supposed to have any direction—that I did not, in the least, desire to be informed by her Royal Highness, but that, to be sure, she must have some lights about it. She answered, she had none. I said, that was a fault, and that she ought to have them; that the ministry, of late years, had been like children round a fire, telling stories of spirits, till they frightened one another, that they dared not look behind them—that it was become necessary, that she should give them courage—that the people were very solicitous to see something that looked, as if she had a share in it, and that her security was considered—that I would not mention what was said, because particular names were mentioned unfavourably. She replied, what could she do? To get things into the hands of certain people, was as impossible as to move St. James's House; and for any thing else what did it signify? Besides, she supposed they knew where Leicester House stood,

1754.
MAR. 9.

1754.
MAR. 9. stood, it was open. I said, that means should be found to direct them; for, what had happened to Mr. Pelham would, sooner or later, and in less time, happen elsewhere. She said, *alors, comme alors*. I replied, that she would be pleased to consider, that she would have these, and only these hands to work with, if she continued as she was; and it might create some difficulty to begin with those where there was so little correspondence or connection. She said, it was not an agreeable prospect; she hoped the King would do what was best; but she thought Mr. Fox would succeed Mr. Pelham, and she was very sorry for it; and this great dislike of Mr. Fox's coming in, she repeated several times in the rest of our conversation.

12. I had good intelligence that the Princess took what I said to her very kindly, and that she expressed herself favourably of me.

14. Dined at Mr. Stanley's—and here I must take notice of the extraordinary scenes that have passed, since the death of Mr. Pelham.

He died about six o'clock on Wednesday the 6th. Mr. Fox was at the Marquis of Hartington's before eight that morning. Negotiations begun. The Duke of Devonshire was sent for, the same day: he came on Saturday night the 9th. I was informed that, as Mr. Fox was supported by the Duke and the Princess Emily, to succeed Mr. Pelham, the plan to disappoint him was, to refuse the Treasury, but to offer him something that was better than the War Office; which they hoped and believed he would refuse, and then to incense the King against him, and shew him, that Fox would take nothing, that was compatible with the Duke of Newcastle's remaining in power. This I was told, but could not figure to myself, what that something was to be. On Monday the 11th, at night, by the intervention of Lord Hartington, between the Duke of Newcastle and Mr. Fox; the King agreed that the Duke of Newcastle should be at the head of the Treasury, Mr. Legge Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr. Fox Secretary of State. I knew it early the next morning,

1754.
MAR. 14.

1754. ing, and finding *that* was the *something*, I
 MAR. 14. thought it a something that must ruin the
 Duke of Newcastle. On Tuesday night,
 this was declared to the Cabinet Council.
 Wednesday night, the 13th, Mr. Fox had
 a meeting with the Duke of Newcastle,
 where, as it afterwards appeared, they dif-
 fered about the powers that he (Fox) was
 to be trusted with, in his office: for he
 understood, by Lord Hartington, that he
 was to have the direction of the House of
 Commons, and had acquainted me that
 morning, by Mr. Ellis, a Lord of the Ad-
 miralty, that he was to have the absolute
 direction of that house, but under the Duke
 of Newcastle, and as his *man*, who was to
 remain in full power, with the whole confi-
 dence and secret of the King. But finding,
 at this conference with the Duke of New-
 castle, that either this was not meant; or,
 that he was not to be trusted with sufficient
 powers to execute it properly, they parted
 dissatisfied; and the following morning,
 Thursday the 14th, Fox wrote to the Duke
 to be excused from accepting the seals of
 Secretary. This news I heard at dinner,
 and

and was much surpris'd at it, as was the whole town. One side says, he us'd, and wrote the most abject submissions, to get the seals: he says, that he only offer'd, as he really meant, to serve absolutely under the Duke of Newcastle, and only required sufficient powers to be able to do it in the House, without exposing himself.

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MAR. 14.

Mr. Ellis came to me, with the avowal of Mr. Fox, to give me the material part of this account, adding that, as a proof of what Mr. Fox meant, he instanced Mr. Craggs being Lord Sunderland's man, when he had the Treasury, and was in full power with the late King—and also, that he had declared to the Duke of Newcastle, that he never desired to touch a penny of the secret-service money, or to know the disposition of it, farther than was necessary to enable him to speak to the members, without appearing ridiculous. He ended with strong assurances of Mr. Fox's regard and friendship to me, and his desires of having mine in return:—this very strong.

15.

Went

1754. Went to see the Duke of Newcastle.
 MAR. 16. Much company, and no opportunity to talk with him. This day came out a new commission of Treasury, such as I never saw. The Duke of Newcastle in his brother's place, and the four former Commissioners—none of them Chancellor of the Exchequer—that remaining with Lord Chief Justice Lee.

18. Dined with me, the Earls of Coventry, Jersey, Temple, and Hillsborough; Lords Strange, Hobart, and Barrington; Sir Francis Dashwood, and Mr. George Grenville. The talk was, that Sir Thomas Robinson was to be Secretary of State, and that he had refused it—this was not believed. Lord Barrington staid after the company were gone, and told me his transactions with Mr. Pelham, relating to the Treasury, and last Thursday, with the Duke of Newcastle. He states his promises from Mr. Pelham too strong, if what Lord Barnard told me be true—and by his conversation with the Duke of Newcastle, I think he will not
 have

have it this time ; at least, not before Lord Dupplin.

1754.
MAR. 18.

I was to wait upon the Duke of Newcastle, who, with great *seeming* kindness, begg'd me to come to him on Thursday, by nine in the morning : that he was sensible of my friendship, and would endeavour to deserve it ; I said, he certainly did deserve it ; but, I hoped, he would shew the world that I had his. He replied, that he would use all his endeavours.

19.

Went to the Duke of Newcastle's. Began by telling him, that I considered and respected the weight, he must lie under, of different kinds, at this time ; therefore, should never trouble him, but when it was absolutely necessary, and never long : that I was come to assure him of my most dutiful affection, and sincere attachment to him, simply, having no engagements to make me look to the right or the left—also, to repeat my readiness to comply with the engagements I had taken with his brother, which I understood to be with him, and supposed he would continue to ap-

21.

T

prove :

1754. prove : but that, what had happened, made
 MAR. 21. it necessary to recapitulate them, though
 he knew them : that the engagements on
 my side were, to give him all the little in-
 terest I had, towards the electing the new
 Parliament—I did it in the county of Dor-
 set, as far as they pleased to push it—I en-
 gaged also, specifically, to chuse two mem-
 bers for Weymouth, which he desired
 might be a son of the Duke of Devonshire,
 and Mr. Ellis, of the Admiralty—I sup-
 posed he would confirm that nomination,
 but that was nothing to me : I was to
 chuse two, of his nomination, which now
 was fallen to *him* ; so he might name whom
 he pleased : that I was also engaged to ex-
 clude Lord Egmont from Bridgewater, if
 I could, of which I should give him a far-
 ther account, when I knew his pleasure
 upon this first part : because there might be
 mention made of that transaction in the
 closet, and there were some particularities
 attending it, that, 'twas probable, he might
 not be acquainted with. He assured me
 of his friendship and affection, in a solemn
 and dejected manner ; knew his brother

was sincere to me; knew all our engagements; and looked upon himself as party to them; would do every thing in his power to comply with them, and agreed to his brother's nomination of Lord J. Cavendish and Ellis, and hoped they would be agreeable to me.

1754.
MAR. 21.

I proceeded to the article of Bridgewater, which I said was thus—Long after my mutual engagements with Mr. Pelham, when Lord Egmont made that unfriendly attempt, Mr. Pelham asked me, what would become of it? I said, that it need not affect my election, though it might destroy the Whig interest there, for ever: that the interest was very indifferent to me, as I did not expect to live to see another Parliament, and had neither succession, relation, or friend, that I could or wished to leave it to: but I asked him, if it was indifferent to him, that Lord Egmont should come in there. He said, no, to be sure; and hinted, besides his publick opposition, great distaste to him personally, as if something very dishonourable had passed be-

1754.
MAR. 21. tween them : I avoided entering upon that, and said, that as he thought him his enemy, I thought myself obliged to oppose him, where I had any interest ; that I was sorry it came so home to me, but that I designed to do it. Some time after that, he told me that the King asked him, if I seriously designed to endeavour to keep Lord Egmont out of Bridgewater, having been told that it would be a matter of some trouble and expence—Mr. Pelham replied, that he could not speak to his Majesty with any authority, but he thought, I would : that I desired him, when next those matters came to be discussed, to lay me at the King's feet, and tell him, that as I found it would be agreeable to his Majesty, I would spare neither pains nor expence to exclude him : that thus it became my engagement to do it, if I can. That these were the engagements on^d my side with his brother. He saw, that I had not diminished them, and I was fully determined to perform them, let what would fall out on the other side. The Duke was very serious, and dejected, during the whole
con-

conversation, and threw in several warm expressions of approbation, and then said, that he was loaded with too many things at once, for one man to bear: that he had seen, and his brother had told him, how handsome my proceedings had been: that this was the most noble, that could be imagined: that he had transactions with many, but none like this, and begg'd me to say, what his brother engaged me to do; and to tell him all that had passed, and how I understood it. I said, I must be excused; I could not talk about advantages to myself, that were to take their rise from my own assertion only, when there was nobody to contradict me: I was afraid, he would have enough of that from others: it was sufficient that he was satisfied, that I had not whittled down the obligations which I was to perform. He pressed me still more strongly; till I told him, that I would not talk of it at all, without reminding him, that I was absolutely determined to fulfil all the engagements I had taken, and repeated to him, without any regard to what might be done on the other side:

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MAR. 21.

that it was the last transaction of my life, and therefore should suffer no ambiguity : they were too far gone to admit of any alteration ; let what would happen, I could not refine them away ; I thought myself bound by them, and would, at all events, perform them : that my proceeding must be as open and clear to the memory of his brother with him, as they would have been with his brother, if we had had the misfortune to lose his Grace : that, even on this footing, I had very little to say ; for I was sure, he must know that his brother was to remove the personal misrepresentations that I lay under, with the King, at a proper time, and to bring me into the service, in a proper manner : that I never thought of fixing him down to a particular day, or a particular office, because indeed I meant more, I meant to come in, so as to live with them as an humble friend, under their friendship and protection. He said, very seriously and warmly, that he would never assert any thing as done, that he was not sure, was done ; but as to the King's dislike, we might wave that. It was impossible,

sible, but *that* must give way; it could not withstand such a behaviour as mine; we might put it out of the question: with two or three strong expressions more, to that purpose. He then asked me, if his brother had engaged to bring me in, before the elections were over. I said, he had made me no such promise, that I had never bartered with him, so as to pin him down to a day or an hour, my views being to obtain their friendship, &c. as I had before explained to him. He said, he always understood it so; and asked me, as there would be many changes, and that they were obliged to cut the cloth into as many pieces as they could, if I thought, I could come in before the election. I said, I did think I could. He replied, he knew I might be trusted, and would talk very freely to me, and tell me how things stood, since I said, I thought I could come in now: that the Secretary's office was settled, and that he had four positive engagements, which were to Lords Hillsborough, Dupplin, Barrington, and Mr. Nugent: but that he had not, and would not promise any one of

1754.

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1754.
MAR. 21.

them, till it was done and settled with the King. He then expatiated on the King's kindness to him, which, however, he attributed great part of, to the exigencies of the times: that his Majesty had advised him not to promise, and that he replied, that he should take great care not to have himself quoted against himself. I said, I understood that the Secretary's office was designed for Sir Thomas Robinson. He said, yes, and that for the business of the Northern Province, [N. B. He is to have the Southern Province] no man in England understood it better; that he was not happy at explaining himself, but no man knew more, or had better understanding. I said, I knew him very well, he was a worthy man, and I loved him. I said, what if I came into the place he left? He considered a little, and said, very well, pray go on. I said, I would particularly support him in the House, *where* he would chiefly want it. He said, he knew he would. I said, there is my old place, Treasurer of the Navy; that must be vacant: I should like that better than any thing. But, I added, why
should

should I enter into these things, I leave it wholly to your Grace. He said, that, by a strange fatality, the direction of the House of Commons was fallen upon him, who had never thought of it; and he must expect, that the great attempt would be, to shew that he could not direct it: therefore he could not chuse by affection, but must comply with those who could support him *there*. I said, I understood so, and that I thought, I might pretend to some abilities that way: that in the opposition, I was thought of some use there: that in Court, indeed, I never undertook much, because he knew I never was supported: but now, when I should be supported, I hoped I might pretend to be as useful there, as my neighbours. He said, it was incontestably so. I said, that I would derogate from nobody, but considering the superiority of age, the offices I had gone through, and my rank in the world; and adding to that, chusing six members for them at my own great expence, without the expence of one shilling from their side, I thought the world in general, and even the

1754.
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the

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MAR. 21.

the gentlemen themselves, could not expect that their pretensions should give me the exclusion. He said, that what I did, was very great—that he often thought with surprize, at the ease and cheapness of the election at Weymouth—that they had nothing like it. I said, I believed there were few who could give his Majesty six members for nothing. He said, he reckoned five, and had put down five to my account. I said it was so; but this attempt of Lord Egmont's made it six—he would observe, that I did not pretend to chuse two for Bridgewater: but by Lord Egmont's opposition, the two members must be entirely owing to me; for if I did not exert my whole force to exclude him, he must come in, and the court would have but one there. He thanked me, said it was most clear as it was now explained, but he had not considered it in that light. I said I must be excused from talking any more about myself: that I left it entirely to him, and to the King; that I was fully determined to make this sacrifice to his Majesty, let him use me as he pleased: that I would

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keep out of the way of a personal affront : that I knew I had given no just cause of offence, but that I would not justify with his Majesty—that it was enough that he was displeas'd, to make me think that I was in the wrong, and to beg him to forget it : I would not even be in the right against him, and I was very sure, I would never again be in the wrong against him, for which I hop'd his Grace would be my caution. He said, he would with all his heart. He took me in his arms, and kiss'd me twice, with strong assurances of affection and service. I told him, I would go to Mr. Ellis, and acquaint him with his nomination to Weymouth ; he desired I would, and from him tell him, that he agreed to his brother's nomination, but not to say any thing by way of compliment.

N. B. When I came in, the Duke had a quire of paper before him, upon which, at the top I saw my name. He took notes of all that pass'd : call'd in Roberts, shew'd him the paper, and told him, he must write it fair, the notes in one column for his use ;
the

1754. the other, blank, to take the King's plea-
MAR. 21. sure.

23. The Duke of Newcastle resigned the seals, and Sir Thomas Robinson received them, and the following day, those gentlemen kissed the Princess's hand.

27. Dined at Lord Barrington's, and found that, notwithstanding the fine conversation of last Thursday, all the employments were given away.

31. Lord Barnard kissed hands at Leicester House as Earl of Darlington; Mr. Charles Townshend for the Admiralty; and the Lord Chancellor, as Earl of Hardwick.

APRIL 1. Waited on the Princess, in the evening, by her order.—Music. Sir George Lytton as Cofferer, and Mr. George Grenville as Treasurer of the Navy, kissed the King's hand.

2. Went to the Cockpit. Short talk with the Solicitor, who is extremely hurt, dejected,

jected, and dissatisfied with the proceedings.

1754.
APRIL 2^a

Arrived at Eastbury.

8.

Dr. Sharpe and I set out from Eastbury at four o'clock in the morning, for Bridgewater, where, as I expected, I found things very disagreeably framed.

11.

Lord Egmont came, with trumpets, noise, &c.

12.

He and we walked the town: we found nothing unexpected, as far as we went.

13.

Spent in the infamous and disagreeable compliance with the low habits of venal wretches.

{ 14.
15.
16.

Came on the election, which I lost by the injustice of the Returning Officer. The numbers were, for Lord Egmont 119, for Mr. Balch 114, for me 105. Of my good votes, 15 were rejected: 8 bad votes for Lord Egmont were received.

17.

Left

1754. Left Bridgewater—for ever. Arrived at
 APRIL 18. Eastbury in the evening.

24. Arrived at Hammersmith in the evening.

26. I went to the Duke of Newcastle's. Received with much seeming affection : thanks for Weymouth, where I had succeeded : sorrow for Bridgewater, where I had not. I told him, that I would give him a detail of that whole transaction, in as clear and short a manner as was possible, if he was then at leisure to receive it : but if not, and he thought it worth mentioning to the King, I would only give him the heads of it, and he might say, that I was to acquaint him with the proofs of those heads, at a meeting which he had appointed on purpose. Accordingly I began by telling him, that I had done all that was in the power of money and labour, and shewed him two bills for money remitted thither, before I went down, one of 1000*l.* one of 500*l.* besides all the money then in my steward's hands, so that the election would cost me about 2,500*l.* In the next place, if
 this

this election stood, the borough was for ever in Tory hands ; that all this was occasioned by want of proper support from the Court, and from the behaviour of the servants of the Crown. Upon Mr. Pelham's death, seeing the multitude of promotions in which no notice was taken of me, and Lord Poulett acting openly against me, with all his might ; seeing no check given to him, or encouragement to me, they so strongly concluded the Government to be indifferent, that five out of the Custom-house officers gave single votes for Lord Egmont. The next head was—that, in spite of all, I had a fair majority of legal votes, for that the Mayor had admitted eight bad votes for Lord Egmont, and refused fifteen good ones for me ; so that it was entirely in their own hands, to retrieve the borough, and get rid of a troublesome opponent, if they pleased : that if the King required this piece of service, it was to be done, and the borough put into Whig hands, and under his influence, without any stretch of power ; for the cause was so clear and indisputable, that, instead of

1754.
APRIL 26.
want-

1754. wanting their power to support it, nothing
 APRIL 26. but their power could withstand it: that,
 (if it was expected) I would lend my name,
 and my assistance here and in the country, to
 rescue the borough, and deliver it into such
 hands as the King shall approve of; but
 that I, on my own account, would have
 nothing more to do with it. I had ful-
 filled to the utmost the sacrifice of duty
 which I had promised, and proposed to
 myself; I desired no retrieval or acquisition
 of interest, and would absolutely be no
 farther concerned, than as the canal to con-
 vey that borough into his Majesty's dispo-
 sition. He replied, that they understood the
 borough to be lost, and also, that it was
 entirely a party affair: that Lord Shaftes-
 bury had confirmed him in it, and assured
 him, that the violence of the Tories against
 me was much inflamed, by the assistance I
 gave, and offered to give Lord Digby, last
 summer, at his appearance for the county
 of Dorset: that they knew Mr. Balch nei-
 ther would, nor could support Bridgewater:
 that nobody had acted like me, or confi-
 dered the King and his service, in what I
 had

had done, and now offered to do, so nobly and disinterestedly, &c. I said, that what I had done was in consequence of what I had declared before to him, viz. to shew my duty to the King, and my earnest desires to pass the rest of my life in his Grace's friendship and protection: that I had backed my fancy, and left the rest to him. He made great professions of good wishes, good will, best endeavours, &c. &c.—which weigh with me as much as the breath they were composed of.

1754.
APRIL 26.

The Master of the Rolls died yesterday. MAY 20.

I received the Princess's commands to wait on her at Kew the next day. 28.

Went to Kew before eleven o'clock. 29.
The Princess walked with me till two.—Much conversation about the Prince: wished he saw more company—but who of the young people were fit? Wished he had acquaintance older than himself: durst not recommend for fear of offence; while he had Governors, &c. and was under im-
U mediate

1754.
MAY 29. mediate inspection, all, that they did not direct, would be imputed to her. In a year or two, he must be thought to have a will of his own, and then he would, she hoped, act accordingly. Expressed great slight and disregard for those in office, and her usual dislike for the King. We talked of his accumulation of treasure, which she reckoned at 4,000,000/. I told her, that what was become of it, how employed, where and what was left, I did not pretend to guess; but that I computed the accumulation to be from 12 to 15,000,000/. That these things, within a moderate degree, perhaps less than a fourth part, could be proved beyond all possibility of denial; and, when the case should exist, would be published in controversial pamphlets, if troublesome times should arise, which I hoped in God, would never happen. She was very kind and gracious to me. After dinner, Lord Bathurst and Lord Moreton (whom, with his son and daughter, she saw upon the road, and asked to step in) walked with us: they staid but little, and left us with her, Lady Augusta, and the two Princes; we

conversed till near eleven, when I returned. At home I found a letter from Mr. Balch, acquainting me that he had brought Mr. Burroughs with him, to lay the Bridge-water business before the Ministry.

1754.
MAY 29.

We went to town before dinner. I told Messrs. Balch and Burroughs, that having laid the whole affair before the Duke of Newcastle upon my arrival, and he having assured me, that he would appoint a time to go through and settle it, which he had neglected to do, I would not go to him: but I advised them to wait on him, and that I thought the best way would be, that Mr. Balch should write a note to acquaint his Grace, that he had brought Mr. Burroughs with him, who, in conjunction with himself, was best able to give him an account of the injustice the whole party laboured under, who thought themselves well entitled to his Grace's protection, in obtaining that justice, which they were determined to prosecute; therefore desired to know when they might wait on him, to lay that whole transaction before him.

30.

1754. Parliament opened by commission. I
 MAY 31. took the oaths without doors. Very full
 House.

JUNE 1. Waited on the Duke of Dorset. Mr. Balch
 resolved to write the note I advised (of
 which I gave him a draught) and send it
 that night.

3. Went to the Duke of Dorset's, and ac-
 quainted him with my situation with the
 Ministry. Went to the House. Mr. West
 desired to speak with me---said that Mr.
 Balch had written to the Duke of Newcas-
 tle (which letter he shewed me) who had
 appointed to see him on Thursday; but
 the Duke desired to see me first. I told him,
 that I would go to him to-morrow.

4. Went early to the Duke of Newcastle's.
 He told me that he had received a letter
 from Mr. Balch, but desired to advise with
 me, before he saw him: that nothing was
 settled, or he should have sent to me long
 before: that he was against multiplying
 petitions, for reasons obvious to me: that
 he

he knew nothing of Lord Egmont; but had heard that he sometimes talked as if he was willing to battle it: that if it should be made a point, he did not know, if we were certain of carrying it: that Lord Egmont would make a party: that possibly, the Princess might wish he should be let alone, or at least, that those of the late Prince's servants might be for him. I said, that I had laid this affair fully before him already; that he knew, I had pushed it in the country with such an expence and trouble, and so absolutely, considering it a service which the King (as his brother told me) wished: that it had cost me 3,400*l.* that I was fairly chosen, nor would the Returning Officer have dared not to return me, had he not been encouraged by the servants of the administration: that the borough was lost, and lost solely by a Lord of the Bedchamber and the Custom-house Officers: that they might retrieve it, or not, just as they pleased; leave it in Tory hands, or recover it; get rid of Lord Egmont, as an opponent, or keep him in, as a friend, I should neither be satis-

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fied or dissatisfied with it; I should not be obliged by the one, or disobliged by the other. I dealt clearly with him, and desired to be understood without any ambiguity: I had told him this before, and my opinion and resolution was the same. He said, he acknowledged it, and desired me to advise what was to be done. I told him, I could not advise, because I did not know the truth of my own situation; it was time to come to a full explanation upon that head, for it must come to a decision: that I had done all the services in my power, and spent very great sums, of all which they, now, had the benefit: that I had made no bartering bargains, but had done it frankly, with a plain, avowed, and accepted intention to take off the edge of the King's ill-grounded resentment, and prove my attachment to his Grace; to shew myself his immediate friend *a few lines were in this place torn, by an accident, from the manuscript* I replied, it must come to a conclusion, one way or another: if after accepting both offer and execution of all I could do, I was to remain

main under an absolute proscription, and exclusion from all favour, that every other subject of my rank might justly expect, I must do as I could, but it must be explained and fully. He said, he himself liked to deal explicitly, and to understand clearly what was expected: that he had laid my services before the King in the best manner he could; though some people (of whom he would inform me afterwards) had endeavoured to insinuate to his Majesty, that I had not the power I pretended to at Weymouth. I asked him, if he himself did not tell me in that room, that he had declared to the King, that the borough was redelivered into my hands, on the express condition to take his election of two, *for that time only?* *this being the opposite side of the leaf, which was mentioned before to have been torn, a few lines are also here wanting*
 he would do it in the best manner he was able: that it had been insinuated, and he had not said, expressly, that he would; but had not said, he would not: that if I had my view upon any particular

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particular thing, or office, he would move it, and try to get it, in the most cordial manner. I said, as to going to the King, I would postpone that consideration for a minute : that, as to the last, he well knew I never thought of making bargains, that I left that matter totally to him. He said, that there were few things that a man of my rank could accept, and that none of them were vacant. I said, it was true, but I did not impute that to him : that as he was at the head of the Treasury, I should chuse a seat there, if it was vacant, sooner than any thing, but I could not take that ; at the same time I begged he would observe, that I did not expect to be Privy Seal, if Lord Gower should die ; that I did not come to make bargains for this, or that thing, or time : he had forced me, before I went into the West to say, that Sir Thomas Robinson's office, or my own again (both which were *then* vacant) I should like very well ; he gave them away without considering me. I desired nobody to be removed, much less to die. He must think that 2000*l.* a year would not make my fortune,

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tune, with one foot in the grave : that as to rank, I had heard that the King was odd about titles : that I had as much respect for the Peerage as any man, but he could not but see, that, in my situation, without succession or collateral, a Peerage to me, was not worth the expence of new painting my coach : that I desired to pass my life as his attached friend and servant, persuaded that he would, as such, do me favourable justice the first opportunity that offered. He said, that he understood me very well : that I could have no competitor in the House of Commons ; I expected then any employment that I could take, which should first fall ; and added, I suppose you will be disobliged, if you have not the very first that falls. I demurred a little at the oddness and bluntness of the proposition, and did not well conceive the intention of it, but after a little pause, said, —that is a hard word, my Lord, I do not absolutely say that. There may be, possibly, reasons that my real friendship for him might make me acquiesce in ; I will not say so hard a word at once ; the case will

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ſpeak itſelf, but it muſt come to a poſitive iſſue—and now, my Lord, I muſt reſume the offer your Grace made of going immediately to the King, to demand a categorical answer, whether he be determined, after all I have done and ſpent for his ſervice (of which he now reaps the utility) to ſuffer no return to be made me, when opportunity throws it in the way, but to exclude me from all the advantages I am entitled to, in common with the reſt of his ſubjects, both by my rank and my ſervices? as to his reſolution, it muſt be known, but as you profeſs your ſincere deſire, that I ſhould be properly conſidered, it lies upon you to do it in the beſt manner, and at the propereſt time: I do not preſcribe to-morrow or the next day, this week or the next; but as this is the only obſtacle, it muſt be known, abſolutely, and in a reaſonable time: if I am proſcribed from amongſt all my fellow-ſubjects, I muſt, and ſhall ſubmit to the King's pleaſure with all poſſible reſpect: but as your Grace has re-aſſured me, that you have repreſented what I have done, fairly and
favour-

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favourably to him ; till I know it from your Grace, I cannot believe that so just and generous a Prince would accept a poor subject's offers of service, and suffer him to carry them into execution, at so great an expence, with a resolution absolutely to exclude him from all sorts of common favour. I thought it would be what never happened before, or to me only. He said, he would do every thing in his power, and did not imagine it could end so. I told him, that I heartily wished it might not, but it must end one way or another, it must not remain as it was ; for I was determined to make some sort of figure in life ; I earnestly wished it might be under his protection, but if that could not be, I must make some figure ; what it would be, I could not determine yet ; I must look round me a little, and consult my friends, but some figure I was resolved to make. He said, he would do his best to settle it to my satisfaction ; he did not think it could end in a proscription. I said, I ought to hope so, for my own sake ; but if he should not be able to obtain common indulgence

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dulgence for a friend, whom he favoured and thought useful, and who had given such convincing proofs of his utility, I should be sorry for myself indeed, but I should also be sorry for him too; it was being upon a very indifferent footing indeed, I should therefore be very sorry for it, upon his account, as well as my own. He said, he would do his utmost to prevent it from coming to that, for, *now*, he understood me thoroughly. He then desired we might advise together about the Bridgewater affair. I said, I thought that all attempts to quiet the Whig party there would be vain, without beginning to turn out the officers. He seemed very unwilling to go so far; and at last said, that he knew I was a man of honour, and he would trust me with a secret, which I must never reveal, not even to the Duke of Dorset; and then, after a multitude of precautions, and exacting engagements of honour from me not to divulge it; he told me, that the truth was, that he had a mind that this petition should not go on; and if I could assist him in bringing it about, he should

be much obliged to me :—but if it should be known, it would be reported and believed that he had made up with Lord Egmont, which was by no means true; for, upon his honour, he had neither spoken to him, or seen him, or had any negociation with him; for he knew very well, that if the King was informed that the town was resolved to petition, and there were the least grounds to throw out Lord Egmont, he would order him to push it with the utmost vehemence. I said, I had often told him it was no cause of mine; be it how it should, I should not take it as a matter of payment or dissatisfaction: that I would certainly keep his secret, which, however, every body would see through, if no justice was done: that I would do all I could with Mr. Balch and the town, to quiet them; but that, without punishing the officers, I feared he would find it impracticable, which he would better judge of when he saw Messrs. Balch and Burroughs on Thursday. What, if he offered the alternative, and tried to make the giving up the officers, the price of dropping all farther

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JUNE 4. farther proceedings? He said, it was a good thought, and he must scramble off as well as he could. So we parted, with usual protestations.

6. I saw Messrs. Balch and Burroughs, who had been at the Duke of Newcastle's. His Grace had talked them over, but nothing positive, not so much as punishing the officers, but he told Mr. Balch that he would send Lord Dupplin to him—While they were with me, Lord Dupplin was at Mr. Balch's, and soon after they met, talked very amicably, and agreed to meet here on Tuesday. This haste to see Mr. Balch, was in order to learn all he could, that he might talk it over with the Duke at Clermont, between Saturday and Tuesday.

10. Went to Lord Hillsborough's. Much talk—first about Bridgewater election:—could not conceive the Duke of Newcastle could have the least difficulty in supporting a petition, and wondered he was not most desirous of it. If not, my friends would certainly support me—I doubted—He said,
that

that though the tide of politicks might have a little separated people, so that they might not be so ready to follow me in every political point ; yet in any thing personal, he could not doubt, but that the many that had lived with, and been obliged to me, would support me heartily and with all their power. I still doubted. He said that my relations, the Grenvilles and Lytteltons would, and he knew it from themselves.

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We thence fell upon other subjects, and he desired to know of me, what I thought of their present situation. I said, I could not judge of it, because I did not know it, but it seemed to me very disjointed. He said, I could not imagine any thing like it : every body of consequence was dissatisfied. I said, I could not conceive that, as they had just had every thing divided amongst them. He said, it was so for all that ; he not only knew it to be so, but from his intimacy with them, he knew their reasons, which he would tell me, and would begin with Mr. Pitt. That, indeed,

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deed, he had no intimacy with him, but was told them by his bosom friend Mr. George Grenville, who was also his : that, indeed, if Mr. Pitt meant money, I might well think, he ought to be satisfied ; but, his passion was not money ; it was ambition, power ; of which he had no share. This made him very uneasy, which was highly increased by the late promotions. Instead of being acquainted with, and consulted about what was to be done, he was only informed what was done ; instead of offering him his share, he received news, that his most inveterate enemy was made Secretary of State ; the next post brought him an account that Mr. Fox had refused the Seals, and that Sir Thomas Robinson had accepted them. I said, that I supposed, that they did not think Mr. Pitt could possibly undertake an office of fatigue, or an office of business from the state of his health. He said, that Mr. Pitt replied, he himself ought to be the best judge of that : besides, Mr. Legge, who could have no pretence to go before him, was made Chancellor of the Exchequer, just in the same manner.

manner. They should have offered him at least. They should have made him well with the King, who was his enemy, which they had never taken the least care to do. That Legge, George Grenville, and Fox were his (Hillsborough's) intimate friends, and he knew their thoughts from themselves; that as to Legge, he acknowledged that he was promoted, though he did not much desire it; however, when he was placed there, he thought that he should be supported: he expected to be as well with the Duke of Newcastle as any body, though he was to act an under part: but he found himself, instead of better, not to be so well with him, as the rest of his colleagues; that he knew nothing of what was doing, or to be done, and was not considered at all in any thing: that George Grenville was in the same way of thinking, and expected very different treatment, from his rank and consideration in the House of Commons: besides, if he had less reason to be displeased, nothing would make him easy, while his great friend, Pitt, was dissatisfied: that as to Fox he need say no-

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thing : Fox says, he was offered the seals with proper powers to be at the head of the House of Commons ; and the next day, he was told with some roughness, that he was to have none, nor was he to meddle with the conduct of the House, farther than as it related to his office : that he might have accepted with honour, even upon those last conditions ; yet having been offered, and having accepted the office upon the first ; he must have been a mean rascal to have submitted to the degradation. I asked him, if, considering the suspicious temper of the Duke of Newcastle, he thought the Duke would be willing to leave Fox in the closet, in any station, after what had passed. Lord Hillsborough replied, he believed not ; but that Fox would meddle very little, and if he gave no particular offence, he thought the Duke could not get him out ; and added, that he and the rest of them should take very little share in business, unless there was more trust and communication, than had hitherto appeared.

13.

I saw Messrs. Balch and Burroughs, who
had

had been with the Duke of Newcastle, and were promised by him, in the strongest terms, that our party should be supported.

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JUNE 13.

Lady Orford staid with me above three hours. Her business was to lament her misfortunes, for that Mr. Shirley and she were parted, of which she gave me a long account: the whole of which was, that he insisted upon something independent, and that she would part with nothing out of her own power.

19.

Lord Dupplin came to talk about Bridgewater; but first, he informed me, that he had told the Duke of Newcastle what I had said about myself; that I had offered a free and unreserved friendship, and that, after what I had done, I thought myself well entitled to the treatment and favour of a friend, and that it must be decided one way or another: that his Grace seemed to desire it, as much as I did. Lord Dupplin added, that he understood it would be settled, and though the Duke did not explain himself positively, yet his Lordship considered

21.

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dered it as a thing fixed, and which would soon be over. I gave him proper thanks, and said, it could not remain as it did; that the Duke was so generous as to press me to say, what his late brother was engaged for. That I would not speak to my own advantage, when the only person, who could contradict me, was dead: that, indeed, there was no bargain for particular things; friendship and connection was what I asked, and Mr. Pelham said, he was equally desirous of it. Lord Dupplin said, he knew that Mr. Pelham, for more than a year before he died, looked upon our union to be as settled, as any connection he had, and always added, that I was the only man of business they had, and he was resolved to attach me to them. I replied that, though I had not said so much to the Duke, Mr. Pelham declared that I had a good deal of marketable ware (parliamentary interest) and that, if I would empower him to offer it all to the King, without conditions, he would be answerable to bring the affair to a good account: that, if his engagement had not been taken,

the

the nature of the thing plainly spoke it. Service is obligation, obligation implies return. Could any man of honour profess friendship, accept the offers of his friend's whole services, suffer those services to be carried into execution, avail himself of their whole utility, and then tell that friend, he could not, or he would not make him any return? Could there be such a character? Supposing this gentleman had a master, whose affairs were promoted by these services, the concurrence of whom was necessary to this return, but who was indisposed to his friend; could he answer it to his friend or to the world, when he found his master's resentments irremovable, if he did not advise his friend to take back his offers, and apply them as he might think best, unless he chose to risk them on an adventure, for the performance of which he could not be answerable? These things spoke themselves, and all mankind must see them in the same light: that, be it how it would, it must be thoroughly understood by the world—If this connection, and the acceptance of my effectual

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JUNE 21. services, was not ratified by effects that justified them, I must be contented to pass for a dupe, and they, for sharpers; the world would justly call me fool, and them, by a much harsher name; but for myself, I was prepared to bear it all, let what would happen. I found means to repeat this particular deduction and conclusion, two, or three times, in the subsequent conversation. We then fell upon Bridgewater—the Duke of Newcastle would do every thing to support the party; he demurred upon petitioning, only, for fear of making it an handle for forming an improper connection at setting out. I knew that those in considerable places differed among themselves, and almost all disowned immediate dependence, obligation, and allegiance to the Duke, and that they might, on such an occasion, perplex and disturb his Grace. I said, I understood him, and after having strongly represented to him that, what I undertook, I had performed, since he acknowledged I was fairly chosen: that I meant it a service; if they were satisfied, I was: if they desired to make effectual, what their own dependents had

had obstructed, I would give my assistance, but that I was wholly unconcerned in their determination: I added, that I did not think this case was liable to the inconveniencies which he had mentioned: for that I had reason to think, that Mr. Fox would not espouse, even privately, Lord Egmont against me, though I had not seen him since my return from the West. That I had been pressed by several with offers of service, to know if I would petition: that the Grenville's, &c. had given me to understand, that they would not only be for me, but actively so: that I would own to him in confidence, that I myself wished there might be no petition: that the Duke might think it no ill bargain, if he could *get* Lord Egmont, by suffering him to sit only, without any farther pretensions upon his Grace, and, perhaps, I might think so too: but I thought it impracticable; for if I was in his Grace's confidence, I should be obliged to tell him, that, if Lord Egmont subscribed to that bargain; when the fourteen days for petitioning were expired, if the Duke did not engage to gratify his Lordship (which

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would be no easy matter) the fifteenth day, it was my opinion, that he would break with his Grace on the sixteenth. Lord Dupplin said much of Lord Egmont's falseness and ill behaviour to Mr. Pelham, who told him, that he was so gross a flatterer, when he brought him in for Weobly, that it was quite shocking, and Mr. Pelham shewed him a letter from Lord Egmont, in which he writes, that he was happy in having found a man, in whom he could have an *implicit faith*, with a great deal more of this kind. He then entered into the means of managing this affair of Bridgewater. I said, I could say but little to it, after what I had said; that my being in their confidence, or not, must and would chiefly decide of the complexion of that business. He replied, he always looked upon that as done, and to be sure, that must be decided, before any measures could be taken with effect. I told him that one way came across me, and only one, to make all things easy, but charged him, as a man of honour, never to mention it, as a thought or suggestion of mine; because it was not

so much as my wish, and the suggestion might be construed to imply the wish: that the expedient was, if any thing should happen, or be formed, to make room for me in the service, before the meeting of Parliament; that would vacate my seat, and I could neither petition nor stand for Bridgewater—but I enjoined him never to mention this (for it struck him much, and made him, for a few minutes, very thoughtful) as coming from me, for I really meant it, only as a pleasantry, between him and me, that rose on a sudden.

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JUNE 21.

I went to town to see Lord Dupplin, about the Bridgewater business. He said, he had told the Duke of Newcastle all that had passed between us, and had explained the nature of the friendship I offered, in contradistinction to the inconnection and inconfidence of others in office: that the Duke approved of, and desired it, and meant to effect it: that he pressed his Grace to end it with the King; for when the proscription was taken off, and the King had accepted me,

JULY 2.

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me, the Duke might then declare, that I was in his confidence, and under his protection, and that he was at liberty, and would do me justice, the first opportunity that might happen: and then he (Lord Dupplin) could have the pleasure of communicating every thing, he knew and heard, confidentially to me, and should consider me and himself, and the Attorney and Stone, (which last was present when he talked to the Duke) as one person. I said, I could not imagine any reason why Stone should be indisposed towards me. He cried, indisposed! very much the contrary; he desires it greatly, and so do all the Duke of Newcastle's friends. I replied, if it ended otherwise, it would be the most scandalous transaction that ever appeared to the world, and appear it must. He said, it could not end ill—he looked upon it as done, for he desired me to observe, that the Duke did not hold up the King at all, or so much as insinuate that he apprehended any difficulty from his Majesty. I begged Lord Dupplin to press the Duke to make an end of it, before I went into the West; and

that I would wait on him before I sat out, and earnestly requested that it might be entirely settled.

1754.
JULY 2.

I went to the Duke of Newcastle's. After his Grace had talked indecisively about Bridgewater, of which I gave him the hearing, I desired to know positively, what I was to expect: he replied, and told me, that he had laid all my services before the King in the fullest manner, but it did not satisfy him: that his Majesty endeavoured to lessen my credit at Weymouth—that the Duke replied, that he thought his Majesty himself had told him, that the borough was put into my hands, at the renewal of the charter, on condition of his naming two members for that time only. The King could not deny it; but upon the whole, he would not receive me to any mark of his favour. I said, that, as it was so, I received his Majesty's displeasure with that respect and resignation, which became me towards my Sovereign: that, after such offers received, and suffered to be carried into execution, at the expence of nearly 4000*l*. I did not believe such

18.

1754. such a conclusion had ever happened : but
 JULY 18. I submitted, and must act as opportunity
 and accidents should direct. The Duke expressed much sorrow ; protested the sincerity of his endeavours, and said, that what would not do one day might do another. I replied, that I could not judge of that ; but if he imagined, that I would remain postulating among the common herd of suitors, and expose myself to suffer twenty unworthy preferences more, to get, perhaps, nothing at last, certainly nothing that I wanted, —it was impossible ; I would as soon wear a livery, and ride behind a coach in the streets. I repeated these words again in the course of the conversation, We parted very civilly.

19. I called on the Attorney General, and told him what had passed, and desired him to be a witness, that I looked upon myself, as free from all engagements, after such a return ; and I expected to have no hints thrown out of breach of faith, &c. whatsoever party I might take. He replied, that I was undoubtedly free, but he could
 not

not believe, it would end so. He protested, he was sure that the Duke of Newcastle had represented every thing in the most favourable manner, though he should not wonder, if I did not believe it. I said, that, all things considered, it was pretty hard to believe it. He replied, he agreed to that : and if they, on their side, did not return to the charge, till they carried their point, he would believe so too : they must do it, &c. which was very civil and insignificant.

1754.

JULY 19.

I went to Eastbury.

26.

Returned to Hammersmith.

SEPT. 25.

I called upon Lord Hillsborough, and had much free talk with him. Nobody in office satisfied, or would act beyond their particular department. Nobody empowered, or that would take the lead. Mr. Pitt had seen the Duke of Newcastle for an hour, and returned to Bath. The Duke would have entered with him into the American expedition, to dislodge the French from the Ohio : Mr. Pitt said, *your*

OCT. 8.

1754. *Grace*, I suppose, *knows I have no capacity*
 Oct. 8. *for these things*, (being dissatisfied that he was not made Secretary of State) and therefore I do not desire to be informed about them. He is likely to resign, but not to go into opposition. Fox and Pitt are so far agreed, that they are willing, that the first should be at the head of the Treasury, and the other Secretary of State; but neither will assist the other. I asked, if that was not a virtual union. Lord Hillsborough replied, 'twas near it: Mr. Pelham had the address to play the one against the other; but the Duke had not. He had had some talk with the Duke about this, who told him, all would go well, let them do the duty of their offices. The Duke said, he had informed the King, that he had not much to expect from his first rank in the House of Commons (meaning Fox, Pitt, Legge, Grenville) but that he had an excellent second rank (meaning him [Hillsborough,] Barrington, Dupplin, Nugent, Charles Townshend, &c.) That West, Secretary of the Treasury, had been with him, and expressed his opinion that they could
 not

not go on : that he saw many of the city, and it was an unanimous opinion they could not—that opinion, however founded, was of great weight : that he had told this to the Duke, who said, you know nothing of the matter, all will go well. The King does not speak to the Duke of Dorset ; yet, it is possible, he may go again to Ireland. The Duke of Grafton wishes to send his son-in-law, the Earl of Hertford, thither. All this is astonishing !

1754.
OCT. 8.

From Oct. 10, 1754, to April 22, 1755, the Diary seems to have been discontinued.

I passed the evening at Leicester House. The Princess was clear, that the Duke of Newcastle could not stand as things were. She desired it might be understood, that her house had no communication with Newcastle House ; but not that she said it, because it would be told at St. James's, at which place she desired to avoid all disputes.

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MAY 7.

Mr. Pitt came to Lord Hillsborough's, where was Mr. Fox, who stepping aside, and

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MAY 9.

and Mr. Pitt thinking he was gone, the latter declared to Lord Hillsborough, that all connection between him and Mr. Fox was over—that the *ground was altered*—that Fox was of the Cabinet and Regent, and he was left exposed, &c.—that he would be *second to nobody*, &c. Mr. Fox rejoining the company, Mr. Pitt, being heated, said the same and more to him; that if Fox succeeded, and so made way for him, he would not accept the seals of Secretary from him, for that would be owning an obligation and superiority, which he would never acknowledge: he would owe nothing but to himself;—with much more in very high language, and very strange discourse. Mr. Fox asked him, what would put them upon the same ground; to which Pitt replied, a winter in the Cabinet and a summer's Regency.

10. Pitt talked the same over again to Lord Hillsborough, who endeavoured to soften matters; but Pitt was unalterable, and desired Lord Hillsborough, as a friend, to take an opportunity of telling Mr. Fox, that

that he wished there might be no farther conversation between them on the subject ; that he esteemed Mr. Fox, but that all connection with him was at an end.

1755.

MAY 10.

☞ In 1741 the King was at Hanover, and the French marched 42,000 men into Westphalia. Buffy was sent with a convention of neutrality for Italy, which was signed in September 1741—the consequence was, that 15,000 Spaniards passed under Haddock's nose. If the same should now happen, and a neutrality for both Indies be demanded !

Notwithstanding what had passed at Lord Hillsborough's, Messrs. Fox and Pitt have had another conference, not so alienating, but not satisfactory. I have seen neither, and so do not know the particulars.

15.

I was with the Princess, by her order : we had much conversation, both in the morning and evening, in which, I think, all was said that my memory could suggest

27.

Y

to

1755. to me upon the present state of affairs—the
 MAY 27. weakness, meanness, cowardice, and baseness of the Duke of Newcastle—to all which she echoed in the strongest terms—the impossibility of his standing without a new system—of this too, she declared, she was fully convinced, and that she was so persuaded of his falseness and low cunning, that if she designed to go into the next room, she would not trust him with it, if she meant it should not be known. I laid before her the necessity of a new system, for that I found people would not bear the present: that I believed no new one was formed, but that I saw there was such a disposition, as must end in one, of some sort or another: that what retarded it most was, that people were guessing at *her*, and were tender of pushing any thing that she might be disobliged by, and resent another day: that I myself had entered into no engagements with any body, and was not fond of doing it, but that I was upon such a foot with the most efficient, that they would scarcely come to any fixed plan, without acquainting me with it: that I thought

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thought it absolutely necessary to attempt a settlement, not only for the present, but which might, with small alterations, last, when a *certain event* took place; for it would be a melancholy thing, if under a young King and the pressure of a war, when efficiency and immediate action was required, instead of consulting *what* was to be done, we must be struggling *who* should do it: that, therefore, it was to be wished, that some system, so mixed as not to be disagreeable to her, should be conveyed to the Duke of Newcastle; with intimation that, if he would embrace it, he might not only be supported *now*, but find protection *another day*: if he refused it, he must be left to his enemies, and expect no support either now, or then: that my meaning was, to lead the King into it, without his knowing it, and make him consent under the idea of making his own affairs easy, and that he should not know from whence it arose, or the extent of it: that I wished to avoid all disturbances; and it was that, and that alone, which made me think of any thing, that was to continue such a crea-

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ture as the Duke of Newcastle at the head of affairs, even for an hour, either now or then. She signified her entire approbation of all I had said, by several short interruptions, and then said, that she was, and long had been much affected with the melancholy prospect of her own and her son's affairs: that such a settlement, as I mentioned, was doubtless much to be desired, but how was it to be obtained? there were a hundred good reasons that tied her hands from interfering with the King; those of her children were obvious enough; and if she was to stir, it would make things worse; she saw no way to extricate herself. I replied, that the case was extremely delicate: that whenever I thought of it, I laid it down, that something must be done, and yet, that she must neither be seen nor heard in it: that, upon so delicate a foundation, such a sort of confidence was required to act, that was above my capacity, and such a one that I did not aspire to: that I thought men were wanting: that, I was satisfied, the nation had, still, great resources, and that even parts were not wanting, but character

rafter and experience in business was : that the Duke of Newcastle had the ball at his foot, when his brother died ; and he might have made a lasting and advantageous settlement for himself and the country, but he had not endeavoured to oblige one efficient man, besides his known enemies : that there was no violence, no oppression, no particular complaint, and yet the nation was sinking by degrees, and there was a general indisposition proceeding from the weakness and worthlessness of the minister, who would embrace every thing, and was fit for nothing. She answered, that she was glad to hear me say that the nation had still great resources—for people told her it was undone—but she did not think so, yet, if there were both resources and parts too, and they could not both be exerted, what would they avail ? She saw, and much lamented the consuming state of the nation, which I mentioned : it was of infinite consequence how a young reign began, and it made her very uneasy. She was highly sensible how necessary it was, that the Prince should keep company with men :

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she well knew that women could not inform him, but if it was in her power absolutely, to whom could she address him? What company could she wish him to keep? What friendships desire he should contract? Such was the universal profligacy, such the character and conduct of the young people of distinction, that she was really afraid to have them near her children. She should even be in more pain for her daughters, than for her sons, if they were private persons; for the behaviour of the women was indecent, low, and much against their own interest, by making themselves so very cheap. This and much more (with no very high opinion of the King) took up above two hours. About six, after drinking coffee with Lady Charlotte Edwin, we were sent for to walk. The ceremony of the day seemed to be, to leave the Princess to me, for the young Princesses and the company always kept before, or behind us. Having made the tour of the ground, and being shewn the improvements, she proposed going into the King's gardens: there, she again renewed the same subjects; we
talked

talked of several private characters ; the general indisposition ; the danger of the war : and then of the inability of the Duke of Newcastle, her dislike and contempt of him ; the impossibility of his standing, as he was now circumstanced. Something should be thought of, and soon—the summer was the time, the winter was not so proper for concerting measures. I replied that, indeed, in summer people's steps were not so much observed, and, particularly, in this summer, as the King was abroad. She again expressed her astonishment at the Duke of Newcastle's conduct, and said, she could not conceive who were, really and truly, the persons whose advice he chiefly depended upon. I replied, I had never heard of any body, but those whom public fame had made notorious, who were Messrs. Murray and Stone. She said, if it was so, they were very bad politicians, unless it was true, that they were at bottom the Jacobites, they were so strongly represented to be, and gave their advice to carry on the consuming system. I said, it was impossible ; for their under-

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standing, their actions, and, above all, their interest made it so. She answered, that nobody but God could judge of the heart, and that, for her part, she did not give any credit to those reports: she spoke in favour of Murray's abilities; but nothing, one way or the other, of Stone. She mentioned two things, which were remarkable from the inferences: the first, talking of what the Duke of Newcastle ought to do; but then says she, he will say, the *party* will not come into it; the *party*, this; and the *party*, that: but I could never understand what the party was; I have endeavoured to learn, and I could never find, that the party was any thing else, but the Duke of Devonshire, and his son, and old Horace Walpole. The Duke of Devonshire was the cause of the Duke of Cumberland's being in the Regency this time; and he insisted upon his being left sole Regent, at a meeting, where were the Duke of Newcastle, the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Grafton, Lord Waldegrave, and old Horace Walpole. The second was, on my commending the Prince's figure, and saying he was much taller

taller than the King, she replied, yes, he was taller than his uncle. I said, in height it might be so, but if they measured round, the Duke had the advantage of him. She answered, it was true, but she hoped it was the only advantage that he, ever, would have of him.

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In the half hour between her Royal Highness's dressing and dinner, Mr. Cresset did me the favour to come to me, and to my very great surprize, entered, at once, into the wretched management and inabilities of the Duke of Newcastle: he repeated what the Princess had before said, and added, the monstrous expence of the present armament, and yet insufficient; it was well made by those who had it in charge, when they were permitted to act; but it was infinitely blameable in the Minister, who delayed that permission so long, and thereby occasioned this vast, unnecessary expence in arming. Why not be prepared, or at least forward in your preparations, in the autumn? Then every thing might have been done completely, and at
the

1755. the usual expence. It was impossible to
 MAY 27. stand as it was—for the same would happen,
 when the war came upon the Continent in
 Europe—Hanover must be protected, but
 it would be in the same way; a number
 of expensive, useless engagements entered
 into in a hurry, too great for the country
 to bear; and yet, by that hurry, ineffectual
 to the end, which might be attained by a
 reasonable plan, and upon reasonable terms.
 Just so was the last war, ruinous in the
 expence, and unsuccessful in the end, for
 want of consideration and a reasonable plan
 at the beginning. But it was easily seen,
 that *all was going one way*: that it was a
 sad prospect for those who wished well to
 the Prince: that the poor Princess was
 very uneasy about it.

☞ All this is so; and it is as certain, that
 the Duke is full as much indisposed to the
 Duke of Newcastle as the Princess; and
 the amount of all will be—*Nothing*.

The King, the Princess, the Duke, and
 the chief people in employment; all, ex-
 cept

cept the King ; all avowedly hate and despise the Duke of Newcastle. The King delegates his power to him. The Princess and the Duke (from trifling dislikes in my opinion), and the principal people in employment, from this strange situation of the Royal Family, and from great unwillingness to venture their emoluments, cannot unite in bringing about the *single thing* in which, perhaps, they all agree. Is not this political prodigy a surer prognostick of the fall of a state, than a comet ?

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During a visit at Horton for two days, I had much conversation with Lord Halifax. We entirely agreed in the insufficiency, falseness, and meanness of the Duke of Newcastle's administration : and we much lamented the imminent necessity of the contrary conduct, in the present dangerous state of our country. The remedy we could not find, though we agreed that neither the Duke nor the country could go on, without other management or other hands. I advised his Lordship to think of it seriously. He said, the Duke of Newcastle

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was

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was his near relation ; he wished him well, had served him honestly, had asserted the rights of his own office, but had entered into no cabals against him : that the Duke had sometimes used him kindly, and sometimes otherwise ; had sometimes obliged him, and, sometimes, granted in such a manner as not to oblige: that he had frankly told his Grace all this, and had pressed upon him, that it was impossible to proceed with these hands, obliged as he might think them ; but disobliged as they themselves thought, or, at least, professed to think : that he would press him again, though without hopes of success. Lord Hallifax owned, he saw nothing to help the Duke, but my friends, Talbot and Dashwood, and me. I said, that I did not know how he could gain us, unless he could shew us a real intention to extricate this country from the distress, he himself had so much contributed to bring upon it ; and then, that he (Hallifax) should have the seals, with sufficient authority to carry those intentions into execution, or else, that he would engage with us to force his
Grace

Grace to a compliance. He then added, that he had represented the usage he had met with, to the Duke, both as his near relation and his friend—The unworthy preferences—Lord Holderness, incapable—then, Mr. Fox—then, Sir Thomas Robinson, every way most unfit—his making Mr. Fox of the Cabinet, which he before had refused him, under pretence that the King would not consent to it—his allowing Mr. Pitt's claim to the seals of Secretary, by making excuses, and laying it wholly upon the King's dislike—his expressing much alienation to Messrs. Pitt, Fox, and the Grenvilles, on account of the arrogance of the first, and of the falseness and cunning of the second, who would deceive the Duke of Newcastle by pretending to be his friend. I said, that the Duke would deceive himself, for Mr. Fox did not pretend to do it, and would be sorry to have it thought so, as he had declared, he neither had, nor would have any obligation to him. But that it behoved him (Hallifax) not to acquiesce under the pretensions of either : for, by that means, they
 would

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1755. would become realities against him, and,
 MAY 29. in case of any alterations (which appeared unavoidable) they would acquire a foundation, if not success. He said, that, unless the Duke of Newcastle made a new system, he could not go on; but if those should succeed, it would be a very flimsy and short administration, for neither the nation, nor the people of quality would confide in either of them. Lord Hallifax added, that he had felt the danger of suffering those groundless pretensions to be established, but knew not how to prevent them—and therefore he had told the Duke of Newcastle, that, since he saw his Grace would not trust him in business, and was continually putting people before him, he expected some mark of distinction, and demanded the Garter: that the Duke boggled at it, and said Lord Carlisle was to have it: that Lord Northumberland insisted upon it: that he would do his best, but that he (Hallifax) had no friend at Court but himself. To which Lord Hallifax replied, he did not know what his Grace meant by that—that, indeed, he never thought it necessary

necessary to apply to whores and knaves ; but, in short, he must have it, or quit his office—he did not care it should appear to be done in a pique, for both their sakes, and therefore desired the Duke would propose it, and insist upon it, to the King ; and if his Majesty absolutely refused it, that the Duke, upon honour, would tell him so, and he would then take a proper time to quit the service, which would prevent its appearing to the world, that the Duke had not the power of a Minister, or that he himself had laid down, out of resentment. The Duke said, he would not for the world draw such a thing upon his Majesty, but that he would do his best to serve him. I said, I wished he had put his weight rather upon a share of government, and a power to serve his country at this exigence. He replied, it was nothing ; he was persuaded that the Duke had never mentioned it to the King. He testified much kindness and protestations of friendship, and desired to unite and act with me and mine. He also observed, that the Duke trusted the Chancellor no more than him,

and

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1755. and suffered difference of opinion from him,
 MAY 29. as impatiently.

30. I had a long conversation with Lord Temple, who took great pains to persuade me, that they were all very well satisfied with Mr. Fox; though to jealous minds there might be pretence for suspicion, from the appearances and the consequences of their different conduct; they are desperate with the King, and have not yet been able to get possession, either of Leicester House or of the Duke of Cumberland.

JUNE 29. Mr. Fox spent the morning with me. We had a good deal of talk to no purpose. None of them dare come to any resolution. He was assured by the Duke of Argyll, that Stone was not well with the Princess. He heard by West, that the Duke of Newcastle, upon West's pressing him to make up with him (Fox), said, that Stone was always advising the same thing, and had lost himself at his own court on that account. He said, that the Duke was with the Princess on the 22d instant, and proposed

posed to her, taking the Prince with him to Portsmouth; which she approved of, and desired him to ask the Prince himself—he did so, and the Prince agreed to it, but not with so much eagerness as might be expected. On Monday, Lord Waldegrave sent word he would wait on the Duke to settle the journey on Tuesday morning; but, in the mean time, the Princess had altered her opinion, and sent to put it off, on pretence it might give umbrage to the King. Fox resines, and is much dissatisfied with this transaction: the Duke does not, and says it is only from a resolution she has taken, not to be accountable for any thing with his Majesty. But Fox is very uneasy, and very solicitous to unite the Duke and the Princess, which is the only sure ground; but I think it will be exceedingly difficult, if not impossible to effect.

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Lord Hallifax told me, that the Duke of Newcastle had mentioned his resolution of coming to some settlement: that Mr. Pitt did not absolutely insist upon being Secretary; but that there was a great unwilling-

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ness to speak out: that he (Hallifax) did not wonder at it. If the Duke was not in earnest, why did he send him such positive terms or desire a conference? Could he think, that Pitt would open himself upon hints, and to such a messenger as Mr. Yorke? That the Duke, in a former conference, had expressed himself, “how much concern it gave him, that I should make a speech against him—his resolution to make up with me—enquiries when I went into Dorsetshire, and that, in this conference, he cried out of himself, we must have Dodington.” Thus far Lord Hallifax—and to render intelligible what follows, and may follow, with relation to Mr. Pitt, I will throw out what I know of his situation all together. His extraordinary conversation with Mr. Fox, at Lord Hillsborough’s, may be seen under May 9th. The other conference at Holland House, though somewhat more courtly, was not more satisfactory, and has never been renewed. It seems that, a little before the King went to Hanover, old Horace Walpole, either officiously, or being sent, tried to bring

Mr.

Mr. Pitt into temper, with hints that the Duke of Newcastle desired it, and would have done every thing in his power to serve him according to his wishes, and therefore he must not be inflexible, &c. Pitt replied, he was not, and did not insist upon the seals now, but would be contented, as a proof of the Duke's sincerity, if he would take off all marks of proscription, that the King should agree that, when any vacancy happened, he should have the seals, and should, in the mean time, treat him upon that foot. In this way, he would not desire any vacancy should be made for him. Old Horace seemed to give into this; and here, let me insert, that Fox had heard from Lord Hartington, who was informed by old Horace himself, that the Duke of Newcastle was very angry with Horace, for having advanced so far; and said, he had gone farther than his commission, or than the Duke could go, if he would, or would go, if he could. Then came on these extraordinary conferences, which, I confess, I do not yet understand. I know Mr. Fox imputes it to a design of Pitt,

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to fix himself with the Princess, and that, in order to do *this*, it became necessary to declare off with him, as the Duke of Cumberland's man. But I do not think so; it is too refined for me, as nobody but Cresset (if he is) is in a settled confidence of measures with the Princess, and so I told him.

In this state then, I suppose, Mr. Yorke found Mr. Pitt, when he appeared so cold as the Duke represented him to Lord Halifax, when he sounded him by his Grace's order. But the real overture and answer was, as Mr. James Grenville told me, from Mr. Pitt in effect, (though not avowedly) great assurances of friendship and affection—resolution to bring about every thing he wished, as soon as possible—desirous that they might talk together, and they should soon agree, &c.—this was not by positive message, but by insinuation. The answer was, that as to friendship and confidence, that was entirely over; it was loss of time to talk any more in that style: that if even those assurances were to be carried into execu-

execution and were realities, it was a doubt whether they would be accepted: that he would not take, nor hold any thing as a favour from the Duke of Newcastle, nor ever will owe him any obligation: that therefore he saw no use in meetings or conferences. But if the Duke was really in earnest, and meant any thing, why did he not propose plainly the three things—What was the work he expected to be done? Who were the gentlemen he proposed to do it? And in what stations he designed them to act? When he (Pitt) was clearly informed of those three points, he should be able to give an answer, after he had consulted his friends, gentlemen of honour and efficiency, whether it was to be undertaken or not, and upon what terms.

I dined with the Duke of Argyll at Mr. Fox's. When the company was gone, Fox told me, he was sure that Mr. Pitt had made up with the Princess, and had it in view, when he declared off with him: that he had long cultivated (above six months) an acquaintance with one, no way

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connected with the Duke of Newcastle, with whom he had had the first confidential conference, since he saw me: that Pitt, in talking of things of that court, I think he called it his court, to that person, said he had heard that Stone was not so well there as usual: what could be the reason of it? The person answered, Shall I tell you? I fear you will not like it; but as you command me, I will tell you. I take it to be from thinking him too much in your interest. The same person told him (who sometimes converses with Cresset) that Mr. Pitt was better at that court than usual: to what degree, or by what means he did not know; but that he found Cresset spoke more favourably of him, than he used to do. Fox continued then to say, that Lord Egmont was thought to have the chief management there; and that the Prince was much fonder of that Lord, than of any other man living. I said, that Mr. Pitt might have sent offers of service, perhaps by Lady Charlotte Edwin, whom my women relations, the Grenvilles and Temples, have been courting all the winter, and that

that they might have been very civilly received and returned: but, that there had been any communication, or proposition of measures between them, or even an audience, I did not believe. I might probably think there were no settled measures, but if there were, I thought that neither Pitt nor Egmont had the secret or the management of them, but Cresset only. What then could this transaction, either real or imaginary, amount to but refinement? Could it influence Mr. Pitt's acting in public? or his (Fox's) in consequence? Then we entered into the present state of affairs; and he told me, that the courier, that came the 28th past, with the answer from Hanover, which was expected to be a decisive one as to the sailing of the fleet, brought back a letter, which was neither written by Lord Holderness, nor dictated by the King, but which was certainly sent from hence by the Duke of Newcastle (to gain so much time for inaction) as a proper return for the King to make. For it acquainted them, that the King cannot give any positive orders about the operations of

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1755. the fleet, till he was fully informed of three
 JULY 21. particular things, which he (Fox) said he
 had forgotten, but they were trifles : that
 those trifles were answered, and his Ma-
 jesty was humbly advised to leave the direc-
 tion of the fleet to their discretion ; and
 that, by the return of the courier, he had
 done so : that now, till they had digested
 something positive, they agreed to send an
 order to Sir Edward Hawke, that he should
 sail with about sixteen ships of the line to
 Torbay, and there expect farther instruc-
 tions : that these farther instructions were
 to be drawn up by Lord Anson and Sir
 Thomas Robinson : that the Duke of Cum-
 berland had said, if they had any prospect
 of a peace, he had nothing to say ; but if
 they were convinced it must be war, he
 had no notion of not making the most of
 the strength and opportunity we had in
 our hands : that, afterwards, in a window
 with the Dukes of Marlborough and New-
 castle, the latter said, that, what his Royal
 Highness had declared, was full of very
 good sense, though he was not entirely of
 the same opinion : that Lord Grenville was
 abso-

absolutely against meddling with trade—he he called it, vexing your neighbours for a little muck—but that the Duke of Newcastle was by no means of that opinion, but thought some middle way might be found out. He was asked, what way? He answered, that, to be sure, Hawke must go out; but that he might be ordered not to attack the enemy, unless he thought it worth while. He was answered, that Hawke was too wise to do any thing at all, which others, when done, were to pronounce he ought to be hanged for. The Duke replied, what if he had orders not to fall upon them, unless they were more in number together than ten? He was answered, that the returned part of the Brest squadron, now at Lisbon, is but nine. The Duke said, he meant *that* of merchantmen only, for, to be sure, he must attack any squadron of ships of war. He was asked, what was a squadron? He said, three ships or more. This absurdity is inconceivable. What orders they will give to Hawke to-morrow, I shall not go out of my way to enquire.

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Monf.

1755. Monf. de Mirepoix fet out about one
 JULY 22. o'clock this morning. The fole queftion
 is, whether France will fubmit to purchafe
 the getting home her trade and failors, and
 having the winter to tamper with Spain, at
 a little lofs of reputation, in tamely fuffer-
 ing an infult for a while—If fhe fhould, I
 verily think his Grace would not be in-
 clined to be rude. But the departure of
 Monf. de Mirepoix looks as if the French
 would take it up with a high hand, and
 this may render Hawke's inftructions fome-
 thing more explicit. Mr. Fox affured me
 of one thing yefterday, which furprifed me
 much: he faid, that the Ruffians, hitherto,
 had refufed our fubfidy; as alfo, that the
 Queen of Hungary had abfolutely refufed,
 not only our money, but to have any thing
 to do with us, faying, it is our own quar-
 rel, and fhe will not be concerned in it.
 She is fure, that the French will not med-
 dle with her, and therefore fhe will fend
 no troops into Flanders, even if we would
 be at the whole expence. He added, that,
 upon his telling his Royal Highnefs, that
 the Duke of Newcaftle was for a naval war,

his Royal Highness laughed at him, and said, it was, because he could get nobody to take his money, and that he ordered, of his own authority, that more money should be offered to the Russians, than the Regency knew of, or even the King (as he supposed.) I pressed Fox much (who did not seem to feel the force of it) to try if he could fix such a fact on the Duke of Newcastle, which is not only criminal in itself, but if it was approved of afterwards, would be sufficient to frighten him out of his wits, for having acted extra-provincially. I was surpris'd, that Fox did not see it in the same light, and I shall press him again.

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I saw Lord Temple at Carleton House, who assured me, that neither Mr. Pitt nor himself, knew, or had heard one word more, than what Mr. James Grenville had acquainted me with. I also saw Mr. Fox there, who told me, that the Duke of Newcastle was angry with the Duke, and would hardly speak to his Royal Highness; and that he himself (Fox) had not changed a word with his Grace since he saw me last:
that

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AUG. 3. that the Heſſian treaty was ſigned, and that Hawke's orders were of the compromiſing kind—and this is all that is weak and ruinous.

4. Lord Hallifax was with me. He was with the Duke of Newcastle at dinner on Saturday, and yeſterday again, by the Duke's deſire. His Grace did not tell him Hawke's inſtructions, but he finds that they are not to meddle with the trade, nor, as he ſuſpects, to attack the men of war unprovoked. He thinks, they will by no means declare war, if the French do not.

At laſt Lord Hallifax took the Duke into another room, and told him, that as he had laid before his Grace the ſtate of his affairs, and had given him his ſincere opinion, which his Grace ſeemed to approve of at the time, but had, he believed, never thought of ſince, he would trouble him no more upon that head: that he thought himſelf very ill uſed; but, if his Grace thought he could go on without any ſettlement, it was well—he (Hallifax)

9

thought

thought it impossible, and though he had hitherto been very lucky, yet the whole would certainly break about his ears. The Duke said, he still approved of what he (Hallifax) had advised, and he was of the same intention to do it, but that he could settle nothing till the King returned. Lord Hallifax replied, that was his Grace's affair, and he did not care if his Grace made Mr. Pitt Secretary; but if he made any alterations, that he (Hallifax) expected to have justice done him; he was a wretch, a nobody; he would be of the Cabinet, and have access to the King, if any thing was done. The Duke said, he was surpris'd to hear him talk in this manner, and went on, as if it was laying him under new difficulties. To which Lord Hallifax replied, that he found it was more necessary to talk so, than he at first thought; for by his Grace's surpris'e, it was plain, that he never thought of it at all: that, though a lover of an active life, yet in the way he was treated, he was weary of it, and would quit it, if justice was not done him: that he found, Boscawen was coming home, and
he

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1755. he believed the Duke of Newcastle understood that part of the squadron was to return with him, and a force equal to what was in Louisbourg, to be left for a time: that he (Hallifax) opposed this strongly, and said, if the force to be left is but equal, suppose the French should come out and beat them, is it impossible? Suppose the squadron, under La Mothe, at Quebec, should know that there was but an equal number left, might they not fall upon them, and be joined by those in Louisbourg, was that impossible? That the enemy was certainly straitened in provisions, and if a superior force remained there, the place, in all probability, must fall to us. The Duke said, the ships could not winter there, and Lord Anson was of that opinion. Lord Hallifax replied, he did not regard Lord Anson's opinion against fact; for he would maintain, that the whole navy might ride, the whole winter in Hallifax harbour, with the utmost safety: that the Albany sloop had been there these five years, and had cost as little in repairs, as any other vessel, and is now gone out again. The reasoning
seemed

seemed to be thus—If you leave those seas, the French will come out, and Louisbourg will be victualled. If you leave but a small force, it will be in danger from the ships there, and from a junction of those now in the Gulph of St. Lawrence. The French cannot remain there in November, without being frozen up. You can stay, because the harbour of Hallifax is never frozen, or very slightly; and you are at sea from thence in seven hours, and therefore never need have the same ships out above a week at a time: so, if the enemy appears, you take them—if not, you freeze them up, and their numbers will add to the want of provisions in the place. The Duke of Newcastle pressed him to give him these hints in writing; which Lord Hallifax declined.

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I passed the day at Kew. The Princess has had nothing of Hawke's instructions, or any thing else communicated to her, and she expressed her dissatisfaction at it. She inveighed most bitterly against the not pushing the French every where. The people would not surely bear it, when the
Par-

6.

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Parliament met. I said, I believed they would. Surely, said she, the Parliament would never bear the suffering the French to bring home their trade and sailors, &c. She saw the terrible consequences of it, and of a patched-up peace, which must break out, when the French had perfected their naval plan, and fall upon her son, young and inexperienced, at the beginning of his reign. I said, I doubted if any body would interfere; but if they should, I hope, Madam, you would not take it ill. I! says she; no, indeed, very far from it; I am sure, I have no reason nor any thing like it. She was very solicitous to push the war, and wished Hanover in the sea, as the cause of all our misfortunes. I said, I presumed to differ with her, that I was as ready to defend Hanover, as Hampshire, if attacked on our account. I thought it no incumbrance if properly treated; and the only difference between me and the Ministers, was not about the thing, but the manner. She said, she perfectly understood me; and it would be so in another reign, but could not be in this: that, in the manner it had
been

been treated, it had been the foundation of all just complaints and bad measures. I asked her, if she could account for Lord Anson and the Duke of Cumberland concurring in tying up Hawke's hands: the one, as a sea General, unconnected at least; the other, as a land General, at open enmity with the Duke of Newcastle? she said, she could not, for the Duke had strongly declared (though not to her, who had not much conversation with him) for a *naval* war. I replied, that might be the language of good sense only, as being the popular cry, with hopes, that a sea war might probably light up a land one. She said, I was right—and added, nobody knew what to do—no two people were together—she chose to sit still, thinking it the only prudent part, as every body was disunited. I said, that the general diffidence she described was the cause of the infinite speculation and refinement that now prevailed: for as nobody knew, so every one was guessing each other—in which her Royal Highness had a principal share—she replied, nobody, surely, could

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stand clearer than she, for the world must know every body that she saw, and when. She took serious pains to convince me, that she had no fixed settlement or connections at all. She may deceive me; but I am persuaded, she has no fixed, digested political plan, or regular communication in politicks, with any body, except Mr. Cresset. She then told me, that the King had sent to invite the two Princesses of Brunswick to Hanover; they came, but their mother (the King of Prussia's sister) who was not invited, came with them—we talked of the match—surely he would not marry her son, without acquainting her with it so much as by letter—I said, certainly not, as he had always behaved very politely to her. It may be so, she replied; but how can this be reconciled? In this manner, said I; nothing will be settled at Hanover; but when the King comes back, he may say in conversation, and commending the Prince's figure, that he wishes to see him settled, before he dies, and that he has seen such and such young Princesses, and, though he would

fettle nothing, without her participation, yet he could wish to see the Prince settled before his death, and therefore, if she had no objection, he should think one of those Princesses a very suitable party.

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She paused, and said, no: he was not that sort of man: but, if he should settle the match without acquainting her with it, she should let him know how ill she took it; and if he did it in the manner I mentioned, she should not fail to tell him fairly and plainly, that it was full early; and that she had eight other children to be provided for; that she hoped, he would think of doing for them, and not leave her eldest son eight younger children to take care of, before he had one of his own: that it was probable the Prince might have so many, that hers could not expect much provision. She was determined to behave so, whenever the King spoke to her about it. She thought the match premature: the Prince ought to mix with the world—the marriage would prevent it—he was shy and backward, the match would shut

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him up for ever, with two or three friends of his, and as many of hers. That he was much averſe to it himſelf, and that ſhe diſliked the alliance extremely: that the young woman was ſaid to be handſome, and had all good qualities and abundance of wit, &c. but if ſhe took after her mother, ſhe will never do here—the Duke of Brunſwick indeed, her father, is a very worthy man.—Pray madam, ſaid I, what is her mother? as I know nothing at all about her.—Why, ſaid ſhe, her mother is the moſt intriguing, meddling, and alſo the moſt fatirical, ſarcaſtical perſon in the world, and will always make miſchief wherever ſhe comes. Such a character would not do with George; it would not only hurt him in his publick, but make him uneaſy in his private ſituation; that he was not a wild, diſſipated boy, but good-natured and chearful, with a ſerious caſt upon the whole—that thoſe, about him, knew him no more, than if they had never ſeen him. That he was not quick, but, with thoſe he was acquainted, applicable and intelligent. His education had
given

given her much pain ; his book learning she was no judge of, though she supposed it small or uselefs ; but she hoped he might have been instructed in the general understanding of things. That she did not know Lord Waldgrave, and as to Mr. Stone, if she was to live forty years in the house with him, she should never be better acquainted with him than she was. She once desired him to inform the Prince about the constitution ; but he declined it, to avoid giving jealousy to the Bishop of Norwich ; and that she had mentioned it again, but he still declined it, as not being his province. Pray, madam, said I, what is his province ? she said, she did not know, unless it was, to go before the Prince upstairs ; to walk with him sometimes, seldom to ride with him, and, now and then, to dine with him—but when they did walk together, the Prince generally took that time, to think of his own affairs and to say nothing. She shewed me a letter from Hanover, that said, the news of Boscawen's action, which came here on the 15th of June, got to Hanover on the 20th

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1755. —that Buffy had his audience the 17th,
 Aug. 6. and his letters of recall the 22d, but was
 not gone on the 25th. She wished ex-
 tremely, that he was gone, lest he should
 frighten them into some unbecoming com-
 pliance, as he had done, once before—I
 had afterwards much talk with the Prince
 about funding and other serious matters,
 who seemed to hear with attention and sa-
 tisfaction.

18. I was at Holland House, and had a long
 conversation with Mr. Fox: he said, the
 Hessian subsidy was ratified—that the
 Duke of Newcastle bade Mr. Amyand read
 Lord Holderness's letter to the Regency,
 acquainting them, that the King had made
 such a treaty, and caused him to observe,
 that his Majesty directed the Chancellor
 to fix the seal to it, who only bowed, and
 their Lordships signed it without reading
 it, as a thing of course. That the first di-
 rections to Lord Anson and Sir Thomas
 Robinson, to draw Hawke's instructions,
 were, that he should take and destroy all
 French ships of war, but no merchant-
 men

men—when they were brought to the select persons of the Regency, they had altered them and restrained Hawke from taking any but ships of the line. The Duke of Cumberland, in this little assembly, was expressing his dislike of the alteration, when the Duke of Newcastle came in, and interrupted his Highness by saying, that he was glad of the alteration, because he knew that it was more conformable to the King's way of thinking, and then desired his Highness to proceed; who said, that he knew his Grace had correspondences at Hanover, which he did not communicate to him; but he did not know, that his Grace had taken his Majesty's pleasure, upon that head, till now, when he was pleased to declare it—that, since it was so, he had too many ties ever to say a word against his Majesty's pleasure, when he knew it. When the instructions came to the bottom of the table to be signed by him (Fox); he asked Lord Anson, if there were no objections to them, who said, yes, a hundred, but it pleases those at the upper end of the table, and will signify nothing,

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 AUG. 18. for the French will declare war next week, if they have not done it already. But, said I, that did not happen—No, replied he, and therefore I am very sorry that I signed them. But in a few days, the Duke was very desirous to have them altered, as well as the Duke of Marlborough and myself; and in the morning before the Regency met, he endeavoured to have them extended, but without effect—when the Regency was over, the Duke of Marlborough and I desired to speak with the Duke of Newcastle, and I told him, how absurd I thought it, that we, who had begun the war, should suffer the hands, to pass by us, that were to be employed against us, &c. that I desired him to remember, though I had made no objection at the Regency, yet I now did, and privately to him, declare my disapprobation to these orders. The Duke of Marlborough did the same. In the afternoon, a note came to Lord Anson, while he was at dinner at Mr. Fox's, to meet that evening at the Duke's lodgings, the result of which was to send directions to Hawke to seize or destroy every thing French,

French, trade or men of war, between Cape Artegal and Cape Clear, and so it now stands. Mr. Fox added that, besides the Hessian, a subsidiary treaty was concluded with Russia, as he understood, though he had not heard, directly, from Williams. He did not speak out about that correspondence. The subsidy was 100,000*l. per annum* for four years, to hold in readiness 50 or 60,000 men, for which, when we employed them, we were to pay 500,000*l. per annum*. He also supposed, that there would be subsidies to Bavaria, and others. Mr. Fox continued, that he had, of late, had opportunities of conversing much with the Duke of Devonshire, occasioned by his son's affairs: that he was open and vehement against all subsidies whatsoever; that the nation could not carry on a naval war with France, and support Hanover, and that it must take care of itself: that we had followed the King's politicks too long, and the King must be told that the nation could not support the expence of both: that the Duke of Newcastle held by nothing but

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absolute submission; and he must not, nor would he contradict the King in any thing. Fox said, that Lord Granville told the Duke of Newcastle, that he would be served himself, as he and his brother had served him (Granville). They would not abuse him, themselves, but would sit still and rather encourage the abuse, than defend him. He positively knew some considerable people, not suspected of an inclination to differ, who would be absolutely against all subsidy whatsoever—he did not name them, nor would he to him (Fox). Mr. Fox said, that, talking this matter of subsidies over with the Duke, his Highness said in a word, that he was very sorry for them, that the bent of the nation was strong against subsidies for Germany, and that it would be brought to endure them with much reluctance: that his Highness laid no great weight upon the point of honour, for it would not do with the bulk of the people: that we should see a strong exertion of power on one hand, and a strong dislike and restiveness on the other. I said, I thought Hanover might, and ought to be defended;

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defended; the question was only, who was to pay for it, and in what proportions? Mr. Fox replied, he was surpris'd that I was not against all subsidies. I told him that those I should be for, would hardly be the ministerial ones; but I desired to know what those Ruffians were to do? Why, said he, to prevent the King of Prussia from attacking Hanover in conjunction with the French. I answered, the King of Prussia would not attack Hanover. He said, he was glad to hear me say so, and hoped I could make it out. I said, there was time enough for that, and for my ideas of defending Hanover. He might imagine, that I had not given myself the trouble to digest my thoughts with very great exactness, much less to put them into writing; but that, whenever he came to act, I would lay every thing I knew before him without reserve, but it was now useless to digest and discuss what might never come into operation.

Mr. Pitt called on me, and acquainted me that he had seen the Ministers, and that
he

SEPT. 2.

1755. he was to see the Duke of Newcastle at his
 SEPT. 2. own desire, at seven this evening. He began upon the subsidies: that the Hessian he knew of for 8000 men, as a warrant for the levy money was come to his office: that he would support a naval war to the utmost, but, by no means, a continental one: the nation could not support both: it would carry us up to seven millions the first year, and would go on encreasing;—'twas bankruptcy. Regard should be had to Hanover, no doubt, but secondarily: we should never lay down our arms without procuring satisfaction for any damage they should receive on our account; but we could not find money to defend it by subsidies, and if we could, that was not the way to defend it. An open country was not to be defended against a neighbour who had 150,000 men, and an enemy that had 150,000 more to back them. In short, he urged many strong, ingenious, and solid reasons, for making a stand against them, and giving no subsidies at all: that the King's honour would be pressed, &c. and therefore, if the Duke of Newcastle would

be contented with this Hessian subsidy for this once only, and engage, *with proper security*, never to offer another during the whole course of the war, and receive it as a compliment to the King for this once; never to be renewed or attempted again, but to be looked upon as putting a final end to continental subsidies; then—though it would not be right, yet he might not absolutely reject it, but might ask other gentlemen's opinion about it: but for the Russian subsidy of 120,000*l. per annum*, and 500,000*l. per annum* when we took the number of men into pay, which treaty he heard was signed, if not ratified, he could never come into it upon any account—'twas better to speak plain, there was no end of these things: it was deceiving and ruining ourselves, and leading Hanover into a snare; for if 70,000 men would not be sufficient, we must take more, till they were sufficient, which would ruin us, or we must give them up at last, when we had drawn a war upon them: that the Duke of Newcastle had made a person write to him (Pitt) to say, that the Duke was sorry that

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1755. that he was obliged to go into Suffex the
 SEPT. 2. next day, but that the Chancellor did not go
 to Wimpole till Wednesday, and he should
 be obliged to Mr. Pitt, if he would call
 upon the Chancellor, which he did. The
 Chancellor told him, that he hoped, he
 would assist them cordially in their busi-
 ness; that the King had, indeed, taken pre-
 judices which were disagreeable, and that
 steps had been taken to remove them, be-
 fore he went to Hanover: that they had
 been the subject of correspondence since:
 that they had not all the success they could
 wish, *as yet*, but they hoped they would:
 that the King was very fond of Lord Hol-
 derness and Sir Thomas Robinson: but if
 any accident should happen, it might pro-
 bably be brought about, in case he would
 assist them cordially, that they might pro-
 cure the seals for him, which he so much
 desired. When the Chancellor had finished,
 Mr. Pitt replied, that he must begin with
 his last words—the seals which he so much
 desired—of whom?—he did not remember
 that he had ever applied to his Lordship
 for them: he was sure, he never had to the
 Duke

Duke of Newcastle; and did assure the Chancellor, that if they could prevail upon his Majesty to give them to him, under his present dislike, all the use he would make of them, would be to lay them at his Majesty's feet: that, till the King liked it, and thought it necessary to his service, and till his Ministers desired it, he never would accept the seals: that he knew, the King had lately said, that he had intruded himself into office: that the Chancellor knew how much he was misinformed, and if he should ask for any favour, it would be, that they should inform his Majesty better: the Chancellor had said a great deal, but he desired his Lordship to let him know, what he was expected to assist in, and what was the work? Why, replied the Chancellor, to carry on the war they were engaged in. He said, there was no doubt of his concurrence in carrying on the war, as it was a national war; and he thought that regard ought to be had to Hanover, if it should be attacked upon our account—The Chancellor stopt him short, and said, he was extremely pleased that they agreed in their prin-

1755.
SEPT. 2. principles, and that both thought Hanover *should be defended*. Mr. Pitt desired his Lordship to observe the words he had used, “that regard was to be had to Hanover,” and then said all he had said to me before, as to our inability to defend it, and the impropriety of the defence by subsidy. The Chancellor said, that he understood that the Commons, the last session, had tacitly allowed, that Hanover must be defended: that, in consequence of that acquiescence, there was a subsidiary treaty for 8000 Hessians in the usual form, and also, a treaty for a body of Russians.

But where Mr. Pitt laid the greatest stress, was on what the Chancellor in reasoning had said; to be sure, *those things* (meaning subsidies) *should have their bounds, and that, he was afraid, they would not be very popular*; and when he was enforcing the necessity of putting a total stop to them, and leaving Hanover to the system and constitution of the empire, the Chancellor seemed to acquiesce in the reason, but told him, he must be sensible, that talking in that manner

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ner would not make way with the King. Mr. Pitt still persisted in not giving into the subsidy, and the Chancellor desired him to see the Duke of Newcastle, and to talk it over with him. Mr. Pitt said that, if the Duke sent to desire to speak with him, he would wait on his Grace, and not otherwise.

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Mr. Pitt thought that the Duke of Devonshire would oppose subsidies, and might be brought to do it in the House of Lords. He had seen the Duke of Bedford, who talked warmly and sensibly about them. He left me, fully determined to tell the Duke of Newcastle plainly, that he would not come into the Russian subsidy upon any account; nor into any thing else, till he was well apprised of the measures; till he knew who were to carry them into execution, and in what stations they were to be; and till the House was properly treated, and gentlemen were made easy, who had a right to be so. He had not seen Lord Egmont, but knew he had been sent to with an offer of Sir William Young's place. He

1755. hoped his Lordship had given no positive
 SEPT. 2. answer. He promised to acquaint me with
 the result of the conference he was to
 have this evening, with the Duke of New-
 castle, before he went back into the coun-
 try, which he should do to-morrow.

3. Mr. Pitt returned to me, and told me,
 that he had painted to the Duke all the ill
 consequences of this system of subsidies in
 the strongest light, that his own imagina-
 tion, heightened by my suggestions, could
 furnish him with. He had deprecated his
 Grace, not to compleat the ruin which
 the King had nearly brought upon himself
 by his journey to Hanover, which all peo-
 ple should have prevented, even *with their*
bodies.—A King abroad, at this time, with-
 out one man about him, that has one Eng-
 lish sentiment, and to bring home a whole
 set of subsidies!—That he was willing to
 promote the King's service, but if this was
 what he was sent for to promote, few
 words were best—nothing in the world
 should induce him to agree to these sub-
 sidies. The Duke was tedious and perplexed,
 and

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and would have persuaded him what a pretty figure he would make, when he was a Cabinet Counsellor : that the King was highly pleased with both his Secretaries ; but if any accident should make a vacancy, to be sure the King would be glad of his services, &c. Mr. Pitt said, that he did not desire such vacancy, nor the office ; that he had declared, when pressed about the House of Commons, that, if they expected him, or any one else, to do their business in that house, they must give him proper distinction and powers ; that, in short, the Duke's system of carrying on the business of the House, he believed, would not do, and that, while he had life and breath to utter, he would oppose it : that there must be men of efficiency and authority, in the House ; a Secretary and a Chancellor of the Exchequer at least, who should have access to the Crown ; habitual, frequent, familiar access he meant, that they might tell their own story, to do themselves and their friends justice, and not be the victims of a whisper : that he (Pitt) esteemed both the Secretaries, but he supposed something was want-

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ing, or why was he sent for? If they were necessary to government, no doubt they could carry on government, and he should be glad of it; for his part, if the Ministry asked nothing of him, he asked nothing of them. The Duke then said, that the *system* of subsidies, indeed, was not to be insisted upon, but two did not make a system: the King's honour was now engaged, and he enlarged much upon that point. Mr. Pitt replied, that he had a deep regard for the King's honour, but that the system of subsidies was so fatal, that he could not think of submitting to 100,000*l.* unless it was given by gentlemen who became pledges to each other, and to the public, that nothing of the like kind should ever be offered again; and unless it should be notoriously declared and understood on both sides, that it was given and received, as a mark of the affection of a ruined nation, to save the honour of its King, who had entered into a rash engagement: but for two, it was the same as twenty, and no persuasion should make him for them. He then desired his Grace to think seriously of

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the consequences—What, if the Duke of Devonshire should begin the opposition in the House of Lords? If he did, he (Pitt) would not conceal it from the Duke of Newcastle; he would echo it in the House of Commons, as loudly, and with all the powers he was able to exert:—But was this all?—were there no subsidies to be renewed? The Duke mumbled that the Saxon and Bavarian were offered and pressed, but there was nothing done in them: that the Hessian was perfected, but the Russian was not concluded. Whether the Duke meant unsigned, or unratified, we cannot tell, but we understand it is signed. When his Grace dwelt so much upon the King's honour, Mr. Pitt asked him—what, if out of the fifteen millions the King had saved, he should give his kinsman of Hesse 100,000*l.* and the Czarina 150,000*l.* to be off from these bad bargains, and not suffer the suggestions, so dangerous to his own quiet and the safety of his family, to be thrown out, which would, and must be, insisted upon in a debate of this nature? Where would be the harm of it? The Duke had nothing to say, but desired they

1755. might talk it over again with the Chancellor;
 SEPT. 3. Mr. Pitt replied, he was at their command,
 though nothing could alter his opinion.

We then, Mr. Pitt and I, talked over whom we could engage; to whom he had communicated this affair? He said, that Mr. Legge was firm as a rock. He was shy about Lord Egmont, but said he had seen him; he was received very kindly, and Lord Egmont seemed to enter into the thing; but what might happen, when offers were made, he (Pitt) could not tell. He desired me to apply to Lord Hillsborough and Sir Francis Dashwood—I mentioned Oswald—he said he thought that Oswald was with us (if so, it must be by Legge). I asked him, if he had communicated it to Mr. Fox? He answered, No, nor did he design to do it; he would tell me the whole of his thoughts upon that matter: that he wished Mr. Fox very well, and had nothing to complain of; but that they could not act together, because they were not on the same ground: that Mr. Fox owed to him that he (Fox) was not

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sui juris; he could not blame him for it, but he, who was *sui juris*, could not act in connection with one who was not. He (Pitt) was ready, in the last session, to proceed any lengths against the Duke of Newcastle; but when it came to the push, Mr. Fox acknowledged he could not, and went on, through the whole session, compromising every thing when it began to pinch—the Reading election; the linen affair; and when Ireland began to be a thorn, Mr. Fox's great friend, Lord Harrington, was to take it out: that by these means, Mr. Fox had taken the smooth part, and had left him to be fallen upon: Fox had risen upon his shoulders, but he did not blame him; and he only shewed me, how impossible it was for two to act together, who did not stand upon the same ground. Besides this, Mr. Fox lived with his greatest enemies, Lord Granville, Messrs. Stone and Murray. Mr. Fox was reported by the Duke of Newcastle, that he had lately offered himself to the Duke—I here interrupted Mr. Pitt, by saying, I was confident it was false: he said, he knew the Duke of

1755. Newcastle was a very great liar, and there-
 SEPT. 3. fore, if Mr. Fox denied it, he should not
 hesitate a moment, which he should be-
 lieve. I then said, that, as those, who
 united in this attack, were to part no more,
 it would be proper to think what was to
 be held out to them, if they succeeded:
 he declined this, and said, it would look
 too much like a faction; there was nothing
 country in it. If we succeeded, to be sure
 those, who contributed, must, and would
 be considered, when the first opportunity
 offered; but to engage for specific things
 and times, he thought no one man had any
 title, except myself: that for me, any thing,
 every thing that I liked, ought to be the
 common cause, and he was ready to enter
 into any engagements with me. He then
 expressed himself *strangely* as to me: that
 he thought me of the greatest consequence;
 no man in this country would be more
 listened to, both in and out of the House,
 &c. &c.—that he was most desirous to con-
 nect and unite himself with me in the
 strictest manner—he ever had the highest
 regard for my abilities—we had always
 acted

acted upon the same principles: he had the honour of being married into my relations; every thing invited him to it. He added a great deal more, that surpris'd me very much, considering the treatment I have met with, for years past, both from him and those relations. It surpris'd me so much, that all I said was, that I was much oblig'd to him, but that he might depend upon it, that I would not accept of his friendship, or of any mark of his confidence, without meeting him more than half way.

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Thus far, however, is fortunate, and I am glad to find, that I shall be supported in a step, which, for my own credit, as well as for the interest of my country, I must have taken, though I had met with no support at all.

Lord Hallifax dined with me, and we settled how he was to behave to the Duke of Newcastle, on account of a letter to him from his Grace, pressing him to engage me in the King's service.

OCT. 6.

Lord

1755.
OCT. 8. Lord Hallifax had been with the Duke of Newcastle, who pressed him much on my account, and begged him to obtain a meeting with me. I agreed to go to Newcastle House next Friday.
10. I went first to Lord Hallifax, and then to Newcastle House. I was much pressed to join his Grace, but I absolutely refused being for the Ruffian subsidy on any account.
19. I settled preliminaries, which, with the conversation at Newcastle House, are to be found among my papers.
- NOV. 20. Messrs. Pitt, Legge, and George Grenville received letters of dismissal, and James Grenville resigned the Board of Trade.
- DEC. 17. I went, by desire, to Newcastle House. His Grace, with many assurances of confidential friendship, told me, that he had the King's permission to offer me the Treasury of the Navy, which I accepted.

I waited

I waited upon the Princess to acquaint her with what had passed—but her Royal Highness received me very coolly. 1755.
DEC. 19.

I kissed the King's hand as Treasurer of the Navy. 22.

Question upon the dividing the Vice Treasurership of Ireland into three. It was proposed and supported by Messrs. Pitt, Potter, and their friends. 1756.
JAN. 26.

I was sent for to Newcastle House about the Loan, which failed from Sir John Barnard's affectation of shewing his superior credit and abilities, by raising money at a price, at which it is not to be had in the quantity wanted. I subscribed 50,000 l. public money. FEB. 4.

The American bill was read the third time; which was opposed, with insufferable length and obstinacy, by Mr. Pitt and his friends. 26.

I waited on the Duke of Newcastle, who told MAY 6.

1756.
MAY 6.

told me with much warmth and anxiety, that they had had an account by the Spanish Minister, that the French finished their debarkation upon Minorca, the 20th instant. That they had taken Mahon, and pretended to take St. Philip's, by the end of the month. And also, that, as soon as they had finished their debarkation, Monf. de la Galiffionere stood out to sea, off the Island, to intercept our succours; so that, before now, there must have been a naval action between him and Byng. Galiffionere has twelve ships of the line, and Byng ten very good. I said, as we were alone, that 'twas astonishing that Byng was not there a month ago. He said, he was not ready, and he was obliged to stay two or three days for his last 200 men. That we had but 63 ships of the line in Europe, and even those still wanted 4000 men. That it was *impar congressus*, and that Mirepoix had told him, that 30 of his master's ships would amuse 80 of ours. That, if Hawke and Boscawen did not join, we had no naval force equal to what the enemy had at Brest. I asked, why were
you

you not ready? why have you not more ships, and more men? he replied, he had not the direction of the sea, and his Grace laid a great deal of blame there. And without naming Lord Anson, he shewed himself extremely dissatisfied with him; but conjured me, upon my honour, not to mention to any body, what he had said upon that head. He concluded by insisting that the island must be retaken.

1756.
MAY 6.

I called upon Mr. Fox. He was full of concern. He would have sent a squadron, and a strong one, the first week in March, but could not prevail. Lord Anson assured him, and took it upon himself, that Byng's squadron would beat any thing the French had, or could have in the Mediterranean.

7.

Mr. Fox came to me in the House, and after saying that he must shortly call on me, to talk a little freely, as he was very uneasy at the posture of public affairs, and, particularly, with his own situation. That the Duke of Newcastle was unusually
light

17.

1756. light and trifling, yesterday, when his
 MAY 17. Grace dined with him : that he was extremely pleased with what he (Fox) had declared, on Friday last, in the House, which was, that Lord Anson authorized him to say, that the Duke had never obstructed the sending sooner to the Mediterranean (which was more, says he, than he could ever make Lord Anson say before), but that they were all agreed upon that point, &c. That, therefore, no body blamed him ; that the city imputed nothing to him, as the sea was not his province. Fox asked him, from whence he had that news?—he replied, from Garraway's. Fox said, that, if he could believe any thing he heard, the city were extremely displeas'd with the leaving Minorca expos'd, and that, generally, it would be ever true, that those who had the chief direction in an Administration, would bear the greatest share of blame, and that those people deceiv'd him, who told him it was otherwise now. The Duke still persisted that nobody thought him to blame, and that, after the declaration last Friday, the House

of Commons was satisfied with him. Fox replied, he did not know from whom his Grace had his information of the House of Commons; but it appeared plainly to him, that, when Mr. Pitt charged the loss of Minorca upon his Grace, and he had defended him, as answerable only in an equal degree with others; all their friends hung their heads, and not a man of them was, or seemed to be, persuaded, that a squadron could not be sooner sent, or that all had been done, which could be done. He (Fox) indeed had defended his Grace in every thing where he could defend him; but in one thing, he never could, which was, in his not believing it must be war, and in not arming sooner. The Duke still insisted, that nobody could think *him* to blame. Mr. Fox went on and said, that this intelligence came from Sir Thomas Robinson, who was a weak man, &c. That he thought, he himself had fully answered all that could be expected, or which he had engaged for, and hoped, that I thought so too; but he found by the Duke of Newcastle's whole behaviour to him,

1756.
MAY 17.

1756. him, that the Duke was not at all satisfied
 MAY 17. with what he had done. Was it not true
 that the chief in an Administration would
 always be the most obnoxious? I answered,
 Yes: unless they had any one to make a
 scape-goat. He seemed alarmed, and asked
 me, if I thought him likely to be a scape-
 goat, and dwelt upon the expression. I
 told him, as the truth was, that I had not
him in any degree, so much as in my con-
 templation, and I had no such apprehen-
 sions. Mr. Fox continued and said, he
 was very uneasy: that the country was in
 a sad way, but if it was in a better, those,
 who had the direction of it, could no
 more carry on this war, than his three
 children. That he himself had always
 hinted at sending a squadron to Minorca
 sooner; and that the Duke of Cumberland
 pressed it strongly, so long ago as last
 Christmas. I then asked him, whether
 there was any truth in the report, that the
 Princes George and Edward were to be
 kept at Kensington? He replied, he fan-
 cied there were some grounds for it, but
 he was not, in the least, trusted or con-
 sulted

sulted about it ; but he knew (though not from them) that the Duke of Newcastle and the Chancellor had had two conferences upon that subject, and though private conferences between them were nothing new ; for he supposed they had them every night, yet, they had had two, particularly on this subject : and he would inform me how *he* knew it. They were overheard in an entry, enough to learn the subject of those conversations, though not the result of them. That, when every thing was settled, he supposed Lords Holderneffe, Waldgrave, and himself, should be called in, and a minute of it should then be made, and carried to the King as their joint advice. That he was ready to sign, upon any of the King's affairs, how delicate soever : but whether he should sign as his advice, what others had settled and digested, without having it any way communicated to him, was what he wanted to talk with me about, and to know my opinion. I thought this conversation much too delicate to be holden upon the benches, and I

1756.
MAY. 17.

1756. once made him move his place, but he
MAY 17. would go on.

I went to the Duke of Newcastle's; he would have talked about what had passed, the day before, in the House of Commons, upon the committee of the Million Bill, which gives the Treasury the unprecedented power of borrowing, without limiting the rate of interest. Sir George Lyttleton's candour in opening it made him inform the House with this dangerous and unnecessary innovation, which produced a debate and division, where the Treasury rejected the limitation offered to be inserted, by *one* voice only. None of us were acquainted either with the innovation, or of Sir George's design to go into the committee that day, so that the numbers were but 37 and 36. I declined talking with his grace upon the subject, telling him it was too bad. He pressed me much to go down to the Report, which I received coolly, and I changed the subject to considering what new encouragement should

1756.

MAY 17.

should be given, as a deputation of merchants had been with me upon that head. He requested me to talk with Lord Anson. I then pressed him about Lord Hallifax, The Duke expressed an earnest desire to preserve his Lordship's friendship, but protested, he could no more get him a blue ribband, than he could get the Kingdom of Ireland for me. I said, I conceived *that* was the mistake. That though I wished Lord Hallifax had the Garter, yet I never mentioned it, or meant it: what I meant, was the Cabinet; Lord Hallifax, from station, services, and merit, had a right to it: his Grace's own interest loudly called for it, and could not *be* do that? he strongly declared, he would think of it, and do all he could, as soon as the session was concluded: but he had talked with Lord Hallifax's friends, and understood that the Cabinet would not satisfy him. I replied, make his Lordship to blame then: shew you have done for him, what every one knows you can and ought to do; and if, at last, you are to break, break at least upon a point where you have some ground

1756. to depend upon, and not where you have
 MAY 17. none; in declining to do what you can do,
 because you do not attempt what, possibly,
 there may be some doubt about. He was
 very uneasy, and protested, with great ear-
 nestness, that he would do all in his power
 to oblige Lord Hallifax, as soon as the Par-
 liament rose.

18. War declared with France.

JUNE 2. I heard that a message in writing had
 been sent to the Prince, from the King,
 offering him an allowance of 40,000 *l. per*
annum, and an apartment in the palaces of
 Kensington and St. James's. The answer
 was full of high gratitude for the allowance,
 but declining the apartment, on account
 of the mortification it would be to his mo-
 ther; though it is well known that he does
 not live with her, either in town or country.
 The Spanish Ambassador had an account
 of an engagement, between Byng and the
 French, in the Mediterranean—Byng had
 thirteen ships of the line and five frigates;
 the enemy had twelve, and four frigates:

it

it lasted four hours, when, by the advantage of the wind, the English stood out of gunshot, and were out of fight the next day. 1756.
JUNE 2.

Mr. Fox shewed me Byng's strange letter of the action, and yet stranger council of war. 26.

I had a note from Mr. Fox that things went ill, and I dined with him on the 14th, when he appeared to be in an extraordinary perturbation. OCT. 2.

Mr. Pitt was sent for to town, and came. He returned, rejecting all terms, till the Duke of Newcastle was removed. 19.

The king sent for Fox, and told him, that the Duke of Newcastle would resign, and bade him think of an Administration. 27.

Fox met Mr. Pitt at the Prince's levee, who declined giving him a meeting, or treating with him (Fox) at all.

The Duke of Devonshire was sent into 31.

1756. the country to Mr. Pitt, who gave a positive
 Oct. 31. exclusion to Mr. Fox.

Nov. 2. I saw Lord Hillsborough, who fancies
 the Court will not submit to Mr. Pitt.—I
 think otherwise.

3. Lord Hallifax told me, Mr. Pitt's demands
 are agreed to, and he will go on with them.

4. The Duke of Devonshire, after having
 agreed to accept the Treasury, with Fox as
 Chancellor of the Exchequer, went to settle
 it with the King, and came out, from the
 presence, with Legge for his Chancellor.—
 This is incredible, but true.

11. The Duke of Newcastle resigned.

12. Mr. Fox resigned; and the Duke of
 Devonshire kissed hands for the Treasury.

15. The Duke of Devonshire called at my
 house, and left word he would come again
 to-morrow. I sent to let him know, I
 would wait on his Grace, and I accord-
 ingly

ingly went to Devonshire House. The Duke told me, that he was forced by the King to take the employment he held: that his Grace was ordered to go to Mr. Pitt, and know upon what conditions he would serve: that, in the arrangement Pitt and his friends made, my office was demanded—he was very sorry for it—he was not concerned in it—and he behaved very civilly, &c. &c.

1756.
Nov. 15.

A motion for 200,000*l.* for an army of observation in Germany agreed to, without debate or division. Mr. Tucker had agreed with Mr. George Grenville to be Paymaster of the Marines, and for Governor Grenville to be chosen in his place. The King sent to Fox to know if he could prevent it, and if he thought I would interpose: Mr. Fox said, he supposed, if his Majesty commanded me, I would. The King ordered Fox to speak to me—he did, and I stopt it. This is the first step towards turning out Lord Temple.

1757.
FEB. 18.

The Duke of Newcastle, who had re-
signed,

1757. signed, would not move: the King grew
 MAR. 7. impatient to get rid of the Ministry,
which he had imposed upon himself, and threw
 himself upon Fox to form a new Admin-
 istration. We agreed to begin with dis-
 missing Lord Temple; I proposed Lord
 Hallifax for the Admiralty, the King con-
 sented to it, and I was to negociate the af-
 fair with him.

9. Mr. Fox and I had a long conversation
 about this settlement. We agreed that (as
 the Duke of Newcastle, to whom the first
 place, and the nomination to the others,
 was several times offered and pressed even
 by the King himself, had refused to act
as yet,) an Administration should be form-
 ed, where a first place should be ready to
 receive the Duke of Newcastle: but none
 of the old Ministry should be employed at
 first, till the enquiry was over, &c. The
 Duke of Devonshire to be at the head of
 the Treasury, Lord George Sackville to be
 Secretary. I declined being Chancellor of
 the Exchequer; but if Lord Hallifax ac-
 cepted the Admiralty, I agreed to accept of
 the

the Board of Trade. The King still eager
for the change.

1757.

MAR. 9.

N. B. During this while, Lord Hallifax (upon whose friendship and concurrence I depended from repeated assurances, and to whom I had communicated all this transaction, and, till now, without authority) privately saw and negociated with the Duke of Newcastle, and took measures with him to defeat it. What makes this the more surprising is, that always before, at that very time, and ever since, he has spoken of the Duke of Newcastle to me and others, as a knave and a fool, in the strongest terms.

Mr. Fox called upon Messrs. Pitt and Legge, and made them disown the prevailing lye, spread by their friends, of troops being to go from hence, with the Duke, to Germany: they, each of them, respectively, disowned any knowledge, or belief of any such proposition. In less than three months afterwards, Mr. Pitt gave above a million of English money, and sent what was called 10,000 (somewhat more than 7000)

21.

1757. English soldiers, to that very army, when it
 MAR 21. was commanded by *another Prince*.

22. The Ministers, after all their threats, not pushing the enquiry, Fox moved for it, to be entered upon by a committee of the whole House on the 19th of April, which was evidently throwing it into contempt.

23. Fox came to me, to see Lord Hallifax, and he told him, that Sir Thomas Robinson had accepted the seals by the King's command; that Lord Mansfield approved of the system, and said, in the strongest terms, that the Duke of Newcastle ought to do so too. Lord Hallifax acquiesced upon that condition; but he understood, I suppose, by his private dealings with the Duke of Newcastle, that Robinson was not to accept—Lord Hallifax writes to Robinson, who answers him, that he has had some talk about the matter; but not having received any account how it would end, cannot give his Lordship the information he desires, but at the same time expresses a wish to see him. Lord Hallifax immediately

ately waits on Sir Thomas, and returns and reports, that Robinson, with a most submissive preamble, had sent an absolute refusal (but not disapproving the plan), and added, that he could not, must not, would not accept.—So all is at a stand.

1757.
MAR. 23.

I went to Lord Hallifax, who had written to Fox, that he would accept, if Robinson took the seals—*which he knew, at the same time, Robinson would not take.*

24.

A message was sent from the King, to the Duke of Newcastle, to offer him to come in again: if not, to say, if he would support the present plan; if not support it, to name what plan he would support, but to speak positively, for his Majesty would not admit of any more evasive answers. We, however, think he will have one, and therefore conclude it most adviseable to force Robinson to be Secretary.

26.

Lord Winchelsea kissed hands for the Admiralty. APRIL 5.

Mr.

1757. Mr. Pitt dismissed. Mr. Fox and I were
 APRIL 6. ordered from the King, by Lord Holderness, to come and kiss his hand as Paymaster of the Army, and Treasurer of the Navy. We wrote to the Duke of Cumberland our respectful thanks and acceptance of the offices; but we thought it would be more for his Majesty's service, not to enter upon them publickly, till the enquiry was over; which the King approved of.

N. B. The Duke of Newcastle, prepared, and all along informed by Lord Hallifax (who acted shamefully in the affair) joins Pitt; takes the Treasury; makes Pitt Secretary again; Lord Temple, Privy Seal; Lord Anson, the head of the Admiralty; &c. &c. and his Grace tells Lord Hallifax, that it is settled, he (Hallifax) should be the third Secretary for the Plantations; which was his Lordship's object, and for which he had overturned our whole plan. Lord Hallifax tells all his friends of it; he goes to Court and talks to Pitt about it, as a
 thing

thing settled : Pitt stared at him, and told his Lordship very coolly, and very truly, that he never had heard one word of it, and he did not conceive, that any body had a right to curtail his office to that degree, which was, already, too much encroached upon by the Board. Lord Hallifax, covered with confusion, goes away in a rage, writes an angry letter to the Duke of Newcastle, complains to the King, but meeting no great comfort, he resigns—but asks one or two things for his friends, and is refused. The Duke of Newcastle, as Lord Hallifax says, behaved with the utmost meanness ; he owned he had not spoke to Pitt about it, and that his reason was, *Pitt looked so much out of humour, that he durst not.* Lord Hallifax talked of his Grace every where in the most opprobrious terms, as the object of his contempt and detestation—but as his Grace had not filled up the office, his Lordship, about Michaelmas, condescended to take it up again, just as he left it.

1757.
APRIL 6.

The

1757.
APRIL 6. The King kept his word with Fox, and made him Paymaster—but his Majesty was not pleased to behave so to me.

Thus ended this attempt to deliver the King from hands he did not like, and it failed from Lord Hallifax's duplicity, which drew a greater affront upon him, than I ever remember offered to any body; from the Duke of Newcastle's treachery and ingratitude, who, after having given his word to the King, that he would never join Mr. Pitt, but by his Majesty's consent, forced the King to consent; and by his Majesty's timidity, who dared not to support any body, even in his own cause.

SEPT. The secret expedition was founded on the information of one Clarke, a Lieutenant in the Train, who told the Ministry that he passed through the place some years ago, and was shewn the works, as an English officer, by order of the Governor: that the ditch was dry; the fortifications, garrison, &c. such as might be taken by storm. This was believed,

lieved, and then, without the farther examination of any one person but a French pilot, Thierry, General Mordaunt was sent out. 1757.
SEPT.

It fails. 9.

It arrives near Rochefort. 20.

It takes Aix. Mordaunt proposed landing at, and taking Fort Fouras. Thierry offered to bring a ship within four hundred yards of the fort, and to lay her in soft mud at the ebb (which afterwards appeared he could not do.) Hawke refused a ship. 23.

Spent in sounding for another landing, and one was found four miles farther. 24.

Council of war. Question if the ditch was dry? The pilot of the Neptune, who had lived several years at Rochefort, affirmed he knew it to be wet.—The French pilot confirmed it.—Clarke persisted it was dry.—Was asked, in case it was wet, could the place be taken by escalade?—answered, No. The council was then unanimous, that the

1757.
SEPT. 25. attempt upon the place was impracticable. The difficulties of landing at the new-discovered spot were very great—the transports could not come within a mile and a half of the shore—the ships of war not within a league—there was a row of sand banks upon the shore, sufficient to conceal a number of men—the pilot, who had lived there, said, that he had known a western gale blow off shore, for seven weeks together, so stiff that no boat could land upon the coast.

However, Mordaunt, though refused the protection of one ship, but terrified, perhaps, with the fate of Byng, resolved to land wherever he could, to try to take Fouras and look at Rochefort.

26. Spent in looking after better landings; but finding none, Mordaunt embarks his troops the 28th, at night, but the wind made it unadvisable to land. The next day, Hawke declared, that if Mordaunt would take upon himself the consequences of keeping the great ships out, at that season
of

of the year, he would stay; otherwise, he must go home. Mordaunt would not do that, so they returned together. And thus ended this expedition, contrived with so much secrecy, that every thing, necessary to its success, was a secret to the contriver himself.

As a proof of this, a year afterwards, when Mordaunt (who certainly should have had living witnesses of the futility of the plan) had been brought to a trial, and, also, worried by all the low Court flatterers and scribblers, it happened that Capt. Dennis took the *Raisonable*, commanded by the Chevalier de Rohan. Mr. Fox told me, that being with Lords Waldegrave and Gower together, they both told him, that Dennis had assured each of them separately, that his prisoner, the Chevalier de Rohan, had told him, that he (the Chevalier) was at that time in Rochefort, or la Rochelle, (the Lords in comparing notes had no other doubt in their narrative) and that the enemy had 7 or 8000 men there at least. That there were 3,500 men

1757. behind the sand-banks, and there was a masked battery at each end. That, if we had landed when we first appeared, we should have embarrassed them. But they thought themselves betrayed, when they found we did not land at the time we attempted it.

Late in the Autumn this year, the army, that was supposed to remain in a state of inactivity by treaty, took the field again under Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, the Duke of Cumberland and his treaty being disowned by the King.

In the month of June or July, Sir George Lee told me (which was confirmed afterwards by Lord Hallifax) that he had been more than once solicited to be Chancellor of the Exchequer to the Duke of Newcastle, in the Administration he was then negotiating. That Sir George consented not without difficulty. That the Friday before Whitsunday he was at Newcastle House, and the Duke told him, that all was settled in general with the King, and that he was

to

to be Chancellor of the Exchequer. The Duke shewed him, what he said was, the list in detail, which he was going to carry to the King at Kensington, and desired to see Sir George the next morning. Upon Sir George's telling him, that he was to go next morning to his brother in Bucks, the Duke pressed him to stay. His Grace was asked, if he did not go to the House of Lords from Kensington — Yes — Sir George met him there, and the Duke told him all was settled, and that the King agreed in form to his being Chancellor of the Exchequer; upon which they parted, Sir George being to return on Monday or Tuesday. When he came back to Town, he found the system entirely altered, and another Chancellor of the Exchequer (Legge) made part of it. And Sir George further told me, that he never had had any communication from, or with the Duke of Newcastle, either by word of mouth, note, message, or common friend, since his parting from him at the House of Lords, till Sunday the 16th July, the day but one preceding our conversation, when the

1757. Duke came and sat down by him at Leicester House, and, with all the ease and familiarity of an old friend, communicated his no news to him.

SEPT. 18. Mr. Martin informed me, that Holborne was very willing to agree with Lord London, in not attacking Louisbourg. And that Anson, since he last came in, had told the Ministry, that Holborne went out with no better stomach for fighting than Byng. That, at a meeting of the Lords, Newcastle, Hardwick, Holderneffe, Anson, and Mr. Pitt, it was proposed to send the armament, then preparing, against Rochefort, to the assistance of his Royal Highness in Germany, on account of the Duke's ill success upon the Continent: that every man was for it, except Mr. Pitt, who insisted, if that resolution was to prevail, that minutes of the meeting should be taken, and his dissent entered. Upon which the others desisted; but no one would acquaint the King with the result, and Mr. Pitt was left to do it himself. He further told me, that the King had said, his revenues were seized,

feized, that he was 800,000*l.* in debt, and that the Army must disband, if it was not supplied from hence: and that Pitt had consented to give him 100,000*l.* and 20,000*l.* to subsist his daughter.

Lord Hallifax told me the following history of his friend Legge. Instigated, as I suppose, by his Lordship and Oswald, (who hoped to enhance their favour with the Duke of Newcastle, while the negotiation with Mr. Pitt was open, by their bringing over so considerable a person) and following the low, shuffling disposition of his own heart, Mr. Legge met a little before Easter, the Duke of Newcastle, at Lord Dupplin's, coming in at the back door through the park, at nine o'clock. That meeting passed in assurances of good-will to each other, and went no farther. That the Duke proposed another, which Legge was afraid to hazard, but the correspondence was kept up by message. This treaty was for Legge to come in, without Mr. Pitt, if the latter persisted in his exorbitant demands.

1757.

The Duke of Newcastle chiefly treated with Mr. Pitt by the Primate of Ireland, Stone. One day, in the beginning of the negociation, when Lord Bute and Mr. Pitt were in conference with the Primate, and insisted upon very extravagant terms, the Primate begg'd them as a friend, to be a little more moderate, and, before they went so far, to consider whether they were sure of *all* their friends. They were surpris'd, and said, they thought so. He replied, that he thought otherwise, and could, if he would, (*for he was authoris'd to do it*) tell them a very different story. Mr. Pitt immediately insisted upon knowing it, or he would treat no farther. Upon which, the Primate told them this private transaction of Legge with the Duke of Newcastle. This discovery occasioned great coolness to Legge at Leicester House, which, as soon as he perceived, gave him much uneasiness. At last (I think from Lord Hallifax) Legge found out, that, in return for his thinking of leaving his friends for the Duke of Newcastle, the Duke had betrayed him to them. He would have expostulated

postulated with his friends, but they would not suffer it, and, the negotiation taking place in their favour, they bade him take the Exchequer seals under the Duke of Newcastle, and enter into no further eclaircissement. He has done so, detected by Mr. Pitt and Leicester House; acting under one whom he hates; who hates him, and has betrayed him; breaking faith with Lord Halifax, without whom he engaged himself not to act; and with Oswald, to whom he had pledged his honour, never to come into the Treasury without him.

AND ALL FOR QUARTER DAY!

1757.

After the battle of Hastenbeck, and the disowning the Duke and the convention of Closter Seven, by the King, late in the Autumn of the last year, the Hanoverian army again took the field, and was commanded by Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick.

1758.

A message by Mr. Pitt for a supply to keep the Hanoverian army together—and 100,000 *l.* was granted.

JAN. 18.

1758.
JUNE 1.

Commodore Howe failed from St. Helen's with one seventy gun, three fifty gun ships, several frigates, one hundred transports having on board sixteen battalions, nine troops of light horse, and all preparations for a siege, commanded by the Duke of Marlborough, Lord George Sackville, General Waldegrave, &c. Lord Anson failed the same day.

5. They arrived in the Bay of Concalle, near St. Malo, and burned a few ships of no great consequence and several small craft which were on ground: they were all fired by the light horse. After staying about six days without attempting St. Malo, and on being informed there was a body of about 10,000 men assembled, or assembling in the neighbourhood, they reimbarked, with the loss of two or three men on a side. They continued in, or near the Bay of Concalle, till the men began to grow sick, ragged and lousy, from want of room in the transports, and were reduced to a quart of stinking water a day.

Our expedition returned. When it was known that they were come back, it occasioned great disputes among the Ministers, whether they should land or not, which lasted till the 5th instant; when, at a meeting of the Cabinet, it was determined that the men should land (as there was great sickness among them) while provisions, &c. were preparing for them. These orders were sent on the 6th. At this meeting, there was great difference of opinion. Lord Granville declared, he was always for distressing France upon the Continent; experience had taught him to have no great expectations from expeditions; he meant no reflections upon the late ones, nor to make his court, for he wanted nothing; his duty alone made him speak, &c. Mr. Pitt said, he had sufficiently shewn, that he was for supporting the Continent, by paying an army of 50,000 men for its defence. That he had consented to send 10,000 more from hence. But still he thought that expeditions, and keeping France in alarms upon the coast, was the most effectual way to distress her;—That
 expe-

1758.
 JULY 1.

1758. expeditions had always succeeded. Did
 JULY 1, you not take Port l'Orient, if St. Clair
 would have accepted it? Did you not take
 Rochefort last year? it was entirely at your
 disposition. Have you not taken St. Ma-
 lo? &c. &c. Lord Ligonier said; my
 Lord Granville, your Lordship must ad-
 mit. Lord Granville interrupted him with,
 my Lord, I will admit nothing; your
 Lordship is apt to admit, but I will ad-
 mit nothing.

10. The 10,000 men, which were allowed
 by Mr. Pitt for Germany, were to be com-
 manded by the Duke of Marlborough, Lord
 George Sackville and General Waldegrave,
 all having deserted the expedition. Lord
 George said, he would no longer go Buc-
 caneering: the King refused to let him go
 to Germany, but his Majesty was obliged
 to submit.

31. The expedition again put to sea, with a
 less force than before; three of the regi-
 ments, and half the light horse having been
 sent to Germany.

A squa-

A squadron of twenty Russian and ten Swedish ships of the line with transports for 13,000 Russians to land in Pomerania, appear in the Baltick—to our great *surprise*.

1758.
JULY 31.

It appears by the Duke of Marlborough's manifesto to the magistrates of St. Malo, that he threatened them with burning the country in his possession, if they did not order the inhabitants back to their houses, and direct them to send proper persons to him, to settle contributions. The magistrates did not obey his orders, and his Grace was in too much haste to return, to put his threats in execution.

AUG. 3.

An account came that Cherbourg surrendered the 8th instant.—The troops, being two regiments, withdrew. There were about twenty-seven ships in the Harbour—thirty pieces of brass cannon taken.

14.

After having demolished the bastion and the forts, our troops left Cherbourg, the 16th, without any molestation, though it
is

21.

1758. is said there was a great body of troops in
AUG. 21. the neighbourhood.

SEPT. 16. Our troops landed the 4th instant in
Lunaire Bay, and burned twenty vessels.
They were to march to St. Guildo, the
9th, and to reimbark, the 10th, at St. Cas,
near Matignon. Our troops were repulsed
on the 12th, between Matignon and St.
Cas—and returned to Portsmouth the
18th.

OCT. 15. I was told by a gentleman, who had it
from Colonel Cary, that upon landing at
St. Lunaire, Colonel Clerke told him
that his plan was, 1st, that Lord Howe
should bombard the forts of St. Malo,
while they of the land were to take the
town by escalade. That being impracti-
cable—2dly, that they should go to St.
Bride, where they were to find and burn
300 ships, and where they found only as
many fishing boats as might be worth
about 50l.—3dly, they were to march far-
ther into the country, to intimidate the
French, who had nothing but a few mi-
litia

litia to defend them. Soon after, they were beaten by a number of regular troops inferior to their own.

1758.

OCT. 15.

The Parliament was opened by commission. Universal approbation of all that has, and of all that will be done. The King of Prussia's victories worth all we have given, and those he will gain, worth all we shall give. Thus this country seems to think at present. The conspirators taken up, for the assassination of the King of Portugal, the third of September.

Nov. 23.

The appeal of the Dutch ship, America, was heard. She was condemned, ship and cargo, as French: in going directly to St. Domingo, and unlading there: in being reladen by Frenchmen on their own account: in returning directly to France, and by the French ordered to throw all their papers overboard, if attacked by the English, which they did.

1759.

APRIL 5.

Lord Hallifax called on me, and told me, that the Duke of Newcastle was extremely

MAY 16.

1759.
MAY 16. tremely glad of having a vacancy in the Treasury, by making Lord Besborough Postmaster, and now he might take Mr. Oswald, and all would be settled; but that Lord Bute came to him, in the name of all of them on that side of the Administration, and told his Grace positively that they would not consent to Oswald's being in the Treasury; and the rather, as they knew he was not his Grace's man, but was suggested to him by Mr. Legge: and this, the Duke, very much frightened, was pleased to own. He added, that they thought they had as good a right to recommend as any one, and they expected that Mr. Elliott of the Admiralty should succeed: the Duke did not absolutely acquiesce in the nomination, but he did in the exclusion.

JUNE 2. The Parliament prorogued.

The Diary seems to have been discontinued from this time, till Oct. 25, 1760.

The

The King died suddenly between seven and eight in the morning, of which I received an account immediately, and, the same day, I sent a letter to Lord Bute. 1760. Oct. 25.

I kissed the young King's hand. 30.

I was to wait on the King, in his closet; and afterwards, on the Princess, at Leicester House. Nov. 14.

Mr. Ellis was with me to let me know, that the Duke of Newcastle was desirous of seeing me about the election at Weymouth. I deferred giving an immediate answer. 18.

I wrote to Lord Bute, desiring him to settle the answer I should send to the Duke of Newcastle. 19.

Mr. Ellis came for the answer, which was, that I begged to be excused troubling his Grace, because my interest at Weymouth was engaged to gentlemen, who, I could not doubt, but would be agreeable to 20.

1760. to him, because I had reason to believe
 Nov. 20. they would be acceptable to the King.

22. Lord Bute sent to desire to see me, at my own house, in Pall Mall. He staid two hours with me: we had much serious and confidential talk: he gave me repeated assurances of his most generous friendship, and fresh instances of the King's benignity, by his Majesty's order.

29. Lord Bute came to me by appointment, and staid a great while. I pressed him much to take the Secretary's office, and provide otherwise for Lord Holderneffe—he hesitated for some time, and then said, if that was the only difficulty, it could be easily removed; for Lord Holderneffe was ready, at his desire, to quarrel with his fellow Ministers (on account of the slights and ill usage which he daily experienced) and go to the King, and throw up in seeming anger, and then he (Bute) might come in, without seeming to displace any body. I own the expedient did not please me.

I was at council, and signed a letter to check the government of Ireland for not sending over a bill of supply, as is always the form, before their dissolution on the demise of the Crown.

1760.
DEC. 3.

Lord Buckinghamshire, George Townshend, Belendine, Dashwood, Macky, Vaughan, and Stanley, dined with me.— Much dissatisfaction at the King's making Lord Fitzmaurice Aid de Camp—and the measure of bringing country Lords and considerable gentlemen about the King, as Lord Litchfield, Mr. Berkley, &c. ridiculed by the creatures of the Administration.

4.

The Duke of Richmond resigned the bedchamber, which he had just asked for, because Lord Fitzmaurice was put before his brother. I had several friends to dine with me, when the Duke of Richmond's affair was much canvassed. Lord Hallifax said, that the Duke had assured the person, from whom his Lordship heard it, that

8.

1760. the King sent and offered his Grace the
 DEC. 8. Bedchamber—which is not true.

The whole affair, as I had it from Lord Bute, was this—The Duke, after having talked very offensively of the Scotch, on the promotion of Sir Henry Ereskine, asked, in a private audience of the King, to be of his Bedchamber : his Majesty gave him a civil, but not a decisive answer, and acquainted Lord Bute with it, who told his Majesty, that the Duke's quality and his age made him a very proper servant to be about his person ; upon which Lord Bute was ordered to let the Duke know that the King accepted his service, which Lord Bute performed, and then mentioned to the Duke, how his Grace's behaviour about Sir Henry Ereskine was particularly offensive to him (Bute). The King was displeased that he was not informed of it before, and Lord Bute said, that he thought the Duke a proper servant for his Majesty, and as such, recommended him, but not as his friend. The Duke came to see Lord Bute, to thank him for his kind offices,

offices, and to disown all political connections with Mr. Fox. Lord Bute said, that the King had no manner of objection to Mr. Fox, and that he himself had a great regard for him personally: and then Lord Bute fairly told the Duke, that the King knew how he had talked about Sir Henry Erskine's affair, and of him (Bute) in particular; which the Duke endeavoured to palliate, and said, it had been much aggravated.

1760.
DEC. 8.

Lord Bute called on me, and we had much talk about setting up a paper—and about the Houses, in case of resignations.

20.

Mr. Glover was with me, and was full of admiration of Lord Bute: he applauded his conduct and the King's: saying, that they would beat every thing; but a little time must be allowed for the madness of popularity to cool. He was not determined about political connections, but, I believe, he will come to us.

21.

Lord Bute was with me, and we weighed and considered all things, and, though af-

23.

1760. ter long discussions we parted without any
 DEC. 23. decision, I think he inclines much to my
 scheme.

27. I had a long conversation with Lord Bute about Lord Egmont, whose election I undertook to secure, if the King commanded me, on his being refused the Peerage. His Lordship answers to my queries of the 25th instant. We talked about the city militia, and the demand of the Lieutenancy for the whole corporation—about the Dukes of Newcastle and Argyle flattering Lord Bute with the King, and their offering to act under him. The Duke of Chandois's pretensions—the Duke of York's establishment, &c.

Lord Egmont's affair is as follows. I yesterday received a letter, letting me know that Lord Egmont had lately written to his steward, Biddlecombe, with orders to shew the letter to the Mayor of Bridgewater, wherein he lets him know that it was probable, there would be an election at Bridgewater either on the 23d or 24th.

In

In which case, he should propose Lord Percival in his room. All this appeared to me so strange, that I asked Lord Bute about it. He, after putting me in mind that he had told me, a week ago, that there never was a thought of making Lord Egmont a Peer, or that even any application had been made, said, that very lately Lord Egmont had been with him, and begged earnestly to go into the House of Lords—that his election at Bridgewater was very uncertain—that he was very ill, and much dejected, &c.

1760.
DEC. 27.

That he (Bute) told him there was very little encouragement, and told me that the King was very little disposed: he asked me, what I would do in his election; to which I replied, throw him out. Lord Bute seemed to think it hard he should be in neither house. Perceiving that, I said that, if the King would keep him out of the House of Lords, and he (Bute) desired it, I would secure his election at Bridgewater. He said, it was too much for me to give up family interest. I replied, nothing

1760. is too much that is useful, where friend-
 DEC. 27. ship is real and mutual.—And here it now
 stands.

1761. Lord Bute came and said, he was sure
 JAN. 2. that the Ministry had some glimpse of get-
 ting off our system, by setting up that of
 abandoning Hanover, and of applying the
 money to distress France into a peace; that
 they would, by their popularity, force this
 measure upon the King, who must conse-
 quently lose a great deal of his own. I told
 him, as the truth was, that this measure
 was the only found one to get out of the
 war. That I had yesterday begun to put
 my thoughts upon it into writing, to per-
 suade him to obtain powers of the King to
 carry it into execution. That my only
 doubt was, whether the new Parliament
 should not be suffered to meet, only to de-
 clare in the speech that his Majesty found
 himself involved in this war, to which he
 had no ways contributed: that, seeing the
 bent of the nation so violent, he had ac-
 quiesced in it, without approving of it,
 persuaded that they would soon feel, if
 they

they did not see, their error : that he was convinced that the present method of defending Hanover would ruin this country, without defending that ; and he therefore would no longer expose his regal dominions to such hardships, for fruitless attempts to protect his electoral ; but would leave them in the hands of his enemies, and apply the expence to force them to a reasonable peace, by means more probable and proper to attain that end.

1761.
JAN. 2.

He paused a considerable time, and did not say positively, that he could, or could not, get the King to consent to this system, but he returned to say, that he thought the Ministry had an eye that way. If such should be their scheme, I said, it would be irresistible ; but there was one way to defeat the use they proposed from it, which was, to put himself at the head of it, in a great office of business, and to take the lead, and the merit of bringing with him the true British principles of making war, peace, &c.

1761. Lord Bute said, that, tho' he was sure the
 JAN. 2. Ministry looked that way, he hoped and
 believed they would not easily follow it :
 that I, indeed, always talked of them, as
 if they were united, whereas they neither
 were nor could be. That the Duke of
 Newcastle most sincerely wished for peace,
 and would go any lengths to attain it. That
 Mr. Pitt meditated a retreat, and would stay
 in no longer than the war,

But, for my part, I think they will con-
 tinue the war as long as they can ; and keep
 in, when it is over, as long as they can ;
 and that will be, as long as they please, if
 they are suffered to make peace, which
 will soon be so necessary to all orders and
 conditions of men, that all will be glad of
 it, be it what it will, especially if it comes
 from those, who have all the offices and the
 powers of office. All which can never end
 well for the King and Lord Bute. His
 Lordship now shewed me a letter to Lord
 Egmont, which he wrote in the King's
 presence, saying, " that the King is resolv-
 ed to make no more Peers, at present,
 9 than

than those now before him; that if his Lordship thinks his personal application to his Majesty will make him alter this resolution, he hoped his Lordship would take that step: and then added, if you think your election uncertain, and I can be of any service to you in it (*as I think I can*) your Lordship may command me." I hope he will not accept the service offered.

1761.
JAN. 2.

His Lordship then said, he was persuaded it would be seen this very winter, if the Ministry endeavoured to prolong the war; for he thought that the King of Prussia himself would insist upon their making a peace, and even a separate peace.

This I confess, I do not understand—we agreed upon getting runners, and to settle what he would disperse.

I dined at Sir Francis Dashwood's. Lord Bute came, and he shewed me Lord Egmont's answer: he is displeas'd, but desires to know, if he is to understand his Majesty refuses him the Peerage for ever,

9.

or

1761. or for this time only. We are now quit
 JAN. 9. of his Lordship. Lord Bute thinks the
 French will make a separate peace upon
 the present foot—I think not—and I en-
 deavoured to shew him, that nothing but
 ruin could flow from our persisting in the
 present measures; nothing could produce
 peace, but withdrawing from the Conti-
 nent; that it must be, either from neces-
 sity, or from being driven into it by those,
 who brought this ruin upon us, or from a
 petition to the throne by the united voice
 of his Majesty's best subjects. But, at all
 events, it ought to appear, that the giving
 up Hanover was his Majesty's own system;
 and therefore in case any thing, that looked
 that way, should be moved, he (Bute)
 should be prepared to take the lead, and
 that he and I should begin the affair in the
 House of Lords. I wish I may have con-
 vinced him. I had written, and afterwards
 I mentioned Lord Talbot's son-in-law to
 succeed Boscawen, who was dying. He
 was sorry I had not thought of it sooner,
 but he had agreed to fill his place by a re-
 moval out of the board of trade. I tried to

get the Jewel Office for him by an arrangement for Lord Lyttelton—but in vain. We wished to have some coffee-house spies, but I do not know how to contrive it. Went to Court at Leicester House—at the House of Commons on Lord Marischall's petition.

1761.
JAN. 9.

15.

Lord Bute came, and said, that he was now sure that Pitt had no thoughts of abandoning the Continent, and that he was madder than ever. He was uneasy with Talbot, as he would have put the Steward's staff into Talbot's hands the first day if he could. That he had heard, that Talbot thought Granby could persuade his father to quit it, and that, otherwise, he would not accept it, on account of the friendship between him and Granby. That Talbot would make an excellent officer to reform that most corrupt office. That, in whatever he (Bute) should do for his friends, he should always, at the same time, consider the service of his master and of the public. I pressed him much for Lord Talbot; to which he replied, that he had marks of all the distinctions that were going.

16.

1761. going. The Council accepted, and refused:
 JAN. 16. in the promotions of Peerage, an Earldom. That he perceived Lord Talbot meant a place of more consequence than he (Bute) wished. He was sorry for it, for he was violent, and I might depend upon it, he would be impracticable in business. That Lord Talbot had used him unkindly. I said all I could, and from my heart. I touched again upon Rice—he said, he thought the board of trade no improper beginning, and that might possibly be shaped out. I said, the offer of any thing directly from him, accepted or not accepted, I thought would be very kindly taken. That Henley owed his being made Chancellor, from Keeper, entirely to him, and that he had brought Henley's letter to shew me. I begged his Lordship to preserve that letter, as well as some others he had shewn me, properly labelled and tied up: for the ingratitude of mankind might make it of use to have preserved them. He smiled, and said he had already found it so: and then told me Martin's impertinent conversation at the Admiralty, in presence of a dozen people,
 about

about a line to be drawn between the Scotch and the English, and that it ought to be observed and continued. 1761. JAN. 16.

Lord Bute then said, that he must see the Duke of Newcastle, to settle with him about the elections shortly. That, to those who had proposed to him to unite with the Duke upon conditions, he had said, he would agree to no conditions till he saw Talbot, Dashwood, and Charles Townshend (which last, he said, had sworn allegiance to him, *for a time*), had such places as he wished.

As to the army, he wished he could talk with an impartial officer: that he thought the King of Prussia and Prince Ferdinand were as popular as ever. I answered, that I thought the King of Prussia began to be very little so: and that there was something so servile in the education of an officer, that, if the officer found out what he desired to hear, he might be sure of hearing nothing else. That I thought Prince Ferdinand was become as unpopular
in

1761. in the army, as he was once popular—that
 JAN. 16. he was accused of three great heads of malversation. The first was, that he had exacted complete pay for uncomplete corps: the second, that not one shilling of all those devastating contributions had been carried to the public account: the third, that he had received good money, and had paid the troops in bad, to a very great amount, and at a great discount: that this last was an affair mercantile and of exchange—and that, if the charge was true, I would undertake to find those who should lay it open to the world beyond contradiction. Lord Bute's notions about the war are very singular, and, I believe, not thoroughly digested: he thinks, the enemy will make a peace upon the present footing, if we go on conquering their islands, &c. I think, that they will never make peace with us, till we withdraw our troops actually, or till they think we design it. His opinion is, that our withdrawing our troops would either effect a peace, or enable us to carry on a war much cheaper, and by national means for national ends; but

but what compensation is to be made for Hanover? I replied, according to the damage done, and the foundation must be, how much heavier the taxation of the electorate has been, than what it was under its natural Prince. He said, that, if we made this separate peace, we must still pay the King of Prussia, which would make the war look more unnatural. I thought not; but then, he said, we must stop here, and not think of conquering any farther. I answered, I saw nothing to conquer; that France had as much lost Martinico, as she could lose it—that the French government had not received a sixpence from the duties, nor the subjects from their estates, these two years. He said, all the produce came home in neutral ships. He then returned to the difficulties of indemnifying Hanover, if the troops should be withdrawn, and the peace be made. And this makes me doubt, whether the King can be brought to abandon Hanover, which seems to me to be the only method to secure a good peace to that country, as well as to this.

1761.
JAN. 16.

The

1761. The Keeper was yesterday made Chan-
 JAN. 16. cellor.

FEB. 2. Lord Bute came, and was dissatisfied with the clamour about the beer, at the play-house, the evening in which the King was there. I mentioned to him the intelligence which I had just received; that Mr. Pitt had told Mr. Beckford, last Friday, that all was over, and he would have no more to do. He replied, he did not believe it. He had not seen Mr. Pitt this fortnight, but had seen Mr. Beckford lately, who dropping in conversation that he wished to see the King his own Minister, he (Lord Bute) replied, that his great friend Mr. Pitt did not desire to see the King his own Minister, and he might tell him so, if he pleased, for that it was very indifferent to him (Bute) if every word he said was carried to Mr. Pitt. I asked his Lordship, if he knew why the Parliament was kept on so long? he said, he thought it was the better for him, as his friends had the more time to look about them, and that the Duke of Newcastle was desirous
 to

to have it end. I then asked if he had settled the new Parliament with the Duke? he replied, he had not seen his Grace for some days, but supposed he should soon, and he would then bring his list with him. That what were absolutely the King's boroughs, the King would name to; but where the Crown had only an influence, as by the customs, excise, &c. he could not be refused the disposition of it, while he stayed in. That he had told Anson, that room must be made for Lord Parker, who replied, that all was engaged: and that he (Bute) said, What, my Lord, the King's Admiralty boroughs full, and the King not acquainted with it! That Anson seemed quite disconcerted, and knew not what to say. His Lordship was not for pushing them yet, for if the peace was a bad one, as it must be; they would certainly proclaim, that it was owing to their dismission, because they were not suffered to bring the great work to a happy conclusion, to whom the glorious successes, which had hitherto attended their conducting it, were entirely to be attributed. In

1761.

FEB. 2.

1761. short, he seemed to think, that nobody
 FEB. 2. could stand such a peace, as must be made
 upon the present system, but those who
 had brought us into that system, and were
 the authors of it.

6. His Lordship and I talked over Charles
 Townshend's being Secretary at War, and
 Sir Francis Dashwood's succeeding him.
 He seemed resolved to come into Adminis-
 tration, but not yet. We agreed that, if
 there was nothing irregular to be done,
 the new Parliament would be the King's,
 let who will chuse it. He said it was very
 easy to make the Duke of Newcastle resign,
 and he did not imagine that his Grace
 would do it in any hostile way, or make
 those, whom he elected, oppose the Minis-
 try. But, who was to take it? was the
 question. He did not seem to think it
 adviseable to begin there. I replied, I
 saw no objection; but if he thought there
 was, he might put it into hands that would
 resign it to him, when he thought proper
 to take it; but that he must begin to be
 a public man, by taking something, or else,
 the

the objection would be the same at ten years end. He said, that Holderneffe knew nothing of what the Minister was doing for these last ten days, and therefore he began to think with me, that it was possible Pitt might resign.

1761.
FEB. 6.

HERE the Diary concludes; but it is much to be regretted, that his Lordship did not continue it, during the very interesting period, which immediately preceded his decease. The confidential letters in my possession, and his Lordship's answers to them (both of which he most carefully preserved) might assist me in carrying on the history of those times, till within a month of his death: but, as I have neither leisure for such an undertaking, nor sufficient knowledge of that memorable æra, to enable me to select or digest the letters properly, I think it prudent to decline so arduous a task; a task, indeed, that would have been attended with almost insuperable difficulties: for we may naturally suppose that, in a written intercourse between his Lordship and men of various principles, many of the letters and answers would convey representations, very contradictory to those of others.

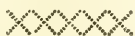
Lord Melcombe was too experienced a courtier, to speak the same language to all people: on the contrary, he was studious to assimilate his politicks to those of his correspondents, and to make his ideas apparently consonant to the opinions of those men, from whom he expected emolument.



A P P E N D I X.

THE ensuing Narrative is, by some Years, prior to the earliest date of the Diary; but, as it is frequently alluded to in the work, the Editor has inserted it in this Appendix; and he doubts not, that every honest man will unite with him in the patriotick wish, that this country may never again be distracted with dissensions, similar to those, which were the consequences of the following transaction.

For such was the fatality of those unnatural dissensions, that the judicious and provident part of the nation, and, alas! a Father too, could be justified in rejoicing, that a Prince of Wales was numbered with the dead.



FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 1736-7.

A

NARRATIVE

OF WHAT PASSED BETWEEN

The PRINCE and Mr. DODINGTON;

AND AFTERWARDS BETWEEN

Sir ROBERT WALPOLE and Mr. DODINGTON:

UPON

The resolution of his Royal Highness to bring a demand into Parliament, for an augmentation of his allowance to 100,000*l. per ann.* and for a jointure upon the Princesses.

ON Monday, the 7th of February, 1736-7, being informed that the Prince went to bed indisposed, I thought it my duty to go to his lodgings next morning (Tuesday the 8th) to enquire of the Pages of the Back Stairs, after his health. I found his saddle horses in the Court; they told me he was pretty well, and insisted upon letting his Royal Highness know I was there. I would not admit of it, being obliged, that morning, to attend the Treasury, and the House; but, before my coach could drive off, one of the Pages overtook me with a message from the Prince to attend him.

I found him with the servants in waiting about him, his boots on, and powdering his hair, to ride out. After having finished his dress, he directed the gentlemen to withdraw; and then, with his usual goodness, was pleased to talk to me very freely, upon the state of his Majesty's indisposition, and upon several other subjects, relating to transactions, and persons, of a publick nature.

After half an hour spent in this kind of conversation, I humbly offered to take my leave; but he commanded me to sit down again, and then said that he would communicate a secret to me of great importance, in which he should desire my assistance, and designed partly to employ me. I answered, that if his Royal Highness was pleased to trust me with a secret, I had one favour to ask, which was, that he would tell it to nobody else, and then I would be answerable it should remain a secret. He told me that it was not of that nature; that it would be known; that several people now knew it; but that no one servant of the Crown, as he believed, was acquainted with it: that having always had more kindness, and affection for me, than for any body, he thought he owed it me, (as he was pleased to express himself) to communicate it to me, the first of any of the King's servants, and by his own mouth: that those who were chiefly concerned, and engaged in it, were apprised of this his resolution, and not only approved, but even advised, that I should be the first of the Court made acquainted with it.

Exceedingly

Exceedingly surpris'd as I was at this unexpected prelude, I only returned thanks, in the best manner I was able, for the gracious and condescending expressions he was pleas'd to use, and really did not guess (as I naturally might have done, if I had not been surpris'd) what it tended to. He then enter'd into very bitter complaints of the usage he had, all along, met with from the Administration, and even from their Majesties: that he was not allowed wherewithal to live, &c. that he was resolv'd to endure it no longer, and had determin'd to make a demand in Parliament of a jointure for the Princess, and of 100,000*l.* *per ann.* for himself, which his father had, when Prince; and which he look'd on to be his right, both in law and equity. I object'd to the very great danger of such an undertaking; put his Royal Highness in mind, how strongly I had always been against it, when he formerly mention'd it; and was going to shew the fatal consequences it must produce, besides the great improbability of success. But he interrupt'd me, and said, that it was too far gone for those considerations; that he did not ask my advice, but my assistance; he was determin'd upon the measure, and design'd to send and speak with my particular friends, namely, Sir Paul Methuen, Lord Wilmington, and the Duke of Dorset; but chose out of kindness to me, to acquaint me, first with it: that he would send to Sir Paul by Sir Thomas Frankland, and ask'd me, if I would break the matter to them, and what, I believ'd, they would think of it. Sensible of the danger and difficulties that attend negociations of this delicate nature,

ture,

ture, even among the best friends, I replied, as to the first part, that I humbly beg'd to be excus'd from breaking it; that whatever friendship those gentlemen did me the honour to admit me to, I thought it a matter too high to undertake: that, as he had mentioned his intentions of sending to them, and as they were, by their rank, and affection to his Royal Highness, every way qualified to be consulted, I thought it highly proper that he should know their sentiments from their own mouths, in an affair of this very great importance; that then, what they said to his Royal Highness, could not be mistaken, and what he was pleas'd to say to them could not be misrepresented. As to what they would think of it, I was confident, by what I felt myself, that they would be infinitely surpris'd; too much so, in my judgment, to give his Royal Highness any positive and determinate opinion. He said, he did not want their opinion, but their assistance, and what would my friend the Duke of Argyll do? Be extremely surpris'd too, without all doubt, Sir, I replied: I do not know what he will do; but I am confident, I know what he would not do, which is, he would not advise your Royal Highness to this measure. He answer'd, that the measure was fix'd, that he was resolv'd, and wanted no advice, but he would not send to him, nor to Lord Scarborough, but to the Duke of Dorset, and Lord Wilmington he would send, being resolv'd it should come into the House of Lords the same day, or soon after, let the fate of it be what it would in the House of Commons. He stopp'd here a little, and us'd some expressions,

professions, as if he would have me understand, that he had said enough about all those that he thought I lived with in the closest connection. I endeavoured, after assuring him with what affectionate duty we had always been his sincere servants, to shew the great improbability of success in such an undertaking; but he cut me short, and said, None at all, that there were precedents for it; and mentioned that of the Princess of Denmark, in King William's time: that all the opposition, and the Tories were engaged in it: that as it was his own determination, and he had been advised by nobody, when he had resolved it in his own mind, he thought it necessary to speak to people himself; he had done so, to Mr. Pulteney, Lord Carteret, Lord Chesterfield, Master of the Rolls (Jekyll), and Sir William Wyndham; that they were all hearty in it: that Mr. Pulteney, at the first notice, expressed himself so handsomely, that he should never forget it: but said he could, at that time, only answer for himself, not expecting the proposition, but beg'd leave to consult with some of his friends; which his Royal Highness granted him, and he had, since, assured him that they were unanimous: that Sir William Wyndham had said, that he had long desired an opportunity of shewing his regard, and attachment to his Royal Highness; that he would answer for his whole party, as well as for himself; and that he was very happy, that an occasion presented itself to convince his Royal Highness, by their zealous and hearty appearance in support of his interest, how far they were from being Jacobites, and how much they were misrepresented

under

under that name. [N. B. He spoke in the debate, but did not vote, and forty-five Tories were absent.] That Lord Winchelsea was gone down to Petworth, to bring up the Duke of Somers, who he thought would move it in the House of Lords: that Mr. Sandys, Sir Thomas Saunderson, Mr. Gibbon, Mr. Waller, Sir John Barnard, and several others, were acquainted with it, and highly approved it: that, possibly, Sir John Barnard might move it. He then asked me, if I had really heard nothing of it from the Court. I assured him, with great truth, that I had not; from whence he was pleased to infer, how generally odious the Minister must be, that nobody would tell him a thing that so nearly concerned him, when by his Royal Highness's calculation of those that knew it, and asked leave to consult their friends, there could not be less than from forty-six to fifty that must be acquainted with it: he added, that it would make an end of his power, or to that effect, which I had no reason to be sorry for. I told him that, indeed, I had no reason, nor did I pretend to be partial to the Minister, but it was my misfortune to differ so far from his Royal Highness, that I thought this measure would be the most effectual one to secure and strengthen him. He seemed much surprised at that, and asked my reason. I said I thought so, because the Minister had, I believed, long since experienced, that he could have no hopes of governing by the approbation, and affection, of the people: that his only security, therefore, was his favour, and hold at Court: and in my poor opinion, this unhappy measure would make the King's cause,
and

and his, inseparable, and rivet him yet faster, where his only strength lay. I then humbly beg'd him to consider the circumstance of time ; how far it might be consistent with the known greatness and generosity of his character, to make such an attack, when his father was in a languishing condition. He replied, that he was sensible of that, but he could not help it : he was engaged, and would go through : the King could not live many years, but might linger thus a good while, and he could not stay that while : that the time, indeed, had its inconveniencies of one sort, and he wished it otherwise, but it had its conveniencies of another ; it would make people more cautious, and apprehensive of offending him : that, besides, he had told the Queen of it in the summer, and assured her that he designed to bring it into Parliament ; that she had treated it as idle, and chimerical ; that it was impossible that he should make any thing of it, and seemed to think he was only in jest : that if his friends stood by him, he should carry it in the House ; but if he missed there, he could not fail of it in six months : that I should know the family as well as any body ; he always thought I did ; but found that I did not, or would not : but he himself knew his own family best ; and he would make a bet that, if he failed, now, he gained his point in less than a twelvemonth, by this means : in short, he was resolved, and too far engaged in honour to go back : that it was his due, and his right ; absolutely necessary to make him easy the rest of his life : he could never want his friends but on this occasion : those that would stand by him in this, he should always look on as his friends,

friends, and reward as such; those that would not, he should not reckon to be so, they would have nothing to expect from him; and several other expressions to that purpose: that it was to be brought in, soon; in what shape, whether by address, or otherwise, he believed was not yet settled, but soon it must be. I made no particular answer to this last part, but only expressed my concern for the consequences; and waiting on him down stairs to his horse, beg'd of him to consider, how necessary it was to delay it from the great impropriety of the time. He said, if a little time would do, it might be considered, but the King might linger out the session in the same way. I took the liberty to ask, what would be the ill consequence if that should happen, and it should go over to another session. He said that could not be, his honour was too far engaged; he could not, he would not stay.

Here this conversation ended, without any direct demand to vote for this proposal, on his side; and without any direct promise, or refusal, on mine; and I left his Royal Highness with very great uneasiness and perplexity upon my mind, considerably augmented by the great ease and tranquility that appeared upon his: which is the natural effect of great resolutions, when they are fixed and determined.

Upon reflection on what had passed, finding it was resolved to apply, personally, to the Duke of Dorset, Lord Wilmington, and Sir Paul Methuen, I thought it a duty of the friendship in which we had, so many years,

years, lived, to prepare them for so disagreeable a conference : and first, as he was to be called on, the next day but one, I acquainted Sir Paul Methuen with it. We joined in lamenting the fate of this country, to be divided and torn to pieces by a disunion in this Royal family, which, with so many ardent wishes, with the profusion of so much blood and treasure, we had, at last, so happily placed on the throne, to end all our divisions, and protect us in union and tranquility. We agreed that Sir Paul Methuen should not seem to be any ways apprised of the cause of sending for him, but should lay hold on all overtures that should be given him, to represent strongly to his Royal Highness the very fatal consequences of this undertaking ; and by no means give him any the least reason, or encouragement to think, that he would vote for it.

I then opened the matter to the Lords. We had several conferences upon it ; and agreed to communicate it to Lord Scarborough, by the Duke of Dorset. The Lords unanimously agreed to do their utmost to prevent this ill-advised attempt (if they were sent to), and not to be hindered, by any interruptions, from representing strongly to his Royal Highness, the fatal consequences of it. But in case he persisted in it, to declare plainly to him, that they should think themselves obliged in conscience, and in honour, to oppose it, as fatal to his Royal Highness, injurious to the King, and destructive to the quiet and tranquility of the whole country ; and desired me to do so too, in case it should be my lot to be first called upon.

Sir

Sir P. Methuen was not sent for on Thursday, which gave me some hopes (vain ones indeed) that the great coldness I had received the proposition with, might have had some weight. On Friday the 11th, I received a message from the Prince, at Mr. Stanhope's, where I dined, to attend him next morning to Kew. I was not sorry for the opportunity, being resolved to leave no ambiguity in his Royal Highness's mind about my behaviour, and very apprehensive that names going about, and misrepresented as doubtful upon so important a point (how insignificant soever) might influence, or mislead unwary people. Before we rose from table, at Mr. Stanhope's, a servant brought me word that Sir P. Methuen had been at my house, and left word that he was gone home. I went directly to wait on him. He was then just gone from the Prince, to whom he had represented the danger and impracticability of this measure, with all the force and weight that became so honest and so honourable a man; and used all possible arguments, that a good head and a good heart could suggest, to dissuade him from it; but all without effect: that he then declared to him, that he could not be for him; but, at the importunate and repeated request of his Royal Highness, and reflecting that he had not attended the House, so as to give one single vote, since the excise bill, he had been prevailed on to promise his Royal Highness to be absent, as he used to be.

On Saturday the 12th, early in the morning, I received a message from the Prince, that he had put off his journey to Kew that day. However, being willing
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to come to an explanation, it was thought proper that I should place myself in the way, and go to his Royal Highness's apartment, to enquire after his, and her Royal Highness's health. The Pages told me that he was not come from the Princess's bed-chamber, but was pretty well, and had altered his resolution of going to Kew. I went away on foot, and did not return home all the morning. Just before three, one of the Prince's servants found me in the Park; told me he had been at my house, but the servants knowing nothing of me, he had been all over the town after me, to let me know there was a mistake in the morning message, and that the Prince ordered me to dine with him, that day, at his house in Pall Mall.

I dress'd, and got thither before his Royal Highness, but not before the company, which consisted chiefly of his bed-chamber. When he came, he desired the gentlemen to amuse themselves, and that he would take a walk with me till dinner. In the garden, after a little common conversation, he began by telling me that he had seen Sir Paul Methuen, and insinuated that Sir P. seem'd well enough satisfisd with the proposition. I said I was infinitely surpris'd, and mortified that I should differ with him in opinion, in an affair of such consequence, considering the long friendship between us, which implied some similitude of thinking. Upon which, he reced'd a little from that, and seem'd to give me leave to think that Sir P. did not much approve of it, but however, had promis'd to be absent. Then he said he had talk'd to several people,

and they all entered into it most heartily. Having taken my own party, I did not think proper to enquire who they were, though I was very curious to know; being persuaded (and I am so still) that there could not be one unprejudiced man in the nation of competent age, weight, and experience, to advise a Prince, that would approve of such a measure. After some pause, he told me he had spoken to Mr. Hedges (his Treasurer) and Lord Baltimore (of his bed-chamber) who were zealously for it. I said, no doubt his servants would vote for it; nobody could take it ill of them; they would have leave to do it. He answered, that 'twas no matter whose leave they had, so he had their votes. He added, that he had spoken to Mr. Arthur Herbert, who not only engaged for himself, but would bring in all his friends. I smiled, and said, I did not apprehend that he could make any vote but his own. [His brother was in France.] He said he would bet Mr. Herbert could make above five. I replied, that, if it were so, it must be by making use of his Royal Highness's name. He said, that every body was for him: he was absolutely determined to bring it in: he would hear no advice upon it; and if there were but seven in the House of Commons, and three in the House of Lords for him, he would do it. I told him, that, since he was absolutely determined, I thought it necessary to lay my humble opinion before him, when he would please to receive it. He said, he did not want my opinion, his party was taken. I replied, that I did not presume to offer my opinion as what was to guide his actions, but to lay before him what was to direct and govern my

own; which I should be glad to take the first opportunity of doing, this not being a proper one, because I saw one of the gentlemen coming to acquaint his Royal Highness that dinner was served. He took no notice of that, but walked into the wood, and said that he would shew me the Duke of Somerset's letter, which he did. It contained a pretty long account of the precarious state of his Grace's health, which made it impossible for him to come to town: referred to Lord Winchelsea for his opinion of the communication he had received of his Royal Highness's intentions; and concluded by wishes that his Royal Highness may live many years in health, prosperity, and plenty: he made me take notice of the word plenty. I said that, with humble submission, this letter did not seem to me to amount to a promise, nor give the least prospect of his Grace's coming to town. He said it was no matter, he should have his proxy, which was the same thing, [as indeed he had.] He then, with a great deal of vehemence, fell upon the difficulties he lay under: that as he had sacrificed himself to the nation, by demanding a marriage (though the Princess was the best, and most agreeable woman in the world) the nation ought to stand by him: that if people would value their employments more than right and justice, he could not help it; though he was so strong that he was sure the Court durst not touch any one that voted for him. I got an opportunity of putting in a word here, and said, that I saw very well, little regard would be had to any professions of not being biassed by one's employment, though I thought my behaviour towards those in power plainly shewed

(and to nobody more plainly than to himself) that I was not very solicitous about mine: but I did, in my conscience, think (and believe that every honest man, whose circumstances were above necessity, would think) this matter to be far above any pecuniary considerations: that a breach, so irreparable as this proceeding must occasion, would, for the future, take off all the grace and lustre of any employment of either side: that no man of honour above necessity, could serve, for the future, with pleasure, under the uneasy apprehensions that duty on the one side might be misconstrued into disaffection on the other: and therefore, I humbly besought him to believe that gentlemen, in this great case, would lay aside those lesser considerations, and act upon superior and more affecting motives, their duty to the whole, which I thought evidently in danger. He replied, that it was to no purpose to talk about things settled and resolved amongst friends: that it was very hard he should be all his life in want, and the only one in the nation that was not to have justice done him: that, now, was the time, and the only one, for people to do what they owed him; that he should expect it of them; he asked his right, and neither apprehended, nor foresaw, any ill consequences from it. I asked him, if he did not think it very dangerous to him to drive things to such an extremity between him, and his father, as might make it the interest of one half of the gentlemen of England, that he should never come upon the throne? He replied, why would they make themselves desperate? Why would they not do what they owed him, and what was justice? It would be their
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own faults : did he deserve less than the Princess of Denmark ? The gentlemen stood by her. I endeavoured to shew him the difference of the case, in one essential point, which I thought most likely to strike him, viz. In that case the addition was proposed when the civil list was precarious, and not granted to King William for his life ; and upon re-granting the duties which were then in the power of Parliament, that addition was demanded in her favour. But he gave no attention to it, but walked about with great precipitation, and a good deal agitated. As I saw there was no room left to make any impression upon him, I thought it was high time to put an end to the conversation, and therefore told him, that since I found him unalterable in his resolution, I would not presume to offer any thing more in opposition to it, but must beg leave to give him my plain sentiments as to myself : that I would have been glad to have had liberty to consult my friends, because it would have given my opinion more weight with myself, but as that could not be, and as I believed nothing they could say would alter it, I thought myself obliged to declare to him, and I did it with great concern, that if this matter came into Parliament, I should think myself obliged, in honour and conscience, to give my absolute dissent to it, as pernicious and destructive to all the Royal Family, and to the nation in general. He seemed very angry, but curbed himself a little ; and said he could never have expected this from me ; but he supposed then, that he was to expect all my friends against him, [meaning those gentlemen of the House of Commons whom he thought I could

influence.] I told him that I spoke only for myself; that I had not dropped the least hint to any one of them; they would know it but too soon. This conversation brought us to the door: I saw he was very much heated, and, going in, he said he must do as he could; that in the Princess of Denmark's time there were gentlemen that valued doing right, more than their employments; he was sorry the race of them was extinct: I had only time to say, that I was to submit to whatever his Royal Highness pleased to think, or say, and content myself with doing what I thought my duty. Thus we went to dinner, with a great deal of anxiety on my part, from the real affection, as well as reverence, that I bear him; and with much more freedom and gaiety on his, than I could possibly put on.

As soon as dinner and drinking was over, we rose, and I shuffled myself into the midst of the company, in order to get away with the first of them, when he pleased to make us his bow; but he dismissed them all, and ordered me to come with him into the little room. This conversation was much the longest, lasting near two hours; but as there was a great deal of repetition, I shall only put down what has not been already said; though scarce any thing was said by him, in the two former, that was not strongly repeated, and insisted upon, in this.

His Royal Highness began by telling me that he had done with asking me any thing more for his sake, but, as he had always had the greatest kindness and affection for me, he would now talk to me a little, for my own.

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That he desired me seriously to consider, in this affair, my own reputation in the world ; that it would suffer extremely by leaving him : that I must be sensible, I had done myself a great deal of hurt in the opinion of mankind, already, by acquiescing so much as I had done, in measures, with those who had treated me, and all my friends so ill ; but that it would be a great aggravation to that prejudice, if I neglected so advantageous an opportunity as this of getting free from it : and much more to this purpose. After humble thanks for his goodness, I replied that I was very sensible of the difficulties I lay under : that I had no choice to make but what must be disagreeable, and painful to me : that as to the Ministry, I had very little regard to those who treated me, or any of my friends slightly : that I thought nobody cared less who knew it, or took less pains to conceal it ; that in an affair, where I was convinced the whole was concerned, I must prefer my own integrity to the opinion of the world, and keep peace at home, whatever other people might think, or say. He said it was strange, that his best friends, and those he counted most upon, should be against him : that he wondered I should consider my own character, and my interest so little : he had always had the greatest kindness for me ; he was resolved to shew it in the most distinguishing manner ; why would I make it impossible ? Why, when he should have it in his power, give occasion to have it thrown in his teeth, that he was going to distinguish one who had left him at the only time that he could want his friendship ? That I must be sensible, after this, he could see me no more upon the foot he

had done. I said, I was extremely sensible of the truth of all he had been pleased to say; and that I had no comfort on either side, but from the sense of doing my duty: that my reason informed me this was a measure fatal to himself, and to the whole country; I was convinced of it; and my honour and conscience obliged me to dissent from it. He asked me, supposing that were so, if I never had given a vote against my opinion, in concurrence with those I had no reason to like? I answered, I had, many; and believed it was the case of every body who had acted with a party, either for, or against an Administration: that, in my opinion, business was not to be carried on in an abstracted way, by considering every point simply, and without connection to the whole: but that I had never acted contrary to my opinion, where I thought the whole immediately concerned, as I stood convinced it was, in this; and therefore, no earthly consideration could make me be for it. He then pressed me much with the authority of the people engaged: Would I talk with Mr. Pulteney and Lord Carteret? and if I was convinced it was their opinion, and they thought it right, would I then be for it? It could do no hurt to see them at least. I replied, I could have no doubt that they were engaged in it, after what his Royal Highness had been pleased to say; and that Lord Carteret might be the more easily induced to it from a persuasion that it must drop in the House of Commons. He said, that if there were but three votes for it, there, it should come into the House of Lords: Did I think him so simple as not to know Carteret? Would I see them?

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I answered, that I had the greatest regard for Lord Carteret's parts and abilities, and the most sincere respect and value for Mr. Pulteney, with whom I had lived in an intimate acquaintance for some years, and whom I always reckoned one of the most considerable men this country had bred: that if his Royal Highness commanded me, I was very willing to wait on them, but in no ways upon the foot of altering my opinion, singly upon their authority, and because the contrary might be theirs: but (I overshot myself so far as to add), to shew his Royal Highness how much I was in conscience persuaded of the truth of my opinion, unequal as I was (and in nobody's thoughts more so than in my own), I would venture to talk with both those gentlemen, before his Royal Highness, upon the consequences of this measure; and if they could shew me that the bringing it into Parliament would not be attended with the greatest dangers, prejudice, and divisions, both in the Royal Family and the nation, be it right or wrong in itself, when brought in, then I would be for it. His Royal Highness dropp'd this proposition (which I was extremely glad of, having given a very indiscreet opening against myself), and said it was his due; he hoped it was no fault to claim his due; and the Master of the Rolls told him that it was his right in equity. I said that equity amongst gentlemen, indeed, was understood to mean a plausible demand to a thing; but as the Master was a Judge in Equity, I was surpris'd at the expression from him, and could hardly believe that he would affirm to me, that there could be grounded a legal equity upon that
statute,

statute, to take the allotment of the estate thereby vested in the Crown, out of the King's disposition. He said it was his right, he had one hundred and eighty engaged to support him, and he hoped he should obtain it.

Not seeing the end of the conversation, I was resolved, if possible, to do what I thought my duty, and to set before him the precipices he was going to plunge into, let the reception it met with be what it would; and accordingly, I took the liberty of saying, that since it was absolutely necessary he should have 50,000*l.* *per ann.* addition, I humbly beg'd leave to know of his Royal Highness, why he would not rather chuse to ask it of the Parliament, than to push this dangerous and desperate measure? That I was highly sensible this proposition was very far from being prudent, or adviseable in itself, but, bad as it was, yet it was so infinitely preferable to the other evil, that I would not only be for it, but would support and maintain it with all my strength; and would engage that all my friends, not only those of the House of Commons, but those of the House of Lords, would be for it. He said, no, he thought the nation had done enough, if not too much for the family already: that he would rather beg his bread from door to door, than be a further charge to them; and that he would have it in this way, or not at all. I replied, that since he expressed so much tenderness to the nation, I intreated him to consider the state to which he reduced it: to reflect upon the profusion of blood and treasure, we had lavished, to maintain our liberties and constitution: to remember at what a
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vast expence we had brought over, and maintained his family, solely, and singly, to secure to us, and protect us in the quiet enjoyment of those liberties, and that constitution ; and then to think what sentiments it must raise in every honest country gentleman of great property, who have warm wishes to all the Royal Family, and who expected nothing but a good word, and a kind look from every part of it in return ; to think a little, I said, what that body of men must feel, to be dragg'd, unavoidably, by that very Royal Family, into the fatal necessity of being desperate with the possessor of, or the successor to the Crown : that, for my part, I should not be surpris'd, if they all absented themselves from the House, with hearts full of discontent, and distaste on both sides. He said, that if they would not do their duty cheerfully, they must be frightened into it ; or to that effect ; he could not suffer all his life, &c. I asked him, if he thought they were to be frightened ; and if they were, I appealed to his generosity, if that were a just return : that I most earnestly supplicated him not to overturn the constitution, and the whole Royal Family together : that I had always been bred in monarchial principles, such as were consistent with a free people : that I could no more help the people to intermeddle with the just rights of the Crown, than tamely sit still, and see the Crown invade and destroy the just rights of the people. Did he, could he believe, that if the King were to propose to a council, for their opinion, whether he should give his Royal Highness 50,000*l.* or 100,000*l.* *per ann.* that any of those Lords he had named, or myself, should have a moment's

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ment's difficulty in delivering and supporting our opinion for the larger sum? Surely he could not; there we should act according to our duty, and constitutionally; but to bring the Parliament into the King's closet, for them to examine into his most private, domestic affairs, intrude themselves into the government of his private estate and family, was, surely the most fatal precedent that could be made, and the most unheard-of to be attempted by a Prince that was to succeed him: that I most earnestly conjured him to consider what he was doing: that we all hoped he would have children: that he knew he had a brother; if it should happen, when he was on the throne, that discontents should arise (and there had been discontents under the best Princes that ever reigned), how would he like to have a Parliament tell him, that the Duke was an amiable, and a popular Prince, of great merit and expectation; that they thought his appanage too small, and desired his Majesty to double it: that he was born in England, and the nation could not think themselves safe in keeping up such an army, unless the Duke was declared General? Would he like this? and yet this they might do, they would have a precedent for it, and what was more extraordinary, and unanswerable, a precedent of his own making. He said, he knew how to avoid that: he gave me his word he would make his children and his brother entirely easy, they should have most ample allowances; that would be a most effectual way to keep every body quiet. I asked him if he was sure that they would be all, and always reasonable? Would all those that advised them,

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be so? Could he be blind to what fatal foundations he was laying for future disturbances? And beg'd him to consider, that even rebellions, with a Prince of the Blood at the head of them, lost a great deal of the horror, and even of the danger of common rebellions. I desired, that he would talk to the Duke of Argyll, and Lord Scarborough, to see if I was single in my apprehensions. He said, no, the Duke of Argyll was too deeply engaged with the Court, by his employments. I intreated him to look on the Duke in a far superior and more just light, as one of the first of his father's subjects, and more so, by his firm and unalterable attachment, and unavoidable connection to the whole Royal Family, than by his rank; but, however, Lord Scarborough had no employment. He still said, no; Scarborough, he knew, was always full of his fears; which he laughed at. I replied, that I was sure, if Lord Scarborough had his fears, they were for his Royal Highness, and not for himself. He still refused to speak to either of them, and said that, now he did not think to speak to the Duke of Dorset or Lord Wilmington. I beg'd him to believe, that I only spoke my own sentiments, and not to alter his design of sending for them upon that. He said, no, it was to no purpose; he knew we were in the same way of thinking, and was satisfied he could expect nothing from thence, so would not send for them; nor would he, now, for Sir Thomas Frankland, or Sir Conyers Darcy, as he once designed. I still persisted to desire, that he would not include those gentlemen with me, who knew nothing of it; but he persisted in the contrary, which
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made me say that I was extremely sorry that he would not speak to gentlemen of that character; and that I did not believe he would find one dispassionate man, unheated by opposition, of figure enough to be consulted, who would not most ardently and vehemently advise his Royal Highness against this measure. He then renewed his instances strongly to make me for it, and said he should make a very bad figure in the world, when it appeared that his best friends were against him, (and this he repeated often) in the only point he could want them, and in a point I well knew he was, always, entirely set upon, and had always had in view. I replied, it was true, I did know he was always bent upon it, but his Royal Highness as well knew, that I always as constantly opposed this way of attempting it: that he well knew that my firmness on this head was the first and chief cause of his withdrawing, for these two years last past, the confidence he formerly honoured me with: that I spoke it without the least thought of complaint, but he knew it was so; and therefore, as I could, by no means, charge his Royal Highness with acting inconsistently in pursuing this view; he must also do me the justice to own, that I acted consistently with myself in dissenting from it: that as he had been graciously pleased often to use the word friends leaving one, friends not assisting one, &c. I most humbly beg'd leave to submit, if it was friendly to take a resolution of the highest nature, a resolution one was known to be against, and unalterably to fix that resolution, with I could not say who; not with the friends, certainly, of those he was graciously pleased to call

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friends ; and all this, without the least communication to them till it was irrecoverable ; without giving them the least opportunity of having their objections weighed, or their scruples removed ; but only to tell them that the thing was fixed, and they must follow, or refuse it. He then set forth how unpopular the Court had made itself through the nation, which was much the reverse on his side. I told him, that I reflected, with much concern, on any unpopularity, but was thoroughly persuaded that this measure would lessen the unpopularity where he seemed to express the greatest dislike ; and lay a foundation for it, where he thought, and I was persuaded there was none ; because I was convinced that an attack upon his Royal Father, of this nature, and at this time, would produce so incurable a division, that when men's first passions subsided, and they began to reflect coolly ; the authors and advisers of this measure, (I did not know them, but the world would certainly fix it somewhere, unjustly perhaps) would, in the end, become the detestation of mankind, and perhaps of posterity. He still continued to press me warmly, and said that my being against him cut off his fingers ; but sure I could not deny him to be absent, if I would not be for him. I told him, that as I now stood informed, it was impossible for me to be absent ; when I had taken a mature resolution upon a thing of this weight, I thought it would be inconsistent with my honour and reputation, not to dare to shew it : that, however, if I could find any means to satisfy my honour to myself in being absent, I would wait on his Royal Highness again, but, as I now was informed, I thought

it impossible ; and that nothing could happen to me so fatal, not even his Royal Highness's displeasure, as to leave the least ambiguity upon his mind of my conduct. He asked what I meant by ambiguity ? I said, to leave any doubt with his Royal Highness, or reason for him to suppose, that I would be for him, or absent, when he would afterwards hear that I was against him. He said, it was very strange that I would not be absent, when I had said, that I thought it natural that many gentlemen of great honour and property would refuse to vote in this question. I replied, that I could not be absent, because I did not come under the latter part of the description I had made of them, for I had said, that what would make such gentlemen be absent, would be a motive of dissatisfaction against both, for having driven them to that extremity : now that could never be a motive with me, to whatsoever extremities I might be reduced. He said, he saw then, that he was to expect me, and all my friends (meaning the Commons against him. I told him, that as to my friends, I had not dropp'd the least hint to them of this affair : that I hoped, for his sake, they would not see it in the light that I did ; and did promise him, that I would use no one argument to induce them to do so : but for myself, it was with great concern I was obliged to say, that I must be against it, unless I could find reasons, which I did not then see, and which I believed it impossible to find, to be absent ; if I did, I would certainly wait on his Royal Highness again, and let him know it. Thus ended the most painful conversation I ever had, or, I believe, ever shall have, whilst I live.

As what is put down here is only to aid my own memory, while the transaction is fresh, and in particulars, only, where I was immediately concerned, I will not say when the Ministry first knew of this resolution; though, I think, I have undeniable reasons to believe, they did not know it till Sunday the 13th, at soonest; more probably not till Monday the 14th, which is extremely surprising. On Wednesday the 16th it was publick, and I was stopp'd by several gentlemen in the House of Commons, who desired my opinion, which I gave to none. Sir Robert Walpole desired me to stay the rising of the House, that he might speak with me: I did so, and when the House was almost empty, we went behind the chair together. He was, then, so little informed of people's opinions, that he began by saying, that he desired to speak to me without reserve; and therefore would ask me, frankly, if upon this great question, I would give him a meeting: I answered, that this great question was not new to me: that for three years preceding the two last, it had been the great struggle of my life to prevent it from breaking out then: that I would not have done so, if I had not entirely disapproved it; and that from that time, up to this very hour, I had never seen any one reason to induce me to alter my opinion. He said it was a very handsome declaration, and he thanked me; but that I well knew many things were liable to be imputed to us, which we were not guilty of, and therefore beg'd me to speak to my friends. I said, that I desired there might be no mistakes between us upon a subject of this importance; that I spoke for myself plainly,

and openly, I always disapproved of this measure as pernicious and fatal to the whole Royal Family, and as such, would give my publick dissent to it. As to what he called my friends, I supposed he meant Mr. Dodington, Mr. Wyndham, Mr. Beaghan, and the two Messrs. Tucker. He said, yes. I replied, that as to this matter, I would tell him the whole truth, indifferent how far he credited it: that it would be idle to tell him that I did not know of this measure, for I did, long since, but under such restrictions that hindered me from communicating it to any body; that I regarded those ties, and had not even hinted it to any one of those gentlemen; but as the thing was now publick, I had already spoke to some of them, and did design to do so to the rest, to meet me that night; but, as yet, could give him no manner of guess as to their opinion in this matter. He again desired me not to do the thing by halves, because it would be imputed. I told him that they were independent gentlemen; that though their fortunes were not large, yet they were sufficient, and they were resolved they always should be sufficient to keep them in independency; that he best knew they had not been regarded, or treated in a manner to give them any great present expectations. He interrupted me here, and said we understood one another; that what I said with relation to those gentlemen was true, and had proceeded from not being in a situation to have it otherwise, [meaning the coldness between us.] I replied, that I did understand him, but as he knew they had no present expectations, I could by no means say-how far they would care to forfeit the prospect of all future favours

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and advantages. He press'd me again to speak to them, for, indeed, it would be imputed. His repeating that so often, heated me a little, and made me tell him, that I very little regarded what might be imputed to me unjustly: Had I any pretensions? any expectations? What had I asked or pretended? He knew I had none: if I had, let him say it. He said it was very true; that I must be sensible that there had been great misunderstandings between us, he was willing to suppose on both sides, but that so great a service as this wiped out a multitude of things. I answered, that what I should do was from a motive of my duty; that I neither asked, nor expected any reward for it, nor pretended any thing from it: that as to the gentlemen, I would, as I designed, lay the matter fairly before them, and plainly tell them which way I should vote: whether my example would influence them, they must determine, but I should use no arguments to do it.

I did so the same night: and they, from their own judgments, entirely unbiaſſed, or attempted to be so by me, all determined to vote for the King.

On Sunday the 20th, about twelve gentlemen met at Sir Robert Walpole's, to be informed (as the custom is of all those meetings) of what is resolved upon, instead of being consulted (as the custom ought to be) upon what should be resolved on.

When the company was gone, I told Sir Robert Walpole that I had laid the matter before the gentlemen,

men, and that I found they were disposed to act in the same manner that I had declared I would do. He thanked me, and was going on (as I thought) to mention future expectations; but I prevented him, by continuing to say, that if I had been so unfortunate as to take another part in this unlucky affair, than that which the real sense of my duty, and zeal for the whole Royal Family had determined me to take, I believed he must be very sensible that the connection between those gentlemen and me was such, that we should not have differed in opinion. He said there could be no manner of doubt of it. I added, that I then left him to consider whether, beside that real sense of my duty, I had had, from the day this King came upon the throne, up to that hour, any one inducement to do what I had resolved to do. He answered, to be sure not; the misunderstandings between him and me were very publick, but now—and was going on, but I thought it not proper to enter into explanations, and interrupted him by saying, I did not mention this in any the least way of complaint, but thought I owed myself so much justice as to put him in mind of it: that as I acted from a principle of honour and conscience only, I was very regardless of the consequences that might happen to me from it; though I was not so blind as not to see that I stood exposed to future resentments by it, at least as much as any gentleman in England: with which I took my leave. On Tuesday the 22d, the motion was made by Mr. Pulteney, and seconded by Sir John Barnard; the message and answer produced by Sir Robert Walpole. The House divided between twelve and one; the

the numbers for the King were 234, for the Prince 204. There were 45 Tories absent; 35 members voted for the Prince against us, who, I think, never voted against us before.

On Friday the 25th, the same motion was made in the House of Lords (where I was also), by Lord Carteret, and seconded by Lord Gower. The debate lasted till past eight, when the motion was rejected. The numbers for the King were 103, for the Prince 40.

Thus ended this unhappy affair in Parliament: God only knows where the consequences of it will end in a nation, where, by the profligacy and dissoluteness of their manners, the people seem to have forfeited all pretence to the divine favour and interposition; and where baseness, degeneracy, and corruption, is arrived to such a height, as to make them an easy prey, not only to the glaring qualities, and miscalled virtues of great, ill-designing Princes; but even to the most barefaced, despicable attempts of the weakest, whenever they shall think fit to employ a little low cunning, and open corruption to enslave them.



Mr. Dodington's answer to the Prince, delivered, by Mr. Ralph, to the Earl of Middlesex, who presented it to his Royal Highness, March 11, 1748-9.

Alluded to in page 2.

THAT his Royal Highness may be thoroughly convinced, that Mr. Dodington is, in earnest, disposed to be as serviceable to his Royal Highness, and this country, as his circumstances and abilities will give him leave, he has resigned the office he had the honour to hold under his Majesty.

And having premised thus much, he humbly hopes he may be indulged in saying, That, if, by the most gracious offers his Royal Highness is pleased to make, of receiving him to the same degree of favour and protection as he once enjoyed, his Royal Highness means to admit him to the honour of being about his person, at his leisure hours, as a most respectful, most affectionate, and most disinterested attendant, he shall receive that great condescension, with all the reverential duty and respect, that becomes him, to a great and amiable Prince, who is thoroughly capable, by that means, of making the decline of his life much the happiest part of it,

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But as to entering into his Royal Highness's publick business; to advise, or direct the measures, which his Royal Highness may think fit to have pursued in Parliament, by his family, and followers, while himself, and his very few, most efficient friends, are not in his Royal Highness's service, or presuming to take a lead; or invite, or engage others, to follow his Royal Highness's standard; he humbly hopes it will, in no degree, be expected from him; because he knows, and is convinced, that his rank and fortune must render such an attempt vain and impracticable: nor does he believe, that any body, much his superior in both, could effectually serve his Royal Highness in that way, how necessary soever it may be, without those additions,

The following Letter, and Memorial, was sent to the Prince of Wales, by Mr. Dodington, October 13, 1749, and is taken notice of in page 12. Mr. Dodington advises his Royal Highness not to appear at the head of opposition, and attempts to dissuade him, from even encouraging any opposition, with such sensible and honest arguments that would reflect honour upon the most upright Statesman.

SIR,

Hammersmith, Oct. 13, 1749.

I CAME from Eastbury, to Hammersmith last night, but too late to pay my duty to your Royal Highness, as I designed when I sat out. I hope to have that honour and happiness, some time this morning, if your Royal Highness should happen to be at leisure.

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In the mean time, I humbly presume to lay the inclosed Memorial before your Royal Highness, to fill up a serious quarter of an hour; and as a proof that your service has not been out of my head, or heart, since I left your Royal Presence.

I am, &c.

Memorial for the Prince.

SIR,

October 12, 1749.

THOUGH I must own I am under but little, perhaps too little constraint, when I converse with your Royal Highness, in the familiarity of private life, which your condescension, often, calls me to: Yet, when I approach you in the light of a great Prince, of admirable endowments, by nature; highly improved by art and observation; a Prince with one foot on the throne of a, once, great, and powerful People; called thither by Providence, to prevent, or compleat its ruin: when I approach you in this light, and, above all, when I consider, that I am called to offer my serious opinion, relating to a conduct that must determine this awful event; I confess I am too much agitated, between the resolution of doing my duty to my country, and the fear of offending by too full, and plain a discharge of it, to speak to your Royal Highness with that calmness of mind, that full possession of myself, which the greatness of the object, the operation, and the actor require, upon so solemn an occasion.

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I have, therefore, chosen this way of memorial, as a means to lay my thoughts before your Royal Highness, in a less confused manner, and, at the same time, to give you an opportunity of examining them, as your leisure and inclination shall dictate: humbly hoping, only, that you will give them a full and calm consideration, as the settled opinion, after much reflection, of a man bound in duty, and impelled by gratitude and inclination, to prefer your true glory and interest, and the welfare of this country (which are inseparable), to all other, earthly, considerations; and one, who looks upon the faithful discharge of this great duty, as the most important article he is answerable for, to Almighty God, before whom he expects, shortly, to appear.

As nobody has seen this paper; elegance, and accuracy, it may, possibly, want: sincerity, and affection, it, certainly, will not: the head may err; the heart cannot.

I shall begin, Sir, with parliamentary affairs, so far forth only, as they relate to the part your Royal Highness, in your present situation, ought to take in them, by those who are more immediately honoured with your character, and protection.

I chuse to begin with this head, because it is most pressing in point of time; because it is what you are most deeply engaged in; and because (though perhaps unavoidably at first) it is, now, become the source, and cause of all the most considerable difficulties you labour

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bour under ; and which, each in its turn, may be the subject of different memorials, if you shall please to approve of this method of laying my thoughts before your Royal Highness.

The narrow measure of governing by a party, which has, unfortunately attended the frequency of Parliaments, (a thing, in itself, most desirable) seems to have been the occasion, that opposition has, too frequently, changed its views, from the redress of grievances, (its ancient, and only justifiable object) to a pursuit of private preferment, or private resentment. Let us take them separately, and see if a Prince of Wales can appear at the head of either, consistent with his true greatness.

And first, let us consider an opposition carried on for the private preferment of the opposers. Can a Prince of Wales be preferred ? He must be King ; and as he can be nothing else, can such an opposition make him so, one hour before his time ? or if it could, would he not reject it with horror and indignation ?

Let us, next, form to ourselves an opposition founded upon resentment ; a resolution to pull down, possibly to punish, those that have offended us, without considering consequences.

Will a Prince of Wales appear to act publicly, from resentment, and passion only ? and that too, under the disadvantage of appearing to do it, peevishly, personally,

sonally, ineffectually ; when he must, one day, have it in his power to do it, nobly, nationally, and effectually ?

Having shewn that the ends, to which oppositions have been usually, directed, are inconsistent with the interest, and true glory of a Prince of Wales, in your present situation ; let us examine, if the methods of opposition, employed to attain those ends, are better calculated for your Royal Highness's great purposes.

In the first case, then, that I have stated, which is that of an opposition founded on self interest, only : the methods, in short, are a steady and unvariable attention to propose every thing that is specious, but impracticable, or unseasonable : to depreciate and lessen every thing that is blameless, and to exaggerate and inflame every thing that is blameable ; in order to make the people desire, and the Crown consent, to the dismissal of those in power, and place, to make room for the leaders, and followers of the opposition. But a Prince of your elevation, Sir, cannot act as the head of any Administration ; 'tis descending too low : nor can your followers act under any, without ceasing to be so. I humbly think, it is not your interest to drive them from you ; and I am sure, it is not theirs, to quit the certain favour of a King, whom they will have contributed to make a great King, for the uncertain, ill-will'd, precarious emoluments, which they may snatch, in the scramble of a new Administration, forced upon the Crown.

The methods of carrying on the second sort of opposition I have mentioned, in which, resentment is the chief motive and ingredient, admit of a very short discussion: they are much the same with the other, only heightened, and inflamed. Proposing things, not only unseasonable, but dangerous, and subversive of government itself: opposing right, and wrong, with equal vehemence: and endeavouring to overturn the whole system, rather than not reach those, who have the supreme direction of it. I presume, you, Sir, who are, by Providence, called to govern, will not contribute to make all government impracticable, or sacrifice to resentment and passion, the welfare and prosperity of the people, in which, your own interest and glory is inseparably implicated, and involved: nor will those, who hope to govern under you, find their account in such a method of opposition.

Be pleased, Sir, to let us make a little stand, here, to see what we have proved; and to consider, what consequences, necessarily, follow from the things proved, that ought to influence your present, and future conduct.

It is proved, I hope beyond all possibility of doubt, that the oppositions we have seen carried on, in this country, hitherto, are neither becoming your Royal Highness, in your present situation, nor advantageous to your followers: that such an opposition never can, either by its means or its ends, establish that point, which, alone, ought to influence the public actions of a Prince: of a Prince like you, Sir, who want only
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to be seen, as you really are, not as you are misrepresented, (to which misrepresentations, the opposition has, unavoidably, furnished some foundation and pretext) to become the sole object of mankind's expectation, for the redress of all the grievances they feel, and the dispensation of all the future benefits they hope for.

Admitting, then, all this to be proved, what follows from it? Are we to infer, that the opposition, which your Royal Highness countenanced and protected, was improperly and injudiciously entered into, and consequently, that there ought to be no opposition at all? Are one, or both of these points, the doctrine you would establish? Neither the one nor the other.

I am ready to own, that, considering the humiliating situation prepared for your Royal Highness, at your first coming to Britain, perhaps you had no means of procuring yourself a proper independency, but by having recourse to the unprincely weapon of opposition.

I will, also, willingly admit, that such an independence was necessary to establish the dignity, and greatness of your representation, and to shew you, in the proper light of a mediator between the King and the people: one, from whom they are to hope, and expect every benefit they wanted, either by your intercession with, or succession to sovereign power.

But as these concessions are true, and justify your conduct towards the attainment of that necessary independence,

pendence, your Royal Highness must, on the other side, own, that your being obliged to pursue it, by those means, has forced you to submit to many things, painful to you, in the execution: improper audiences and applications, condescensions and familiarities, that, I humbly apprehend, you feared, and felt, must lessen that greatness, and publick significance, which, by the independence then struggled for, you were labouring to advance, and establish.

Your Royal Highness must also allow, that, as this pursuit carried in its face the full likeness of a private, pecuniary establishment; the bulk of mankind, not being taught to see it as the foundation of that independence necessary to make you their advocate, or their defender, in case they should be aggrieved; the bulk of mankind, I say, not being taught to see, or rather being taught not to see it in that light, judged of it in gross, and, as it carried private interest in the face, concluded (since you went into Court, upon gaining your point), that the same private interest was interwoven with the whole, and composed the constituent and essential parts of your intention, and design.

So that the unavoidable consequences of this method of opposition became a drawback upon itself, and, in some degree, defeated its own success. For, though the necessary independency was established, there was still something wanting, to stamp, and impress upon the minds of the people, that exalted opinion, that fervent, affectionate confidence and expectation, which
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the benevolence of your heart, and the force and extent of your natural genius (much embellished and improved) exact from all those, who have the happiness to see your Royal Highness, in a near and natural light : to find, and to fix this something, so as it may produce to my country, the full blessings of your most gracious intentions, and beneficent resolutions, is under Heaven, the whole object of all my care, pains, ambition, and reward : nor do I despair of success.

For I cannot believe, now the end is attained, that your Royal Highness will continue upon yourself those inconveniences, which it might be necessary to submit to, in order to attain it ; we, indeed, your servants, by going on in the same eager method, and throwing your great name, and august patronage before us, might gratify our resentments, and possibly, our interests, by forcing ourselves into place under the Ministry : I say possibly might, but I verily believe, that there is not one of us, that harbours so mean a thought ; and if any one differs in opinion with me, upon these great points, I humbly hope your Royal Highness will be persuaded (as I am from the conviction of my conscience), that it proceeds from a different conception of things, only, but from a heart as affectionate and zealous as my own, for your Royal Highness's true interest, and glory. But I, still, return to this point, that I do not imagine, that a Prince of your prudence and discernment will continue a pursuit, that cannot, in all human probability, be attended with success : and if it was, could be employed to no desirable end, that falls within the compass of my poor comprehension.

The pursuit I mean, is a majority in Parliament, which I hold, morally, impossible to gain; and if it could be gained, I am entirely at a loss to guess, what advantageous use to your Royal Highness could be made of it: on the contrary, I think it a thing, of all others, the least to be wished. For, if we were a sufficient majority to drive out the present Ministry, your Royal Highness would not, I presume, have us take their places; that were to drive us from you, indeed; for, in the present unhappy disposition of the Royal Family, you well know, that to keep the places into which we had intruded, we must act like our predecessors, very dishonourably and disgracefully to ourselves, indeed, but certainly, very offensively, to your Royal Highness. Besides, if we were that majority, with all the emoluments and temptations full within reach, and in our power, is your Royal Highness very sure you could stop us all short, and hinder us from rushing in to the plunder?

This great something, then, that is wanting, this necessary point of light, which is not to be found in the present methods, or ends of opposition, must be fixed and ascertained, in order to proportion, and adapt the means to the measure.

Now, according to my understanding, this great and necessary point is, to fix in the minds of mankind, by the dignity, and steadiness of your own behaviour, a strong prepossession of your warm, and beneficent intentions for the welfare of this country, without private view,

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or repentment ; and by such a choice of those, to whom you delegate the principal direction of your affairs, as may create a full confidence, that you are not only thoroughly determined, but also, properly prepared, to carry those intentions into full execution, when you are vested with power to do it.

And now, Sir, I whom your Royal Highness may, hitherto, have thought an enemy to all opposition, become an humble advocate, in my turn, for an opposition ; such an one, as may be productive of this noble purpose, suitable to the greatness of your name, your reputation, and most princely accomplishments : an opposition strongly marked with the publick good, where your private views all plainly centre in the publick welfare ; and those of your followers, are openly, and declaredly, confined to the honour of, one day, carrying your great designs into execution ; till that time, to ask for nothing, to accept of nothing, but devote themselves to watch over the publick, and prevent, as far as they can, any farther encroachments being made upon it, till, by becoming the glorious instruments of your gracious intentions, they can redress all the grievances they have not been able to prevent.

The noble simplicity of this opposition, supported with suitable gravity, steadiness, and dignity, without doors, will awake, and fix the attention of mankind on your Royal Highness, as their proper object of defence, and expectation. And even those personal points, which, though most justly grounded, and ably supported,

ported, would now be attempted ineffectually, as the movements of resentment only, and end in a sanction, instead of a censure: the prosecution of those very points will, when your power to punish, as well as reward, is equal to your will, be called for by the people; as national justice and publick satisfaction.

To the standard of an opposition thus strongly marked, and characterized with the publick good, and the publick good only; thus cleared from every cloud, and stain of private interest, and resentment, the honest, the brave, and the impartial, will gather, by degrees, and no slow ones, to increase the dignity, as well as numbers, of your Royal Highness's party. But while they see, or think they see, the least appearance of trifling with the publick; or indeed, till they see the contrary: in my humble opinion, the prospect is so full of misfortune, that I chuse to hide it from your Royal Highness, and wish I could hide it from myself.

All which is humbly submitted to your Royal Highness's superior discernment and direction.

G. D.



This Narrative of Mr. Ralph appears to be a justification of Mr. Dodington, from a malicious report that he had intruded himself upon the late Prince of Wales, and had forced himself into the service of his Royal Highness. It was written in the year 1751, and is occasionally hinted at in the Diary.

IT pleased his late Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, sometimes to discourse of political matters with Mr. Ralph.

On all such occasions, the Earl of Middlesex was present, and sometimes Dr. Sharpe.

These discourses were generally pretty long; and it seldom happened, but that his Royal Highness mentioned Mr. Dodington's name before they were brought to an end: sometimes with complaints that he, Mr. Dodington, had left his Royal Highness, but oftener with expressions of self-persuasion, that he should recover him again one day or another: adding these, or such words as these—"We have good subalterns enough; but we want leaders."

Mr. Ralph, all this while, either kept on the reserve, or threw in such general suggestions concerning Mr. Dodington, as were rather dictated by sentiment than policy.

Once, and but once, when the conversation grew very particular, he did most humbly offer himself to communicate his Royal Highness's commands to Mr. Dodington, in case he had any to communicate, and should think fit to do him (Mr. Ralph) that honour. But his Royal Highness waved the motion at that time, by saying, Lord Baltimore had been spoken to on that head; and, therefore, when he had any thing to say, his Lordship would be the most proper person to say it.

Notwithstanding which, at some distance of time, his Royal Highness resumed the topic one evening; and, at parting, clapping his hand on Mr. Ralph's arm, dropped certain expressions, which, to the best of Mr. Ralph's remembrance, were these—Dear Ralph, or, good Ralph, get me Dodington, if possible—I must have Dodington at any rate.

Mr. Ralph was rather perplexed, than pleased, with this commission: and Dr. Sharpe coming to him at Turnham Green, (he believes to know his (Mr. Ralph's) opinion concerning it) Mr. Ralph told him he could not proceed upon it, as it was too general; and, consequently, tended more to draw him into a difficulty with Mr. Dodington, than to answer his Royal Highness's purpose.

What followed was an order for him to come to town immediately ; which, on his arrival, was followed by another, requiring him, expressly, in the name of his Royal Highness, to invite Mr. Dodington into his Royal Highness's service ; or rather, as it was phrased, to live with him, as he had formerly done, and as if that sort of life had never been interrupted : which invitation was unaccompanied with any offer or stipulation of any kind whatsoever. Nay ; when Mr. Ralph asked— if no character or employment, either in present or future, was allotted to him ; the answer given was, that nothing of either kind had been so much as mentioned.

This invitation Mr. Ralph carried to Mr. Dodington, who took two or three days to consider of it ; and, having, in that interval, resigned his employment, did, by Mr. Ralph, send a letter, to be delivered into the hands of Lord Middlesex, (who was the person employed by his Royal Highness in this transaction) the contents of which Mr. Dodington is best able to explain.

About four months passed over, after this, without producing any farther explanation of either side ; during which interval (though Mr. Ralph did wonder much that his Royal Highness should be so earnest to have a gentleman at his devotion, whom he did not seem to have any commands for, and might, possibly, take the liberty to express that wonder to his friends at times) he never once presumed to importune his Royal Highness, or to desire that he might be importuned on Mr. Dodington's account.

Laſtly; when his Royal Highneſs did, of his *own* mere motion, as Mr. Ralph apprehends, take Mr. Dodington into his actual ſervice, he, Mr. Dodington, did require Mr. Ralph, by and through my Lord Middleſex, to repeat the humble requeſt which he had before made to him in perſon; viz. that he might have the honour to ſerve him without ſalary, till it pleaſed God that his Royal Highneſs ſhould accede to the Throne. Mr. Ralph did, accordingly, communicate this requeſt to my Lord Middleſex, to be communicated to his Royal Highneſs, which his Royal Highneſs reſuſed to admit: notwithstanding which, Mr. Dodington did again renew the ſame ſolicitation, and perſiſt in it, through the ſame channel; till Mr. Ralph was, at laſt, told by my Lord Middleſex, that his Royal Highneſs was ſo firm to his purpoſe, on that head, that he did not think it adviſeable to preſs him any farther.

JAMES RALPH.



This remarkable Memorial was sent, by the penny-post, inclosed in a cover to General Hawley, on the 20th of December 1752, and is referred to in the 200th page of the Diary.

The paper being received in the questionable shape of an anonymous letter, the reader will naturally be cautious in giving too much credit to the very severe allegations contained in it.

As this Memorial was, by some neglect, omitted in the former edition of the Diary, a sufficient number is now printed off, to supply the purchasers of that volume with this additional paper gratis.

A Memorial of several Noblemen and Gentlemen of the first rank and fortune.

THE memorialists represent—That the education of a Prince of Wales is an object of the utmost importance to the whole nation : that it ought always to be intrusted to Noblemen of the most unblemished honour, and to Prelates of the most distinguished virtue, of the most accomplished learning, and of the most unsuspected principles, with regard to Government both in Church and State.

That the misfortunes which the nation formerly suffered, or escaped, under King Charles I. King Charles II. and King James II. were owing to the bad education of those Princes, who were early initiated in maxims of arbitrary power :—That for a faction to engross the education of a Prince of Wales to themselves, excluding men of probity and learning, is unwarrantable, dangerous, and illegal :—That to place men about the Prince of Wales, whose principles are suspected, and whose belief in the mysteries of our faith is doubtful, has the most mischievous tendency, and ought justly to alarm the friends of their country, and of the Protestant succession :—That for a minister to support low men, who were originally improper for the high trust to which they were advanced, after complaints made of dark suspicions, and unwarrantable methods made use of by such men in their plan of education, and to protect and countenance such men in their insolent and unheard-of behaviour to their superiors, is a foundation for suspecting the worst designs in such ministers, and ought to make all good men apprehensive of the ambition of those ministers :—That it being notorious, that books inculcating the worst maxims of government, and defending the most avowed tyrannies, have been put into the hands of the Prince of Wales, it cannot but affect the memorialists with the most melancholy apprehensions, when they find that the men who had the honesty and the resolution to complain of such astonishing methods of instructions, are driven away from court, and the men who have dared to teach such doctrine are continued in trust and favour :—That the

security

security of this government being built on Whig principles, and alone supported by Whig zeal; that the establishment of the present Royal Family being settled in the timely overthrow of Queen Anne's last ministry, it cannot but alarm all true Whigs to hear of schoolmasters, of very contrary principles, being thought of for preceptors; and to see none but the friends and pupils of the late Lord Bolingbroke entrusted with the education of a Prince, whose family that very Lord endeavoured by his measures to exclude, and by his writings to expel, from the throne of these kingdoms:—That there being great reason to believe that a noble Lord has accused one of the Preceptors of Jacobitism, it is astonishing that no notice has been taken of a complaint of so high a nature:—On the contrary, the accused person continues in the same trust, without any enquiry into the grounds of the charge, or any steps taken by the accused to purge himself of a crime of so black a dye:—That no satisfaction being given to the Governor and Preceptor, one of whom, though a Nobleman of the most unblemished honour, and the other a Prelate of the most unbiaſſed virtue, have been treated in the grossest terms of abuse by a menial servant of the family, it is derogatory to his Majesty's authority, under which they acted, is an affront to the Peerage, and an outrage to the dignity of the Church:—That whoever advised the refusal of an audience to the Bishop of Norwich, who was so justly alarmed at the wrong methods which he saw taken in the education of the Prince of Wales, is an enemy to his country, and can only mean at least to govern

govern by a faction, which intends to overthrow the government, and restore the exiled and arbitrary house of Stuart:—That to have a Scotsman, of a most disaffected family, and allied in the nearest manner to the Pretender's first ministers, consulted in the education of the Prince of Wales, and intrusted with the most important secrets of government, must tend to alarm and disgust the friends of the present Royal Family, and to encourage the hopes and attempts of the Jacobites:—Lastly, the memorialists cannot help remarking, that the three or four low, dark, suspected persons, are the only men whose station is fixed and permanent; but that all the great offices and officers are so constantly varied and shuffled about, to the disgrace of this country, that the best persons apprehend there is a settled design in these low and suspected people to infuse such jealousies, caprices, and fickleness, into the two ministers, whose confidence they engross, as may render this government ridiculous and contemptible, and facilitate the revolution which the memorialists think they have but too much reason to fear is meditating.

God preserve the KING.



A Conference between the Duke of Newcastle and Mr. Dodington, October 10, 1755, with the Preliminaries agreed on between them October 19th following. This bargain and sale, which, to those who are unacquainted with the manners of a Court, may appear a singular curiosity, is mentioned in page 378.

MY LORD,

I UNDERSTAND, by Mr. Fox, and by a letter from your Grace to Lord Hallifax, that the King is disposed to accept my services : and I am very ready to serve him, if I can do it with utility to his Majesty and with honour to myself : for I do not want the service, either to mend my fortune, or for an introduction into the world ; I want it for neither. I am come, therefore, my Lord, to know of your Grace, in what, and in what shape and situation his Majesty expects my services.

He said it was true : and that the King had received what he laid before his Majesty of my zeal for his family, and of my abilities, much more favourably of late, than when he formerly had done all that he could with his Majesty, to——

My Lord, I beg we may not look back : that, I am sure, will not advance any thing I came hither about.

He

He said it was very obliging in me, to forget what was past—but he must have his own thoughts about it.

And I mine, my Lord.

He proceeded to say, that as Mr. Fox was a person agreeable to me, the King had directed that Mr. Fox should come to Dorsetshire to me, to settle matters, and that his Majesty would consent to any thing for myself, that I liked and should be agreed amongst us ; not then knowing that I should be so soon at Hammer-smith.

I said I had seen Mr. Fox, and that he had spoke to me, in generals only, about publick affairs, and his Majesty's favourable disposition to me.

He said he understood it so : and that Mr. Fox had only reported that I was well disposed to enter into the service, and if measures could be made agreeable, I had no objection to men. And that, if there was any thing I liked, and would let it be known, it might be shaped out to my satisfaction, &c.

My Lord, where there is no offer, no answer can be expected.

He said, all would depend upon measures, if those could be made agreeable, every thing would be made easy ; and therefore it would be proper to go upon that.

My Lord, if your Grace pleases, one thing at once.

As

As you have no offer to make, you can expect no answer upon that head : and be pleased to observe that *I* have nothing to offer, and nothing to ask.

Why, to be sure, he said, if what was thought of was not agreeable, any thing else that I liked might be brought about : but what the King first thought of was the Comptroller's Staff.

My Lord, I will suppose I did not hear you, and as *you* have nothing to offer, and *I* have nothing to ask, there can be no answer, and we may shut the book.

He said, that if they had known I should not have liked the Staff, it would not have been thought of.

My Lord, it should not have been thought of. If you please, my Lord, let us suppose that nothing specific has been offered : and I repeat my expectation that your Grace will remember, that I have nothing to offer, or propose to you, and nothing to ask.

He said, he understood it so ; and that I came at his Majesty's requisition, who was desirous I should come into the service. And as for measures, they had no particular ones, but the two treaties with Hesse and Russia, which last had been negotiating these two years, [what he meant by that, I neither know, nor thought proper to ask] and he supposed Mr. Fox had explained them.

Upon my answering in the negative, and saying that
I did

I did not believe that Mr. Fox understood them thoroughly himself; his Grace began to enter into that with Russia; but I stopp'd him, by saying, that I suppos'd they were two subsidiary treaties, which, like all others, bargained for a certain number of men, for a certain time: so much subsidy to the Princes, and such pay to the troops, when called for.

Yes—exactly so—and then proceeded to shew that the Russian treaty was the best, and only way to defend Hanover, and prevent a Continent war. That if Hanover was attacked for the sake of England, it ought to be looked upon as England, &c. And then would have gone on into the particulars, but I interrupted him by saying, then I would not lose your Grace's time in explanation, which can only affect the mode of the thing, and not the substance; I may possibly think of it, as of a dish dressed by your Grace's cook, the more palatable, the more unwholesome. But I will be plain with your Grace; I think this Russian subsidy to be ruinous to this country, of most dangerous precedent, most hurtful to his Majesty's true interest, and destructive of the interest of his family; at the same time insufficient to the ends propos'd by it, and instead of preventing a Continental war, the most certain seed and foundation of it. And I can never think I am serving his Majesty by supporting it.

At the same time I will agree with your Grace, and am willing it should be understood, I am for defending Hanover, if it be attacked out of resentment to England,
and

and that I not only never will consent to, but will hinder, to the best of my poor little power, the swords being sheathed, till Hanover be indemnified. I will go farther, and will allow, without farther examination, that if it be now attacked, it is on the account of England: but I do not think this Russian subsidy is the way to defend it, or to make the people fond of it. Besides, my Lord, your Grace knows, and I know, that (without this Russian subsidy) it will never be attacked. He said, he wished he did; that if I could convince him of that, it would be the best news that had come to England a great while.

I do know it, my Lord, and I thought your Grace had: unless we are to suppose that people will do the direct contrary to what they have promised, and engaged to do.

But at the same time I say this of the Russian subsidy, your Grace will observe, that *I do not say* that I will be for the Hessian: I desire not to be misunderstood, or misrepresented. Oh no! he understood me very well, and would be sure not to misrepresent me any where.

My, Lord, I will not be misrepresented. I do not say that I will approve of the Hessian subsidy, if there were no Russian, because considered by itself, 'tis a silly, unadvised step; the best one can think of it, or call it, is a job; 'tis so apparently of no significancy, and inadequate to the purposes held out: and nobody can think you in earnest when you declare them: but, however, as to that, there may be modes and qualifications, especially as *that*
is

is ratified and concluded, (and your Grace says that you are not sure you shall get the other) and as great respect to, and desire to comply with, his Majesty's word, when it was solemnly engaged, is our duty, as far as is consistent with our duty to our country : I say, there may, possibly, be found some temperament, in that case single, that might enable one to speak to gentlemen, and one's friends ; and if, upon proper explanations, they were disposed to make so great a compliment, I should not endeavour to enflame, but rather, possibly, be inclined to acquiesce. After a little, and not very material interruption, I resumed the discourse, and said :

My Lord, I did not come here to dispute with your Grace : my opinion of the general tendency of these subsidies, both at home and abroad, will admit of no variation ; and it is fit that I should acquaint your Grace, that as to the Russian, I will oppose it with all the little credit and efficacy I have, both in the House, and out of it : but I will do it with all the decency that is consistent with truth. He said, they were convinced of the great decency of my behaviour on all occasions. And I went on to say, that as to the Hessians, I did not say that I would be for them : that point, however, might admit of some modification : but if they both came in, I would indubitably oppose both, for whatever I did, I would do thoroughly.

After civil expressions of concern, that we did not agree in our opinion about measures, he let himself into the danger of provoking other maritime Princes to join
France

France against us ; from the present too openly professed doctrine of being masters of the seas : that Sweden and Denmark would, in conjunction with France, have a fleet of fifty sail in the Baltic, &c.—that we had the greatest fleet, the best provided, officer'd, and directed, that ever was : that I saw it could not be depended upon : they could not hinder squadrons from going out, and coming in, through the most winding, difficult passages, &c. I got up, and said, if we were not superior at sea, we must give it up : that I had taken up too much of his time, and beg'd leave to recapitulate what had passed, that there might be no room for mistake, or misrepresentation : that, in the first place, as to myself, I had made no manner of offer, nor asked any thing, of any body : that as to measures for the Hessian subsidy, I had no ways said that I would be for it, if it came single ; but, in that case, it might admit of farther consideration ; but if it was to be combined with the Russian, I would most certainly oppose both : that I had said I would oppose the Russian, to the utmost of my power, but with all the decency that truth would admit : that there remained but one thing, and that was not recapitulation, because I had not said it before, which was, that he should find (though I did not know whether ever they told him one word of truth) he should find (if they did) that I opposed it solely from the unfitness of the thing, and not because any body there thought fit to oppose it : that I should shew it was from opinion, my own opinion only, and not from any body's else : or out of dislike to, or against any body, that I opposed it. I was unconnected with any one, and would be so,

upon this question: how long I should continue so I could not tell, but I was so now. Nobody had any demand, any right to call upon me, but one gentleman, a near relation of his Grace's, Lord Hallifax; he had a right, and when he did call, at any time, and upon any occasion, I should always be ready to obey it.

. After a little insignificant talk, and reciprocal civilities, we parted.

The Preliminaries.

WHAT is hinted at for Mr. Dodington, is more than he desires for himself; but without the concurrence of his friends, and the following conditions for *them*, it is impossible for *him* to enter into any engagement.

Earl of Hallifax to be of the Cabinet. Such provision in possession, or reversion, for Mr. Furnese, as shall be agreed upon between him and Mr. Attorney General.

Sir Francis Dashwood to be offered the Comptroller's Staff, or something that is proper for, and would be agreeable to him; if he can be prevailed on to accept any thing, which I very much doubt.

Lord Talbot to be comprehended. Mr. Tucker to be provided for, at, or before the end of the sessions.

Full

Full liberty to oppose the subsidies, honestly and fairly; which is never to cause the least coldness, expostulation, or remonstrance.

Mr. Dodington is also obliged to be of the Irish side of the question, about the linens:

It is presumed, that there is to be no trifling; but that the correspondence and communication between Mr. Dodington's friends, and the Administration, is to be sincere, honourable, and unreserved.



The Editor, at the request of a particular friend, has added the following Letter to the Appendix; it being a justification of the Duke of Richmond from the charge implied in the account of his Grace's accepting and resigning a place in the King's Bedchamber.—See page 417. And here the Editor begs leave to observe, that as other transactions contained in this Diary may, possibly, have been either unfairly stated, or partially represented, he will be happy to insert all explanations, that may come properly authenticated to him, in a future edition.

SIR,

Goodwood, June 21, 1783.

I AM much obliged to Mr. Wyndham for the communication he has allowed you to make to me of Mr. Dodington's Diary, which has afforded me great entertainment; for few readings, in my opinion, are more amusing than this sort of original memoirs, which give the truest picture of the times in which they were written.

As the excellence of such a work consists in its being perfectly original, the smallest alteration would, in my opinion, destroy its merit; and therefore, although the part, where I am mentioned, contains by no means a true state of that business, yet I am far from wishing to have it suppressed or altered. All I desire is, that when Mr. Wyndham thinks proper to publish Mr. Dodington's Diary, he will permit this letter, containing the true state of facts, to be inserted as an explanatory note to that transaction.

Soon

Soon after his Majesty's accession, Sir Harry Erskine, who had been removed from the Army by the late King, was restored to it by his present Majesty, with the same rank he would have had, if he had continued in the service; by this means he came in again over my head. This induced me to desire an audience, in which I respectfully represented to his Majesty, that as I had particularly attached myself to the Military, and had fought service upon all occasions, I was in hopes that no person would have been put over me. But finding from his Majesty's answer, that Sir Harry Erskine's removal in the late reign was owing to his attachment to his Majesty when Prince of Wales, and that he had then made him a promise to restore him to his rank when he should come to the Crown, I most cheerfully submitted, and beg'd of his Majesty to believe, that nothing could be further from my wish, than that he should break his word on any account, and particularly on mine. His Majesty then asked me, how it happened that I had never thought of any other line than the Military? my answer was, that I had not chose to put myself under an obligation to the Duke of Newcastle, or even to my brother-in-law Mr. Fox, being unwilling to connect myself with any Minister. His Majesty was pleas'd to receive very graciously all I had said.

Being present at the next levee day, Lord Bute took me aside, and told me the King was much pleas'd with my behaviour in the closet: that his Majesty had observ'd my saying that I had never thought of any line but the Military, and had order'd him to *sound me* (I perfectly well recollect the expression) whether I should have any
incli-

inclination to a civil employment? Lord Bute added, that he thought the best way of *founding* was at once to tell me the whole : that the King thought of making me a Lord of his Bedchamber; that I might know it would not be proper for the King to make a formal offer, but that, if I was disposed to have it, I might ask it, and he could assure me I should not be refused. I thanked his Lordship, expressed my gratitude to his Majesty, and desired twenty-four hours to consider of it. I then asked for it in form, and was immediately appointed.

A few days after I had kissed hands, news arrived of the battle of Closter Campen in Germany, in which the Hereditary Prince of Brunswick, who commanded there, had been worsted. Lord Shelburne (then Lord Fitzmaurice) had been present at this action as a volunteer: Lord Downe commanded the 25th regiment, and received the wounds of which he afterwards died: my brother, Lord George Lennox, commanded a battallion of British grenadiers; he had been in the hottest part of the action, and, although he had the good luck not to be hurt, his cloaths were shot through in several places, and he had the peculiar satisfaction of remaining to the very last with the Hereditary Prince in the wood, which was the scene of action, and when all his people were either killed or driven off, he, with a Captain Mac Lane, actually carried off in their arms, the Hereditary Prince, who had no horse or attendants, and who, from the wound he had received in his leg, was unable to walk. Lord Fitzmaurice and Lord Downe were both junior Lieutenant Colonels to Lord George Lennox, but his Majesty was advised to reward their services in this action, by giving them the rank of Colonel over his head.

I thought

I thought it my duty to represent to his Majesty how great a mortification it must be to my brother, after having much distinguished himself during the whole war, to be not only neglected, but even to see his juniors rewarded, by being put over his head, for their services in this battle, where his behaviour had been so remarkable.

My representations, however, proved ineffectual; upon which I resigned the Bedchamber, a fortnight after I had received it. I afterwards communicated to Lord Bute the step I had taken, but have not the smallest recollection of his Lordship's mentioning to me "My having talked offensively of the Scotch on the promotion of Sir Harry Erskine, and of him (Bute) in particular." On the contrary, his Lordship was very civil to me, and expressed his regret that I had not first communicated to him my intentions of resigning, as possibly he might have found means to satisfy me about my brother, and have prevented my quitting the Bedchamber.

But the point I am most anxious to clear up is, Mr. Dodington's assertion, that the account which Lord Hallifax said I had given, "That the King sent and offered me the Bedchamber"—*is not true*—the account I have given will shew whether Lord Bute was not *sent* to me; and whether the manner in which his Lordship expressed the orders he had received to *sound me*, do not, in the language of plain dealing, amount to an *offer of the Bedchamber from the King*. It is true, that I did ask it in form (I believe by letter to Lord Bute) but this was subsequent to, and in consequence of his orders to *sound me*, and not at the audience I had on the business of

of

of Sir Harry Erskine's affair, which was previous; for I do very positively declare, that till Lord Bute mentioned the Bedchamber to me in that conversation, as an idea of the King's, it had not entered into my thoughts, which were never turned to that sort of employment.

The difference of whether I first asked for, or was offered this place, is very immaterial, except as to the charge Mr. Dodington brings against me, of having said *what is not true*. For, although it was very flattering to me to be thought of by his Majesty to be about his person, I had not the silly impertinence to be above asking for that honour, if my turn of mind had led me that way, but I cannot feel indifferent as to a fact which I am stated to have misrepresented.

Your sending this letter to Mr. Wyndham with the extract of the memoirs which I return inclosed, will much oblige,

SIR,

Your most obedient,
And sincere
Humble servant,

RICHMOND, &c.

