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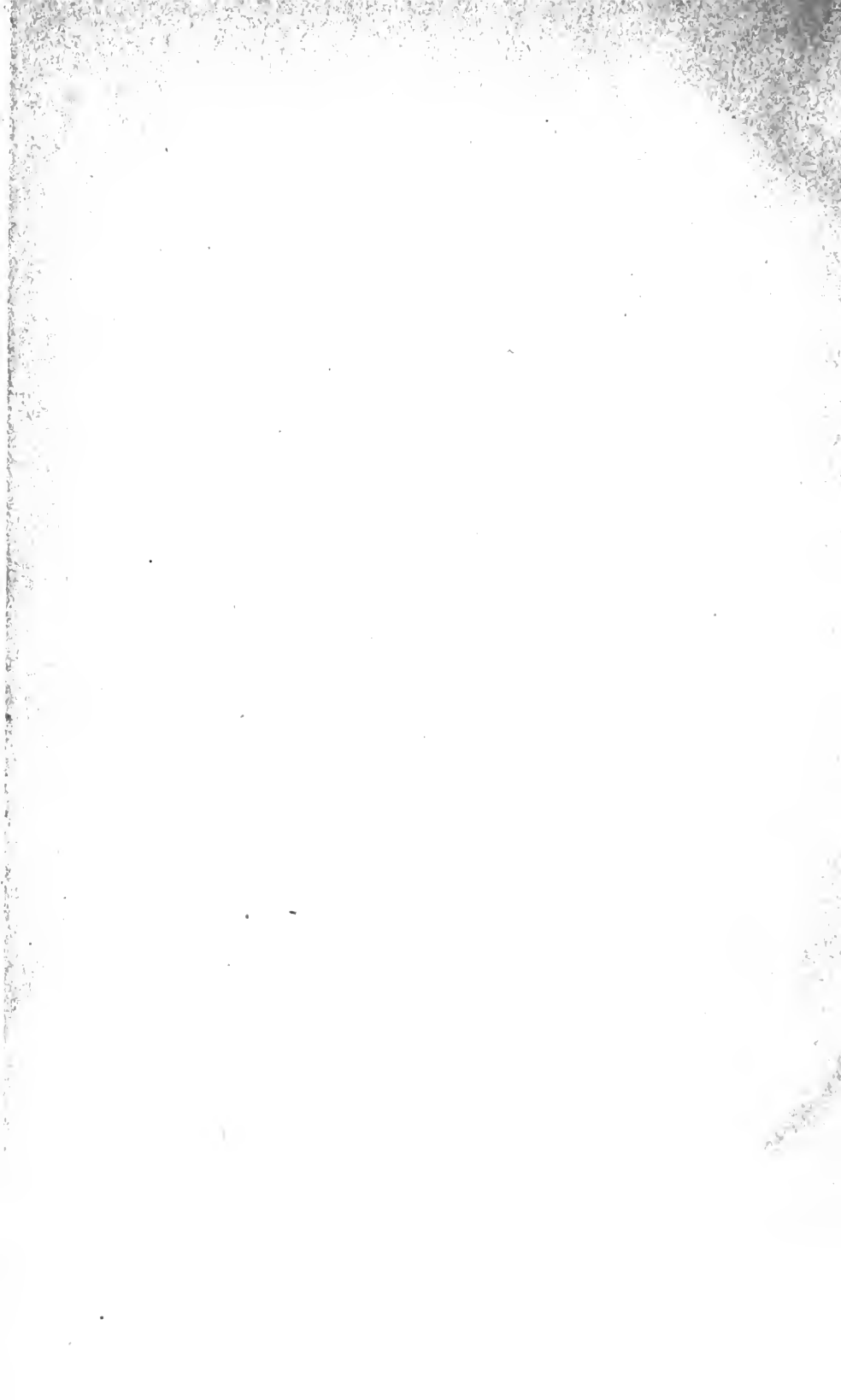
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(FOURTEENTH REPORT, APPENDIX, PART I.)

THE
MANUSCRIPTS

OF HIS GRACE

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND, K.G.

PRESERVED AT

BELVOIR CASTLE.

VOL. III. - $\frac{IV}{I}$
2 vol. in I

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.




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INTRODUCTION

TO

VOLUME III. OF THE CALENDAR.

THE present volume differs from its two predecessors in that it embraces a much shorter period, and treats of a smaller number of subjects. If, however, it contains fewer illustrations of social and personal history, it deals more fully with important affairs of state.

In the first part of the volume, one of the most important figures is Lord Robert Manners, second son of the Marquess of Granby, the celebrated Commander-in-Chief. His earlier letters to his elder brother were written while he was a lieutenant on board the *Victory* and the *Alcide*, but in January 1780 he was promoted to be captain of the *Resolution*, and, as such, he saw active service. Extracts from several of his letters are given in the Calendar.¹ He took part in the engagement off Cape Henry in September 1781, and he was with Sir Samuel Hood at St. Kitts in the early part of the following year. Shortly after the battle off Dominica, in which the French were defeated, on the 12th of April 1782. Lord Robert writes: "I am as well as a man can be with one leg off, one wounded, and right arm broke. The doctor, who is sitting by me at present, says there are every hopes of recovery."² Lockjaw, however, ensued, and thus this promising officer died at the early age of twenty-four, eleven days after the action.³ His brother, the fourth Duke of Rutland, who entertained a "passionate fondness" for him,⁴ obtained the assistance of Richard Watson, afterwards Bishop of Llandaff, and of George Crabbe, the poet, in composing some memoirs of his career, and engaged Sir Joshua Reynolds to paint a posthumous portrait of him, which was afterwards engraved.⁵ The nation put up a monument in his honour in Westminster Abbey.⁶

¹ See Index.

² p. 52.

³ p. 53.

⁴ Horace Walpole's Letters, vol. viii. p. 377.

⁵ pp. 63, 64, 133, 244, 353.

⁶ pp. 289, 290.

Lord Robert Manners's letters to his brother are not the only ones in the Calendar which treat of naval affairs, and, under the date of 26 September 1779, there is a description by an eye-witness of the engagement between Paul Jones's squadron and two English ships off Flamborough Head.¹ Considerable interest attaches to Sir Samuel Hood's criticisms upon Sir George Rodney's proceedings after his great victory in 1782.²

Military operations in America are described in detail in some letters of the years 1775 and 1776.³ Some highly coloured accounts of Parliamentary debates are furnished by Capt'n. George Johnstone in 1777, and Thomas Thoroton in 1780.⁴ There are also contemporary notices of the Gordon riots in London and a rebellion at Eton.⁵

Charles Manners, the elder brother of Lord Robert, bore by courtesy the title of Marquess of Granby from the death of his father, in 1770, to the death of his grandfather, the third Duke of Rutland, in 1779, and during the later part of that period he sat in the House of Commons as member for the University of Cambridge. In politics he was a follower of the Earl of Chatham,⁶ and, on his succession to the Dukedom, he endeavoured, though in vain, to induce his former constituents to elect the younger William Pitt as their representative. Two letters on the subject from the youthful candidate are printed in the Calendar.⁷ The Duke was more successful in his exertions on behalf of his younger brother, Lord Robert Manners, who was chosen for the county of Cambridge in September 1780.⁸ His expenses, it may be noted, were estimated at about 12,000*l.*, and those of the other member returned, Philip Yorke, at about double that amount.⁹ Elsewhere we learn that the expenses of Sir Sampson Gideon on the other side were "enormous, beyond all belief."¹⁰ William Pitt congratulated the Duke warmly on his triumph, while his future opponent, Charles James Fox, wrote to solicit his support in the Westminster election.¹¹ John Wilkes also expressed his satisfaction in strong terms.¹²

¹ p. 21.

² p. 53; cf. Wrexall's *Memoirs*.

³ pp. 2, 6, 7.

⁴ pp. 11, 26, 27, 29.

⁵ pp. 29, 30, 72.

⁶ p. 12.

⁷ pp. 18, 19, 30.

⁸ pp. 25, 26, 28, 34-37, 46.

⁹ p. 37.

¹⁰ Horace Walpole's Letters, vol. vii. p. 402.

¹¹ p. 35.

¹² p. 36.

Several of the Duke's friends exhorted him at this period to take a prominent part in politics, and thought that he would obtain office in the Marquess of Rockingham's administration.¹ Under Lord Shelburne he received the blue riband of the Garter, almost hereditary in his family, and the staff of Lord Steward of the Household,² but he resigned the latter when the Coalition Ministry came into power.

On Pitt's accession to office, the Duke of Rutland became Lord Privy Seal, but he was almost immediately transferred to the more difficult position of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. A month before his actual appointment, he was informed by a former Lord Lieutenant, Lord Temple, that he must be prepared to spend in Ireland 15,000*l.* a year of his private income in addition to his official salary of 20,000*l.*³ He was also congratulated by his immediate predecessor, Lord Northington, who, although he had inconvenienced the government by resigning at a critical time, considered himself an injured person.⁴

From February, 1784 onwards, the Calendar consists almost exclusively of extracts and abstracts from letters to the Duke of Rutland, and from drafts and copies of his own letters, some of the latter of which were made on thin paper by means of a copying-press. The most prominent of his correspondents was the Prime Minister, and frequent letters passed between the two friends. In 1842, Lord Mahon caused a hundred copies to be privately printed of a small book entitled—*Correspondence between the Right Hon. William Pitt and Charles, Duke of Rutland, 1781–1787*, from papers in possession of the Duke's son and successor. The originals were, it is believed, duly returned to Belvoir Castle, but the greater number of them are now missing. Abstracts of the correspondence might, nevertheless, have been included in this Calendar if the present Duke had not caused it to be reprinted and published in 1890. Under these circumstances, it has been thought sufficient to give the briefest references to these letters, preceded by an asterisk in cases where the original cannot be found. The Calendar, however, includes several letters of this series which,

¹ pp. 51, 58, 68.

² pp. 63, 68.

³ p. 73.

⁴ pp. 75–78.

having been hitherto overlooked, do not occur in either of the printed editions.

A more difficult question has arisen with regard to the correspondence of the Duke of Rutland with Lord Sydney. The official letters that passed between the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and the Secretary of State, and some of their semi-official letters, are preserved at Dublin Castle, and among the archives of the Home Department in the Public Record Office, and various extracts from them have been given by Mr. Lecky in his *History of England in the Eighteenth Century*. Those, however, which were marked by Lord Sydney as "Secret and Separate," being regarded as the private property of the recipient, are now at Belvoir, and it has seemed best on the whole to print in the Calendar extracts not only from these but also from the drafts of the Duke's letters to him.

It would be impossible within the limits of a brief Introduction to trace the history of Ireland during the Duke of Rutland's administration. He had to deal alike with important legislative projects and with petty appointments under the Crown. At first, the country was in an unsettled condition. The proceedings of the Earl of Bristol, Bishop of Derry, were a source of anxiety,¹ and the volunteers were still a formidable body, composed of dangerous elements.² Serious riots occurred in Dublin, partly in consequence of the rejection of a bill imposing protective duties,³ and the convocation of a National Assembly in the capital might easily have led to trouble.⁴ There was, moreover, reason to suspect from time to time that French emissaries were fomenting rebellion.⁵ Gradually, however, the spirit of discontent subsided, and, notwithstanding some outrages by Whiteboys in Munster, the Duke's friends were able, in 1787, to congratulate him upon "the unexampled quiet" of the country.⁶ Throughout the time, he had the satisfaction of knowing that his general policy was approved by the King.⁷

¹ pp. 80, 82, 84, 114, 129, 137, 140, 141.

² pp. 93, 99, 109, 110, 117, 119, 124, 180, etc.

³ pp. 86, 88, 90, 93.

⁴ pp. 137, 138, 140, 142, 143, 145, 146.

⁵ pp. 94, 99, 108, 110, 117, 119, 130, 132, 142, 262, 265, 266, 274, 281, 285.

⁶ pp. 378, 395, 403, 410.

⁷ pp. 88, 90, 100, 128, 140, 144, 153, 279, 281, 391.

Many of the extracts printed in the Calendar deal with the difficult question of Parliamentary Reform, and with the project for establishing a Protestant Militia in Ireland. Others relate to the ill-fated Resolutions for Commercial Intercourse between England and Ireland, which, it was fondly hoped, would prove "as permanent a junction of the countries as if a bridge was extended from Holyhead to Dublin."¹ When matters of disagreement arose between the English Ministry and the Irish Parliament, the Lord Lieutenant endeavoured to mediate in favour of the latter. He did not, however, entertain a high opinion of the nation which he had been sent to govern, and in a private memorandum he writes—"Here everything is a job and abused; with a few exceptions, from the highest to the lowest, the whole people are an interested, selfish, savage race of harpies and plunderers."²

Applications for peerages, pensions, and the like were very numerous, and in connexion with these there is a curious letter from the Earl of Tyrone, who, when asked to choose an English title, replied that he would like to be "Baron Tyrone of Haverfordwest, of St. David's, or Hubberston, these places being all opposite to the coast" of Ireland.³ This was perhaps scarcely more seriously intended than an application from R. Hobart that his father should be made baron, viscount, earl, and knight of the Order of St. Patrick.⁴

Letters about commissions in the army are not generally of much interest, but there are in the Calendar three from the Earl of Mornington with regard to the prospects of his younger brother, Arthur, the future Duke of Wellington.⁵

Copies of some of Sir Edward Newenham's letters would hardly be found at Belvoir if the originals had not been opened at the Post Office, apparently by the English Government.⁶ The Lord Lieutenant considered him "the centre" of treasonable machinations, and the Chief Secretary described him as "a fool and a rogue," whose proceedings ought to be watched.⁷

While the Duke of Rutland was busy with the administration of Ireland, he was also an important factor in English politics. Several members of the House of Commons owed their seats

¹ p. 187.² p. 164.⁶ pp. 107, 113, 117, 119, 127.³ p. 292.⁴ p. 382.⁷ pp. 113, 187.⁵ pp. 855, 364, 377.

to his influence, and generally voted according to his instructions, such as Lord Tyrconnel, member for Scarborough, John Sutton, member for Newark, George Sutton, member for Grantham, William Pochin, member for Leicestershire, Daniel Pulteney, member for Bramber, and John Mordaunt, member for Cambridge.¹ Some of them, indeed, appear to have been dependent on him for the very means of subsistence. George Sutton, for example, is said to have had "only half a coat," and to have "lain in bed three days on nothing but porter and salad," looking "nearly starved" before his return to Parliament, in April 1784.² Pulteney again entered the House of Commons partly with a view to elude his creditors, and partly in the hope of obtaining some lucrative post under Government, in India or elsewhere.³ It was not without considerable difficulty that he obtained the pecuniary qualification then necessary for membership,⁴ and his subsequent letters to his patron abound in applications for reward. Pitt he considered strangely negligent of so steady a supporter, and, in his disappointment, he did not scruple to tell the Lord Lieutenant that his most trusted adviser, Thomas Orde, the Irish Secretary, had been notorious at the University for mendacity.⁵ In 1787, he obtained from the Duke of Rutland a loan to enable him to subscribe a quarter of the capital of a Faro Bank, which was to be started with 6,000*l.*, and his letters on the subject illustrate the rage for gambling which then prevailed among men and women alike.⁶ When the subject of Parliamentary Reform was under consideration, he declared that he would vote for Pitt's measure in accordance with instructions from his only constituent, but he compared his position to that of "the drunken man in Hogarth who is sawing down the sign-post he sits on."⁷ It was not until after the death of the Duke of Rutland that Pulteney obtained a slender reward for his services to Pitt's government, by appointment to the office of Collector of Customs at Roseau in the island of Dominica.⁸

¹ pp. 97, 106, 112, 125, 128, 143, 169, 180, 186, 194, 209, 217, 220, 223, 282-84, 286, 366, 371, 374, 377-79, 381, 388.

² p. 378.

³ pp. 115, 126, 143, 192, 194, 217, 222, 226, 232, 238, 272, 280, 320, 353, 360, 361, 365, 371, 379, 380.

⁴ pp. 92, 95, 98.

⁵ p. 379.

⁶ pp. 388, 395.

⁷ p. 169.

⁸ *Return of Members of Parliament*, vol. ii. p. 182.

To Pulteney's ready pen we are indebted for many notices of English affairs during his patron's absence, and specially of proceedings in the House of Commons. Although, as he says, he had "no reason to flatter Pitt," he testifies to his eloquence and prudence, but he observes that the Prime Minister was not always sufficiently acquainted with the opinions of his supporters.¹ After listening to "a speech of five hours and a half, the longest they say ever delivered in Parliament," he expresses a deliberate opinion that Sheridan was, "in point of *speaking*, superior to Pitt, and of course to Fox."² A few days later, he writes of another famous orator—"Flood's language is so barbarous to an English ear, his manner of arguing so abstracted and void of illustration, and his *tout ensemble* somehow or other so disgusting, that he fell infinitely below my expectations," and he records that Flood provoked general laughter in the House by a "*real* loss of temper."³

The Calendar contains testimony from other correspondents, such as Lord Mornington and Lord Sydney, to the success of Pitt's administration, and it closes with an extract from a letter dated October 17, 1787, a week before the sudden death of the Duke of Rutland, saying—"The conduct of Pitt must stand above all detraction: he has already astonished all Europe by the alacrity of the late armament, and his name as a War Minister is now as high as that of his father ever was."⁴

The fourth Duke of Rutland was an enthusiastic collector of works of art, and he had begun to make considerable purchases even before his succession to the title. Through the agency of Alleyne Fitzherbert, afterwards Lord St. Helens, he secured, in 1779, for about 1,100*l.* a large picture by Rubens of the Coronation of St. Catharine.⁵ In the following year, the same friend obtained for him a very fine example of Gerard Dow, now known as 'The Birdcage,' for about 300*l.*⁶ Afterwards Sir Joshua Reynolds became his principal adviser and agent in all such matters, and various letters from the great painter to his patron are printed in this volume. One negotiation, in which they were both interested, related to the purchase from the Bonapaduli Palace at Rome of a series

¹ pp. 188, 198, 203, 224.

² p. 369.

³ pp. 372, 373.

⁴ pp. 100, 131, 168, 210, 377, 429.

⁵ pp. 15, 20.

⁶ p. 25.

of pictures of the Seven Sacraments, painted by Nicholas Poussin, in 1636, for the Cavaliere del Pozzo. James Byres wrote on the subject in 1777, pointing out the difficulty of securing them, but in 1785 he reported that they might be bought if "the greatest secrecy were observed." Sir Robert Walpole had already failed to get them removed from Rome, and Byres's plan was to substitute copies for the originals.¹ The palace in which they hung "was visited by all foreigners, merely for the sake of those pictures"; and the Papal Government was said to be "more jealous than ever of fine things going out of Rome."² When at last they arrived in England, Sir Joshua Reynolds was much pleased. He told the Duke of Rutland that they were worth double the 2,250*l.* paid for them, and in fact expressed his own willingness to give him 1,000*l.* for his bargain.³ Before being sent to Belvoir, the pictures were sent for a time to the Royal Academy.⁴ Reynolds describes them as "a real national object," and says that they "must be considered as the greatest work of Poussin, who was certainly one of the greatest painters that ever lived."⁵ Horace Walpole, who saw them, was by no means so enthusiastic, declaring plainly that Sir Joshua's geese were swans.⁶

From Reynolds himself the Duke of Rutland ordered a number of pictures, chiefly portraits of his friends and relations, and it is unfortunate that most of them perished in the great fire at Belvoir Castle in 1816.⁷

The abstracts and extracts in this volume have been made by Mr. R. Campbell, Mr. R. Ward, and Mr. Walter Fitzpatrick, and most of them have been revised by me. The Index has been prepared by Mr. R. H. Brodie.

I have again to thank the Duke of Rutland for the warm interest which he has shown in the work of this Commission.

H. C. MAXWELL LYTE.

December 1894.

¹ pp. 9, 214.

² pp. 222, 236, 244, 258, 268, 310, 312, 343, 346.

³ pp. 347, 350; Leslie & Taylor's *Life of Reynolds*, vol. ii. pp. 495, 496.

⁴ p. 371.

⁵ pp. 244, 343.

⁶ Horace Walpole's *Letters*, vol. ix. p. 78.

⁷ Cf. Leslie & Taylor's *Life of Reynolds*, vol. ii. p. 283; Eller's *Belvoir Castle*, pp. 126-132.

CALENDAR OF
THE MANUSCRIPTS OF HIS GRACE THE
DUKE OF RUTLAND, K.G.

VOL. III.

LETTERS AND PAPERS.

Vol. XXVI.

ELIZABETH, LADY MANSFIELD to her sister [the DUCHESS OF SOMERSET].

1771, May 3.—Concerning a proposal that Lord Granby should leave Eton in October, and mentioning his wish to make a Declamation at going.

J. DIGBY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1771, September 6.—Concerning a deputation of tenants.

SIR THOMAS CAVE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1771, December 19. Stanford.—Interceding for Mr. Wright of Eaton, who says that he is to be discharged from the lands he holds of the Duke because he would have voted for the writer at the last election.

The MARQUESS OF DOUGLAS to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1772, June 23. Pall Mall.—Requesting a nomination for the Charter House for Charles Douglas, a son of General Douglas.

DR. E. BARNARD to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1773, March 21. Eton College.—Acknowledging the present of Lord Granby's picture.

D. PULTENEY to the MARQUESS OF GRANBY.

177—, ———.—Giving a poetical epistle from France.

LEVETT BLACKBORNE to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1774, October 4. Belvoir.—Intimating that the Duke of Rutland will not accede to Lord Granby's wish to find a seat in Parliament for a friend, Mr. B. *Imperfect.*

LE COMTE DE GUINES to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1774, December 27. Paris.—An enquiry as to M. Gerbier. *French.*

The (so-called) DUCHESS OF KINGSTON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1775, May 6. Calais.—Calling to mind the friendship that subsisted between the late Marquess of Granby and Lord Robert Sutton and the late Duke of Kingston and the writer, “his disconsolate and persecuted widow,” and asking the Duke of Rutland to become bail for her. *Signed—and the signature struck through with a pen.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1775, May 16. Calais.—Replying to a letter of the Duke of Rutland, refusing to become bail. “I must have two bail.” Twenty-one have offered. “The Duke of Newcastle is to be one.” *The signature struck through with a pen as before.*

— to —.

1775, June 25. Boston.—“General How with ten of the Grenadier companies, ten light infantry companies, the 5th, 38th, and 63rd regiments, four twelve-pounders, four six-pounders, and four howitzers, landed Saturday, the 17th instant, about noon, on the peninsula where Charlestown is situated, and about a mile to the north-east of it. Soon after, the 43rd, 47th, and 52nd regiments, a battalion of Marines, and all the remaining companies of Grenadiers and light infantry was landed upon the same place. The plan was to take possession of two very advantageous heights which were occupied by the rebels. The first was close on the back of Charlestown, commanded a part of Boston, and had on its top a redoubt, with a breastwork from one of the angles which extended half way down to the water on the north side. The other hill commanded the isthmus leading to the continent, where it is shoal water, and not sufficient for a light transport to ride at anchor. Accordingly four or five floating batteries were ordered to get in as near the neck as possible, in order to annoy the rebels on their retreat, or to prevent them from being fed with troops from the continent. They did not, however, get in so near as they ought, and came away before they could be of use. The consequence was that, by the time General How had put his troops into motion, the enemy had an opportunity of reinforcing themselves, and in less than an hour had got together 7,000 men. The ground on the peninsula is the strongest I can conceive for the kind of defence the rebels made, which is exactly like that of the Indians, viz. small inclosures with narrow lanes, bounded by stone fences, small heights which command the passes, proper trees to fire from, and very rough and marshy ground for troops to get over.

“The rebels defended this ground well, and inch by inch. About the time our people got within a hundred yards of the redoubt, the fire on both sides was amazing, and I think I can venture to affirm that the annals of the last war cannot produce such another. The officers behaved most gallantly. The redoubt was at last stormed, and happily carried. Two officers were killed after they were in it. (I only mention this to show how very obstinate the rebels were.) Above ninety officers were killed and wounded, near two hundred men killed, and three hundred wounded, and most of this in a few minutes.

“The skirts of Charlestown fired upon the left of General How’s flanking party, upon which [he] ordered that fire might be set to the town, which was immediately [done] by a carcass from an opposite battery. In half an hour the whole town, which was built of wood, and the wind favouring us, took fire; and by the time the troops were within a hundred yards of the redoubt the flames were at their height.

“General —— and I were on a battery exactly opposite Charlestown, about half a mile distant, in a line with the redoubt. The rebels had two guns in their work, which they made use of, but all their shot went over our heads.

“Figure to yourself the scene, which we as distinctly saw as heard—viz. on the right our main corps of troops; on the left a continual reinforcement to the rebels across the neck (the place I would have had the floating battery to have staid at); batteries and dispersed men-of-war around sconces, &c., keeping up a constant cannonade. In the centre a large town, in a manner under us, in flames, and above all a strong redoubt, bravely stormed, and almost as bravely defended. We have got a little elbow-room, but I think we have paid too dearly for it.

“The loss of the rebel army cannot be exactly known. They carted away vast numbers of their dead and wounded. They do not choose we should know their loss. This is truly in the Indian style. In looking over the ground, I thought there was above two to one of the rebels killed. We have taken a few prisoners, most of them wounded; and, by different accounts they give, few or none of the soldiers are acquainted with the conciliatory measures proposed. They are kept in perfect ignorance, and the prisoners expected to be put to death by us the moment they were brought into Boston. Bank-notes, value six shillings each, were found in the pockets of some of the killed; they were issued from the Treasury of the Congress, bearing 6 per cent. interest. By their orderly books they seem to have steady people about them, and very proper orders, &c. Their paroles were generally names of towns; but one day they had for parole, Wilkes, countersign Bull, and another day parole Shelburn, countersign Conway.

“We had thoughts of attempting to take possession of Dorchester peninsula, situate on the opposite side to Boston this morning, but, upon more mature deliberation, it is put off till the arrival of the 22nd, 40th, 44th, and 45th regiments from New York. When that is finished, I fancy we shall have done what we can for this campaign. Nothing but expeditions well concerted on their coasts will answer, and Government should send us 20,000 or 30,000 foreign troops for that purpose. The rebels, being drove from Charlestown, have taken possession of a strong hill about two miles from the neck. They have intrenched it well. They certainly have got some good officers from some quarter or other. The garrison is still without fresh provisions, and I think, take it all together, we are in a very awkward situation, but if we had plenty of troops it might alter the case.” *Extract.*

THE EARL OF SANDWICH TO LORD ——.

1775, September 8. Hinchinbrook.—“I am thoroughly disposed to give every assistance in my power to Mr. Manners, but he cannot, according to the fundamental rules of the Navy, be made a Lieutenant till he has served six years and passed an examination.”

[THE DUKE OF BEAUFORT TO THE MARQUESS OF GRANBY.]

1775, September 14.—Concerning the proposed settlement on Lord Granby’s intended marriage, and the difficulty of settling his father’s “meritorious debts.”

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother, the MARQUESS OF GRANBY, at Knightsbridge.

1775, September 30. The *Enterprize*, Gibraltar.—“Should you have a moment free from raving about Lady M[ary] S[omerset], or contemplating on her beauties,” I should be much obliged if you would return an answer to these lines. Gibraltar “is without exception the dullest and most disagreeable place I was ever at. I have been but three times ashore, and I do not intend to go again, so I shall have a pretty long confinement aboard, as we shall stay till November. We see daily numbers of Spanish men-of-war passing through the Straits, returning from their late expedition at Algiers, where they lost near six thousand men.”

LADY KATHERINE PELHAM to the MARCHIONESS OF GRANBY.

[1775,] December 28. Whitehall.—Expressing satisfaction that Lord Granby’s happiness is secured by his marriage [celebrated on the 26th inst.].

The MARQUESS OF ROCKINGHAM to the MARQUESS OF GRANBY.

1776, January 4. Wimbledon.—The result of the election for the borough [of Hedon] was that Watson was elected by a majority of 82. Watson—119, Atkinson—37. It is a pleasing event in every respect. The eagerness of our friends to prevent the borough falling into the hands of the Ministry adds to my private feelings. The three Pudseys were all good men and true. Many thanks to you and to Lord George Sutton. I ought to have begun my letter with some fine-spun compliments on your marriage.

A. FITZHERBERT to the MARQUESS OF GRANBY.

1776, February 4. Naples.—You will find it difficult to guess the name of the wretched outcast who, until this moment, has remained in ignorance of your marriage. Accept, however, my late congratulations. Although not having the honour of being personally known to the object of your choice, “I can assure you that I attribute to myself a very considerable share in this event. The long continuance of our acquaintance will justify, I hope, my having pretended to dive into your character, and, in consequence of my observations upon it, I cannot but think that my having declared Lady Mary S[omerset] to be, in my opinion, the most perfect figure in nature, had its effect upon your ambition, and was in some measure the occasion of the infinite *recherche* of opportunities of seeing and speaking to her, which from that moment you began to make. I suppose you have each erected to the other trophies of your former conquests—on your Lordship’s monuments, in hue like Shakespeare’s Patience, sit the Danverss, Egertons, &c.; her Ladyship’s slaves I will not pretend to enumerate—this country alone, where she is considered as a divinity, would supply myriads. For my part, I have good reason for blessing an event which gives me so good an opportunity of renewing our correspondence.” As I remain some time longer abroad, I cannot flatter myself with hopes of a speedy personal introduction to the Marchioness.

The MARQUESS OF ROCKINGHAM to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1776, February 6. Grosvenor Square.—Giving an outline of the probable business of the House of Commons, and informing him of rumours that Boston had been relieved and Quebec surrendered.

T. TOWNSHEND to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1776, February 8. Cleveland Court.—Intimating his intention to move an enquiry into the measure of pledging the Parliament of Great Britain to the Parliament of Ireland for the pay of troops removed from Ireland to America, and asking for support for the motion.

H. GRENVILLE to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

[1776?] March 17. Brussels.—I am happy that your eagerness to become the fortunate possessor of the four pictures of Rubens, which we saw here together, has procured me the honour of receiving a letter from you. I have spoken to Prince Starhenberg on the subject, but I fear your longings must remain unsatisfied; for, far from giving me any hopes that the Emperor would relinquish his object, he informed me that orders were already given for the pictures being packed up and sent to Vienna without delay. "The circumstances of the purchase are made a great secret of by the Prince Starhenberg, but it is whispered in other quarters that His Imperial Majesty does not pay less than 4,000*l.* or 4,500*l.* for them, but the Prince told me, for your consolation, that there are still other very valuable pictures to be disposed of in this country, and had you taken Antwerp in your way to England, you would have found some there very deserving of admiration, and fresh objects of your love." Mrs. Grenville and myself are happy in finding ourselves remembered. We miss Lady Granby and yourself from our society here.

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the MARQUESS OF GRANBY, at Belvoir Castle.

[1776,] April 17, Wednesday.—"I saw Lady Granby this morning, who, from having got the better of her cold, is handsomer than ever, and is in hopes of seeing you on Tuesday at farthest. I was at St. James's this morning, and from the solemnity of Lord Suffolk, who made me a distant bow, and the King's taking but little notice of me, I shall conclude some more Whiggish Lord than myself will be nominated to represent our free country. As yet I have not heard from Lord North; when I do you shall know it, as you interest yourself so much about me. This you may rest assured of, that I will not disgrace myself, nor willingly suffer to be disgraced." "The Duchess of Kingstou's trial is not yet over."

EDMUND STEVENS to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1776, June 28. *Royal George* Transport.—"We are now within about six hundred leagues of Halifax, the port, as we imagine, to which we are destined, unless we meet with a frigate between this and the land to order us elsewhere." Incidents in the fleet. Duel between Hessian officers on board one of their transports. Early on Sunday morning, July 26, we made the lighthouse on the Isle of Sambro, twelve miles from Halifax.—Sandy Hook, August 12.—After a voyage of fourteen weeks we came to anchor here to-day. General Howe is in possession of Staten Island. Lord Howe and the fleet are at anchor about five miles ahead of us. The rebels have strongly fortified themselves in and about New York. Washington is there, it is said, with a large army, amounting, as we have been informed, to twenty-five thousand men. A few weeks will produce important events.

EDMUND STEVENS to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1776, September 2. Camp near Hellgate, on Long Island.—“We remained, or rather the army, for we continued on board our transports, on Staten Island till the 22nd of August, when we landed near Utrecht upon this island, without any molestation whatever from the enemy, who retired immediately upon our approach to the shore to the woods upon the heights, along which they immediately made an abattis of three miles or upwards in extent, imagining, or perhaps rather hoping, that they would be attacked in front; but in this they were disappointed, for General Howe, who is beloved to a great degree by his army, by a judicious movement which he made to his right in the evening of the 26th of August, gained and turned their left flank easily in the morning on the 27th; and with the Grenadiers and light infantry of the army, with the 33rd and 42nd regiments, under the command of General Clinton, Lord Cornwallis, and Brigadier-General Leslie, drove them through the woods four or five miles, with great loss on their, but inconsiderable on our, side, into their works, which they abandoned to us without any apparent reason whatever on the 30th of August, and are, as we are candidly informed, proposing to evacuate New York likewise. The loss on our side, killed, prisoners, wounded, and missing, very little exceeds three hundred; theirs, according to the confession of their generals, to upwards of three thousand, and chiefly of their best troops, the New Englanders. Certain it is that the greatest tumults, dissensions, and disorders prevail in their camp. Not two nights ago, the New Yorkers and the Connecticut people quarrelled and proceeded to action, in which near one hundred were killed. In this army, which, for its numbers, is one of the finest that ever was seen, consisting of about twenty-four thousand men, the utmost unanimity, harmony, and zeal for the service uniformly exists. Hessians as well as English are equally zealous for the service, and inveterate against the rebels for the nameless cruelties our prisoners have experienced from them heretofore; and many of the most opulent and worthiest men of their countrymen, who declined entering into their wretched designs and infamous machinations. But I beg your pardon, my dear Lord, for making use of such harsh expressions. I cannot help it; they come from the heart. It is the uniform language of everyone in this army, and which, excuse the expression, it is not impossible but you yourself would indite were you here, and acquainted with the numberless and repeated, unrelenting, barbarous acts of tyranny they have inflicted upon their countrymen. Many of the worthiest and most respectable men are kept chained down to the ground with scarce victuals to eat, or any change of linen.”

“I am only in a fly tent, and have neither bed, chair, or table; therefore excuse this scrawl, for I have scribbled it upon my knee.”

Postscript.—“Lord Cornwallis is in high estimation in this army. Lord Rawden, whom I see every day, as we are now in General Clinton’s corps, to whom he is *aide de camp*, is likewise well spoken of.”

The DUKE OF BEAUFORT to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1776, October 1. Badminton.—Congratulating him on Lady Granby’s safe delivery of a daughter.

EDMUND STEVENS to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1776, October 24. New York.—Requesting a loan to purchase a step, upon the security of a policy of life insurance.

The MARQUESS OF ROCKINGHAM to the MARQUESS OF GRANBY.

1776, October 30. Grosvenor Square.—Asking him to move an amendment in the House.

The SAME to the SAME.

1776, October 31. Grosvenor Square.—“Your note has agitated me most exceedingly. I conjure you not to decline moving the amendment: it would be a horrid damp to all our friends, who rejoiced so sincerely in the expectation of your being the mover of this important decisive business. The same load is laid upon me. I feel my inability to execute as well as it ought to be, but I find I must. My good dear Lord, do not decline this business, on which the hereafter fate of this country may depend.”

L[EVETT] BLACKBORNE to [— CRAWFORD].

1776, November 18. Belvoir Castle.—“Lord Granby hath decamped for St. Stephen’s Chappell, where he is gone to add *one to a minority*, which, to speak the truth, at this time are rather disconcerted. It seems to me (from some sudden changeable blasts) as if their plan *now* is to veer to the opposite point of the compass, and be very angry at the idea ‘of Ministry offering to sacrifice the dignity of the mother nation to any *mean principles of conciliation*’ with a foe whom it is plain you can beat whenever you set yourselves heartily about it.”

EDMUND STEVENS to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1776, November 26. New York.—Captain Gardiner, who will bring the news of our late successes, will take charge of this letter. I will not attempt to give you an account of what you will see in the *Gazette*. We have an army now in the Jerseys advancing towards Philadelphia under the command of your friend, and, in my poor opinion, good officer, Lord Cornwallis. The brigade of Guards forms part of that army. Tom Thoroton is there and in perfect health. In the course of the next campaign, I make no doubt that there will be a free communication between this part of the continent and Canada, when I will not fail to execute, in the best manner that I am able, the commission which I received from Lady Granby. There is an expedition going to be fitted out from here immediately, under the command of Lieutenant-General Clinton.

VISCOUNT STORMONT to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1776, November 27. Paris.—Concerning a letter of recommendation.

EDMUND STEVENS to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1776, December 26. New York.—All military operations in this part of the world are suspended. The army are in winter quarters. The Guards are in the Jerseys, at about forty miles from hence. The Congress, I hear, have quitted Philadelphia. General Lee is a prisoner at Brunswick, in the Jerseys, and is, I hear, to be tried by a court-martial next week. We are all anxious to know his fate. None hesitate to determine that he deserves to be hanged. I yesterday saw a letter from him to a friend of his, a captain in the regiment he formerly was in, in this service, which in substance is, if not pretty nearly *verbatim*, as follows:—“The astonishing alertness and activity of Colonel Harcourt, with the poltroonery of my own Guard, has thrown me into

the hands of your army. Whatever may be my fate, I hope that I shall meet it with becoming fortitude. The cause in which I was embarked is the most righteous one that ever man was engaged in; but it seems to be determined by fate that no free man shall inhabit any part of this earth. One universal dark cloud of slavery has covered the whole globe." When first taken, he was in good spirits, but lately he has been much dejected.

THOMAS THOROTON to his mother [MRS. THOROTON].

1776, December 29. New York.—Giving incidents relating to the army, and General Lee's employment during imprisonment. *Postscript by E. Stevens.*

SIR JOHN DANVERS to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1777, February 23. Hanover Square.—Concerning the colonelcy of the Leicestershire militia, vacant by the death of his brother-in-law, John Grey; mentioning the conviction of Doctor Dodd for forgery. *On the fly-sheet is the draft, or copy, of a reply.*

ALLEYNE FITZHERBERT to the MARQUESS OF GRANBY.

1777, March 25.—When I communicated Mr. Byres's letter from Rome this morning to Sir Joshua Reynolds, "he was in raptures at the intelligence, and persisted in his former opinion that these pictures—besides being a great national object, and consequently worthy of your Lordship's public spirit—would be at eight, or even twelve thousand crowns, a most desirable and advantageous purchase to a private dealer, and that, in short, if you should decline taking them, he should be exceedingly happy to buy them himself."

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to THOMAS THOROTON, at Rutland House, Knightsbridge.

[1777.] June 3. The *Enterprize*, off Cape Finistère.—"Since my last, [I] have been at Leghorn, Pisa, Pistoia, Lucca, and Florence; but then, to counterbalance those delightful territories, I have visited the inhospitable deserts of Lybia, having stayed at Tripoli seven weeks. . . . From thence we went to Tunis, which, saving the present inhabitants, who deserve and have the same mean character of its ancient ones, is the first country of the world. Though they were indeed civil enough to us, and generally are so to the English, for whom they profess a great friendship, and I believe do esteem more than any Christian power whatever. Not but they would cheat and rob you, but then I mean they would not spit at you, or perhaps murder you as you walk along, which they will do in several other parts, and this they look upon as the highest proof of their moderation and urbanity; yet, notwithstanding a few of these kind of inconveniences, I could readily have stayed there some time longer, as certainly there are the finest remains of antiquity which I believe any part of the world can boast of, for, not to mention Cartage, where the two reservoirs and almost all the walls are left entire, there is the great aquaduct running from Zowan, the ancient Bysaltum, to Carthage, which is equal to 60 of our miles—a most astonishing work, and an almost entire one, worthy of the people who constructed it. I went from the ship to see this and a famous temple at the head of it, and in my way thither, over the plain of Zanna, I counted above 230 arches together perfect; one of which I measured was 17 feet

in space and a 120 in height, but they are not all so high. I saw about 40 miles the ruins of a very considerable city, which I don't find mentioned either in ancient or modern authors; a place of consequence it has been, by its situation and walls; an opulent one it must have been, by an amphitheatre and the great quantity of marble and granite pillars of Corinthian and other orders, which, as they are, make a most glorious sight, and demonstrate its former magnificence. I have since been at Gibraltar, and am now at sea, which by the date you may find."

EDMUND STEVENS to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1777, June 6. Camp near Brunswick.—Acknowledging a "friendly and most affectionate letter," and renewing a request for assistance in the purchase of a company.

JAMES BYRES to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1777, August 1. Rome.—In consequence of a letter from Mr. Fitzherbert of 8th April, I take the liberty of writing, but am sorry to say that I have not succeeded in your commission relative to Poussin's Sacraments. "The two brothers of the Bonapaduli family, the present possessors, would gladly dispose of them, but these pictures, as also their other effects, are entailed failing them to another family, and failing that to a third. Both the brothers are married, but neither of them have children, which renders the affair more difficult. Whether anything of my negotiation has transpired or not I do not know, but the Marchioness Gentile Bonapaduli, wife to the eldest brother, told me yesterday that the Pope had intimated to her husband and brother-in-law that these pictures were not to go out of Rome. She imagines that it was only from suspicion that, as the old prelate was dead, they might think of disposing of them. So nothing can be done at present, but if any favourable opportunity offer, I shall not let it slip."

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1777, August. The *Enterprize*, Gibraltar.—I will not attempt to describe the joy your letter gave me. Nothing could have rendered me more happy but the more immediate participation in your happiness by seeing you and your amiable consort.

"I see by the newspapers that the armament is laid aside, and that Mr. Keppel is set out for Spaw, and that the expectation of an approaching war with France daily diminishes, but in appearance here I assure that it increases, and we see constantly French men-of-war and store ships going for the West Indies, and the other day saw at sea a Spanish fleet of eleven sail of men-of-war, destined, we believed, to the same place, and a French vessel lately informed us of a large armament fitting out at Toulon, and that they were making every other warlike preparation, and farther said he was afraid that war would be declared before he could arrive at Brest, where he was bound. This news we got by the advantage of wearing American colours, and have also by that liberty got intelligence of some of the real proprietors, and are at present making all possible expedition to intercept them, which in all probability we shall, as by accounts there are several on this coast."

I am sorry I could not execute your commission about pictures in Italy. Two of our officers who went to Florence saw the same subject, not in the Palazzo 'del Paduli,' but in one of the 'Palazzi di Colonna,' which were very fine.

“I intend no longer to defer the pleasure of seeing you than by returning in a man-of-war to secure a safe passage, and prevent myself from being *in an unfriendly way taken by your friends.*”

LEVETT BLACKBORNE to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY, at Cheveley].

1777, August 23. Margaret Street.—Concerning an intended purchase of some prints.

EDMUND STEVENS to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1777, August 30. Head of Elke.—Concerning movements of the troops in America.

The MARQUESS OF ROCKINGHAM to the MARQUESS OF GRANBY.

1777, September 27. Wentworth.—Mentioning a projected visit.

EDMUND STEVENS to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1777, October 9. Camp at German Town.—Reporting various movements and skirmishes, and a general engagement of 11th September.

The EARL OF MANSFIELD to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1777, October 29. Kenwood.—Concerning the elopement and marriage of Philip —.

The MARQUESS OF ROCKINGHAM to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1777, November 6. Wentworth.—I have ordered the grey horse to be delivered to your groom. He is pleasant to ride, and though he has not been hunted can leap well and safely. I shall be in London before the actual end of next week. I hope many of our friends will be in town by Sunday, 16th. We ought to have a few days to consider what ought and what can be done. I do not know what to make of the intelligence from America. “I think the situation of Burgoyne’s army so *precarious* that I should conceive it is nearly a balance to the supposed important advantages said to be obtained over Washington.”

The SAME to the SAME.

1777, November 28. Grosvenor Square.—“It has been determined that a motion is to be made in both Houses of Parliament *for fixing a day for taking the state of the nation into consideration.* Tuesday next is the day fixed for the motion to be made. The actual going into the Committee (if granted) will be on the 2nd of February. I had the pleasure of a long and very satisfactory conversation on Saturday last with Lord Chatham. *Everybody* concurs in the intention for Tuesday next. I hope and beg that your Lordship will be in town for that day, and if Lord Monson is now with you, pray present my best compliments to his Lordship, and express my wish that he and your Lordship would come up for that day. Not a word of news as yet from America through the ministerial channells.”

T. TOWNSEND to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1777, November 28. Cleveland Court.—“Though I believe you will have received from another quarter by express the contents of this,

I could not deny myself the pleasure of writing to you upon several accounts. First, to congratulate you upon your appearance the first day, for notwithstanding your stop, you shewed the House what you could do, when you come to be in a habit of speaking to them: and I most sincerely wish, and earnestly intreat you to persevere, and you will find that a very few trials will give you the necessary confidence for making the most of your talents, of which I will not say all I think.

“I never saw so fair, or, I may say, a fair prospect of union among those in opposition till now. The only emulation seems to be, who shall be the most accommodating to the general plan. Tuesday we move in both Houses for a Committee on the State of the Nation, in both Houses to be held after the holidays.

“We hope to see you on this occasion. Lord Chatham wishes to see as strong a party on that question as possible. You will hear more on that subject from another quarter. I have the satisfaction to tell you that Lord Chatham is not only consulted on this occasion, but is referred to for his absolute decision. I believe, nay am sure, that unless prevented by illness, he will be in the House of Lords on Tuesday.”

GEORGE JOHNSTONE to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1777, November 29. Kensington Gore.—“I was very much flattered by your note upon your Lordship’s leaving town. Every command of yours is very sacred to me, and I feel a particular pleasure in executing whatever you may desire. I regard your Lordship as a singular example of magnanimity in the present scenes of dissipation, and I consider you like Hercules struggling between virtue and pleasure. I was sorry you did not come to the House the second day; it was by far the best I have seen in the House of Commons. Conway spoke from the heart in warm, affecting language, above the rules of rhetoric. Wedderburn endeavoured to smooth with a cold iron the fire Conway had raised. It was masterly, it was eloquent, it was insinuating, but it was artful. The House felt the deception while they admired at the manner. Burke attacked Wedderburn with repeated flashes of wit like the forked glare of lightning in a thunderstorm under the line. He was shrivelled under it like a blooming tree after a hurricane. Adam spoke wildly. Fox flew at him, and overturned both him and his arguments. In short, my Lord, I am persuaded if you had been there you would have caught the enthusiasm which prevailed, and uttered your own sentiments in your own manly manner, unawed by the formal attention of preparation, where a man is obliged to speak at a particular moment. I am really anxious you should attend and make two or three efforts, which is all that is required to perfect you in the path of daily improvement. I am certain you have all the requisites to become one of the best speakers of the House. The manner, excellent and manly; the modesty which you dread, most captivating; the tones of voice charming and distinct; the argument neat and to the point. Consider if any man ever swam well at the first trial, and how easy it becomes after a little practice. Yet no reasoning could convince a man who had floundered at first, that in two or three times repeating the trial he would support himself with pleasure and with little or no exertion.”

I should not summon you to London without sufficient cause; but I understand from good authority the brunt of the battle will be decided on Tuesday, or Thursday at farthest. “There has been a meeting of Lord Rockingham, Lord Chatham, Lord Shelburne, and their different connections, when a perfect reconciliation and union was settled. Everyone seems for the present most anxious who can promote the

general plan most cordially and effectually. I hope your Lordship will not be wanting at such a moment."

"We have as yet no news from America, which circumstance is sufficiently fatal to the views of administration."

E. S[TEVENS] to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1777, December 13. Philadelphia.—Referring to the disaster to Burgoyne. In my opinion, nothing under a reinforcement of 25 if not 30 thousand men could possibly bear the most distant aspect of reducing this country by force of arms. What may be done by negotiation I will not presume to determine. The natural strength and resources of this country are such that the probability of conquering them in our present situation appears to me (but this is only for your private ear) altogether chimerical. This letter I shall send by Lord Chester, who is going to England with Lord Cornwallis.

LADY KATHERINE PELHAM to her brother.

[1778,] January 5. Whitehall.—Mentioning the happy event of Lady Granby's safe delivery of a son (Lord Roos).

LADY CHATHAM to the MARQUESS OF GRANBY.

[1778, April?] Thursday. Hayes.—Acknowledging his solicitude about Lord Chatham's health; and expressing the regret which she feels at Lord Granby's generous desire of acquiring knowledge from the extensive experience and genius of Lord Chatham, being so cruelly disappointed by his inability to answer communications.

C. F. GREVILLE to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

[1778, April .]—"I know you are interested in the event of this day's debate; I almost expected it would have secured to us the pleasure of Lady Granby's and of your company."

I now do not regret that you did not attend the House of Lords, as you avoided a very affecting scene which I saw. The Duke of R[ichmond] had made his motion; Lord Chatham had answered him and opposed it. He reminded us of the spirit of this country, and of its former glory. He treated the idea of submitting to the insults of France as pusillanimous, and independence of America not to be admitted at any rate. He spoke about ten minutes. The Duke of Richmond replied, and near the conclusion my eyes were on Lord Chatham. I thought he attempted to rise and was feeling in his pocket, when, to my surprize, he fell back in a fit. The House was full, and was cleared. He was removed to one of the committee, or dressing, rooms, and the House adjourned for a little. I went away before it was resumed. . . . In the House of Commons we were employed in doing justice to Ireland for its loyalty on our present crisis. We shall review its trade, and probably end in encouraging every manufacture except the woollen, which originally was excepted. This I know you would from your justice approve, and I would have hoped for a division to have the pleasure of dividing once with you. I wish Lady Granby joy of her star. "The opportunity of purchasing diamonds will be frequent, as what is once set as a fashion, whether it be a knot under the chin or under the ear, it will certainly be followed by some. Sir C. and Lady Bunfield have set the example, and have contrived to get away their

trinkets, but as officers will be in future more vigilant of their charge, others will run also, but the stars will remain."

C. F. G[REVILLE] to the MARQUESS OF GRANBY.

[1778, April .].—The honour paid to the memory of Lord Chatham will give you satisfaction. I only lament that your absence prevented the motion originating from you. Comments upon the political aspects of the country.

E. STEVENS to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1778, April 10. Philadelphia.—Asking, in the event of the formation of a Ministry under Lord Chatham, for Lord Granby's influence.

PENNSYLVANIA.

1778 [c. April].—List of prices of various articles as they were formerly and a few months ago in Pennsylvania, showing in several instances a tenfold increase.

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother, the MARQUESS OF GRANBY, at Knightsbridge.

[17]78, [May] 20. Portsmouth.—Asking him to postpone his visit for a week, as he is taken up with changing ship.

The SAME to the SAME.

[1778, August 9?]. The *Ocean*, at Plymouth.—“The fleet is just arrived, though not in a very good condition. . . . I shall refer you to Admiral Keppel's letter for the particulars of the engagement. I shall only say that we have *not* brought in Monsieur de Chartres, and that it was more a skirmish than an action. I cannot exactly ascertain our loss, not having seen the returns, but should think it amounted to near 800 killed and wounded. . . . We find the people at this place highly exasperated against us for not doing more.”

C. F. GREVILLE to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1778, April 20. Henbury, Dorset.—Excusing himself for absence from London. “I rather wish to encourage patriotic croaking until the *Victory* arrives at Spithead. I shall therefore not say one word of the glorious sight of 31 ships of the line at Spithead. I attempted in vain to see your brother, although I saw his shipmates.”

ANTHONY LUCAS to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

[1778,] August 1. Knightsbridge.—“I have this moment heard that Captain Falconer arrived this evening express from Admiral Keppel with an account that after all his endeavours to bring the French to an engagement, on the 27th July, Admiral Harland's division, chiefly, had a running fight for about two hours, but as the whole French fleet are got into Brest, it is impossible to ascertain their loss. Ours is 133 killed and 373 wounded. He has left some few ships cruising off Brest, and is returning with the fleet to Plymouth.” Knowing your anxiety for Mr. (Lord Robert) Manners, I should have

been happy to have sent you further particulars, but I hope you may rest easy on his account, as it appears the engagement was with Harland's division.

The MARQUESS OF ROCKINGHAM to the MARQUESS OF GRANBY.

1778, August 3. Grosvenor Square.—“Your brother is very well. The French ships were well beat, though we have no trophies. The Ministers and public are disappointed because they expected that we were *at least* to take half the French fleet. The Admiral, captains, &c. on board our fleet, and all the sea folks who know the circumstances, are all satisfied that our friend Admiral Keppel has acted with great ability and great spirit.”

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother, the MARQUESS OF GRANBY, at Chevely Park, Cambridgeshire.

[1778,] September 11. The *Victory*, at sea.—You see that I am at present in the *Victory*. I quitted the *Ocean* on Monday fortnight. We expect to see the the French fleet very soon if they are at sea, but we have some reason to suspect that they are returned to Brest. I believe Mr. Keppel intends to go off that port, that they may have no excuse for not meeting us.

THOMAS THOROTON to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1778, September 14. Knightsbridge.—Concerning the movements of the American squadron and of Keppel's fleet off the Lizard.

The SAME to [the SAME].

1778, October 13. Knightsbridge.—Mentioning D'Estaing's attempt upon Rhode Island.

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother, the MARQUESS OF GRANBY, at Liverpool.

[1778,] October 30. The *Victory*, Spithead.—“Our admiral set off for town this morning, and I fear will resign if not well received. I do not think that Lord Howe has brought any accounts to induce the Ministry to try another campaign, though I understand more troops are to be sent out. Sir Hugh Palliser is gone up to London highly exasperated at a letter which appeared in one of the daily papers, reflecting severely on his conduct during the action. He talks of clearing his character in a public manner, and insists on laying the whole affair before Parliament. The fleet, however, and particularly the *Victory*, is ordered to be fitted immediately, which has the appearance of our making another cruize this winter, a thing from which I cannot perceive that any good can result. The French will be very happy in seeing your fleet out, probably most of them disabled by the inclemency of the winter season, while they remain safe in their port, ready to take possession of the seas when you are incapable of assisting them and affording the country or trade any protection.”

“Captain Finch has taken a prize, his share of which will amount to 62,000*l.*, a fortune quickly made, and with little trouble, as she did not fire above three or four guns. It was not three months ago that he took another, which will bring him in 12,000*l.* or 15,000*l.*”

GEORGE JOHNSTONE to [the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

1778, November 5. Kensington Gore.—Reviewing the situation, both with relation to parties at home and foreign affairs. Lord Chatham's death is the greatest evil that has befallen.

SAMUEL ROGERS to [NICHOLAS ASHTON].

1778, November 26. *Marchioness of Granby*, at Sea, in lat. 48.22 N., lon. 9.45 W.—On the 24th ulto., about 9 o'clock, saw three large ships under our lee, distance about 4 miles; made sail and stood after them. About 2 p.m. they shewed French colours. I took them for Indiamen. At 3 they hauled up and made signals to each other, then hoisted blue ensigns. I ran athwart their stems for the leeward-most ship, then about half a mile distant; they all wore round, hoisted French colours, and made sail after us. I had just shewed my colours before. They turned out to be men-of-war, two-deckers. One fired two broadsides, and another one broadside. I made sail, and by hard carrying got away from them. *Copy. (On the second leaf is the copy of another letter signed Robert Watson, briefly reporting the same incident).*

THE SLOOP "LADY GRANBY" AND THE SHIP "MARCHIONESS OF GRANBY."

1779, January 13.—The accounts of two privateers, furnished by Nicholas Ashton, from which it appears that the Marquess of Granby had one-third share in the venture. The sloop *Lady Granby* appears to have been sold, after taking two prizes.

ALLEYNE FITZHERBERT to the MARQUESS OF GRANBY.

1779, January 19. Brussels.—"I should have written to you much sooner, in answer to your very kind and friendly letter of the 17th of November, but that I thought it better to wait till I could be able to tell you something certain respecting the time that the picture we have in view is likely to be put up to sale, as well as the price that it will probably fetch. With regard to the former of those points, I now learn that the inheritors of Verhulst's collection, who are four or five in number, after having waited a considerable time in vain, in hopes that some purchaser would offer to take the whole off their hands at once, have now come to a resolution to dispose of their pictures by auction, and that the sale will probably take place towards the beginning of next June; however, this is far from certain, as the disputes, inseparable from an undivided succession, as well as other reasons, may possibly delay it many months longer. As to the other point, which is the price, I have learnt from the best authority that Verhulst himself, who bought it about a dozen years ago, paid for it at least 1,000*l.* sterling, and as the pictures of Rubens have since that time increased prodigiously in value, I find that the proprietors of this look upon it as being now worth a great deal more. The general circumstances of the times, however (though felt much less severely in other countries than in England), will certainly, as you very justly observe, tend to diminish if not annihilate this augmentation of its value, so that I think, with proper management, it may be procured for its original price, but, in order to this, it will be necessary that both your Lordship and myself should observe the strictest silence respecting your desire of purchasing it. I will not trouble you with any description of the picture itself, as (exclusively

of my being doubtful of my powers upon that head) I never remember to have read or heard any description whatever, however eloquent, that tended to give me any sort of idea, even a wrong one, of the thing or person that it meant to paint to me. One circumstance, however, relative to it, I must not omit to mention, which is, that as it is at least nine feet high, and was originally painted for an altar-piece, it ought, in order to be seen to proper advantage, to be placed in nearly the same situation that it was first intended for, that is to say, much higher than, as far as I recollect, the dimensions of any room or gallery that I ever saw out of Italy can possibly admit of. However, this is a nicety which your Lordship may not think worthy your attention, particularly as in breaking through it you will be justified by repeated examples in all the great collections I ever saw, both in France and England. It remains for me to speak of the *celebrity* of this picture, which I assure you is as great as you can possibly wish, for Verhulst's collection (more I believe from the singular character of the man, and the great number of pieces that it consisted of, than from their real excellence) was always considered as the most famous in the Low Countries, and this particular piece was looked upon as worth all the rest put together. I enter very thoroughly into your ideas upon this head, though it must be owned that the prejudice is an expensive one, as the reputation of a picture, without adding one tittle to its real value, commonly adds most enormously to the price of it."

LORD ROBERT MANNERS [to his brother, the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

[1779, January,] Sunday.—“Captain Allen was called yesterday, and gave an evidence full as concise and precise, and as much in favour of Admiral Keppel as Captain Windsor. To the general question he answered ‘No! I should not have answered this if I had not thought that six-and-thirty years of my service had intitled me to it; and I say, on the contrary of tarnishing the behaviour and conduct of Admiral Keppel, that day did honour to the British flag.’ The Judge-Advocate went up to town last night, where he will give a very displeasing account. I have not yet heard when I am to be called. I trust now there will be no occasion.”

LADY KATHERINE PELHAM to the MARQUESS OF GRANBY.

[1779 ?] February 8. Whitehall.—“I verily believe you to have very few faults. Sorry I am to hear you guilty of the bad one of keeping intolerable hours, which will undoubtedly hurt both yours and Lady Granby's health; do keep better, and forgive the liberty taken.”

The MARQUESS OF ROCKINGHAM to the MARQUESS OF GRANBY.

1779, February 11. Portsmouth.—Announcing the acquittal of Admiral Keppel, “the accusation being unanimously voted malicious and ill founded.”

NICHOLAS ASIHTON to the MARQUESS OF GRANBY, at Chevely.

1779, February 12. Woolton.—Reporting an advice that the privateer, *Marchioness of Granby*, had been taken by a French frigate and carried into Brest. The sloop, *Lady Granby*, sailed from hence on the 9th instant, since when there are no accounts from her.

The MARQUESS OF ROCKINGHAM to the MARQUESS OF GRANBY.

1779, March 5. Grosvenor Square.—Remonstrating with him for going out of town and leaving it in doubt whether he would be back in time for a critical division expected on Monday next; and strongly urging him to come and bring his friends.

LORD ROBERT MANNERS [to his brother, the MARQUESS OF GRANBY].

[1779, March ?] 11. The *Victory*, Portsmouth Harbour.—The *Victory* being ordered into dock, I am prevented from seeing you in town. We remain here in the greatest suspense about our naval affairs, that is, whether the Admiral will or will not take the command this summer, whether Lord Sandwich will or will not go out, whether there will be a whole, a partial, or any change of administration. We hear the King has accepted of the Admiral's resignation, but have it not from authority.

The MARQUESS OF ROCKINGHAM to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1779, June 16.—A rescript or manifesto has been delivered by the Spanish ambassador, tantamount to a declaration of war. It will be laid before the House of Lords to-morrow. Do call here if you can this evening. I think your Grace ought to take your seat to-morrow if you have not already done so. You certainly should be present on so solemn a business.

The DUKE OF ANCASTER to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1779, June .]—Concerning a proposal for raising a regiment, and mentioning Colonel St. Leger.

On the blank inside pages of this letter are some notes apparently referring to the impending election for Cambridge University; and the votes capable of being secured for Townshend, Hyde, Mansfield, Euston, Pitt, Crofton, and Carysfort respectively.

WARRANT FOR RAISING A REGIMENT.

1779, June 28.—Royal warrant for raising a regiment of foot, addressed to [Colonel] Anthony St. Leger, &c. *Copy.*

The EARL OF MANSFIELD to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1779, July 20.—Concerning a trust deed relating to the debts of John, Marquess of Granby. "There is one thing I would earnestly recommend to you at your setting out—to look a little yourself into your own affairs. Be assured that the best trustees are at best but paper and packthread. If you attend a little to your own business, you may do great and noble things, and live in magnificence and affluence. If you totally neglect it, if your estate was double, you will be a prey, and very soon undone. *Dii meliora.*"

The MARQUESS OF ROCKINGHAM to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1779, July 28. Grosvenor Square.—"It is understood that Gibraltar is invested, and that the combined fleets of France and Spain are about fifty-one of the line, looking out for Sir Charles Hardy, who has thirty-four, or perhaps thirty-five or thirty-six. These circumstances in other times would be deemed horrid and alarming, but at present it seems nothing extraordinary. How or *how soon* it is all to end I know not."

WILLOUGHBY DIXIE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1779, August 3. Bosworth.—“On receipt of yours I write immediately to Dr. Oldershaw and Mr. Alpe, who I hope I shall prevail with to give their vote to your friend Mr. Pitt.”

SIR GEORGE ROBINSON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1779, August 13. Cresford.—“Though I have the greatest respect for the character of Mr. Pitt, as I am sure I have for your recommendation, my connection with the other candidates will, I fear, make it impossible for me in this instance to comply with your request.”

DR. E. BARNARD [Provost of Eton] to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1779, August .]—Acknowledging the strong claims of Mr. Pitt, but excusing himself from giving any definite promise in regard to the election for the University.

WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1779, August 14. Pembroke Hall [Cambridge].—“I received yesterday your Grace’s obliging letter, and beg to return you a thousand thanks for the repeated proofs of zeal with which you honor my cause. I should not have delayed troubling your Grace so long, if I had not found some difficulty in procuring at this time the List of Bachelors which I now send. I doubt whether I have been able to distribute all the names accurately according to their years, and it is possible that you may find some included who will not take their degrees till after the General Election; but at least I trust there are none omitted of those who will take it before that time. I see that Mr. Capper of St. John’s is in the list, and I hope to hear a good account of him. I received a few days ago an answer from Lord Rockingham, a copy of which I send your Grace, which, in addition to his letter to you, seems to preclude all hope of assistance from him, unless something new should happen before the election. I have not received answers to my application from more than 50 or 60 persons (exclusive of Pembroke). Of that number only nine say that they are engaged; about 24 wish to make no declaration so early; 10 are absolute promises, and 14 are rather favourable. This comprehends altogether but a small proportion of the voters, but, as far as it goes, I have no reason to be dissatisfied with it. I have also made out a list of all the positive promises I have received, which will make a small part of the voluminous packet I am going to trouble you with. It is absolutely necessary to keep their names secret, for many reasons, and I shall certainly communicate them to no one besides your Grace. I have written down none but those who have absolutely promised, though there are several of whose assistance I have no doubt, before they make the promise. The University is so thin that I have not been able to make so much progress as I wished in hunting out connections. But I believe I could already point out near 130 persons (besides those who have promised) from whom (some with greater and some with less degrees of probability) I have reason to expect support. The conjectures must, however, be some of them very uncertain, and not to be built upon; but, upon the whole, my prospect is as favorable as possible, and will, I dare say, be still confirmed when I return hither in the autumn, as every day will probably discover ways of coming at votes that I at present know nothing of.

"I conclude that Mr. Chamberlayne is with your Grace. I will not trouble him with a letter, but beg the favour of you to present my best compliments to him, and give him the list of Yorkshire votes, which he was so good as to allow me to send him. Some of the persons may be at a distance from the places he mentioned, but I rather chose to include too many than too few. I enclose also the list of Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, and Lincolnshire voters, which Mr. Thoroton gave me leave to trouble him with. It will, I am sure, be no trifling instance of the friendly manner in which you interest yourself in my undertaking, if you forgive all the trouble I am venturing to give you.

"I will detain your Grace with only one word more. My competitors are, from what I learn, very industrious to prevent those whom they can influence from engaging their second votes, and with such a number of candidates it is impossible to be secure otherwise that the second vote may not defeat the first. I do not know whether your Grace may think proper to apply to any of your friends to keep theirs disengaged. You will, I am sure, excuse my mentioning the subject, and suggesting that, wherever such an application can be made with propriety, it will be of the greatest advantage."

Postscript.—"My direction will be till the end of next week at *Hotel, King Street, St. James's Square, London*, to which place I am just setting out; after next week, *Burton Pynsent, Somerton, Somersetshire*. Pray mention to Mr. Chamberlayne that there are two *Harrisons*, one of *St. John's*. One, I hope, is the person he mentioned to me."

GEORGE DENSHIRE, junior, to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1779, August 15. Stamford.—On receiving your letter I immediately applied to my brother Brackenbury, who, though applied to by several friends and acquaintances for his vote, has left himself disengaged, and, to oblige me, will give your Grace a vote in favour of your friend Mr. Pitt, but begs it may not be mentioned, as he does not wish his intention known so long before the election.

The EARL OF STAMFORD to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1779, August 16. Dunham.—I have received the favor of your letter, most earnestly soliciting my interest in favour of your friend Mr. Pitt at the General Election for the University of Cambridge. I am extremely sorry it is not in my power to comply with your request, which I should have done with great pleasure if I had not before engaged my interest to Mr. Townshend.

W. DICKINSON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1779, August 16. New Buckenham, Attleburgh.—I am glad of the opportunity of obliging your friend (Mr. Pitt) with my vote.

CHARLES PRESCOT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1779, August 17. Catherine Hall, Cambridge.—Asking his interest to obtain him a living in the gift of the governors of the Charterhouse. P.S.—A Master of Arts of the last commencement has given into my disposal his vote at the next general election. If agreeable to your Grace, I shall wait upon Mr. Pitt and assure him of the vote."

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother, the DUKE OF RUTLAND,
at Belvoir Castle.

[1779, August] 19, Thursday.—“An account is just arrived at the Admiralty, from Lord Shuldham, that the French fleet, consisting of 86 sail, 57 or 58 of which are of the line, are now at an anchor in Causand Bay, by Plymouth, and that another fleet has made its appearance, but at too great a distance to ascertain whether they are Sir C. Hardy's fleet or the enemy's transports. The consternation now is pretty general, and the Ministers a good deal dejected, except the under-runners, who declare the more they have the more will be taken. I came here this moment from Deptford to hear the news.”

[ALLEYNE FITZHERBERT] to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1779, August 20. Brussels.—“I have the greatest satisfaction, my dear Lord, in being able to acquaint you that at Verhulst's sale on Wednesday last, his celebrated Rubens was knocked down to you for 12,100 florins of this country, equal to something more than eleven hundred pounds sterling. You will judge of the joy and surprize which I felt at getting it at so low a rate, when I inform you that, in consequence of what I understood to be your intentions respecting this picture when we last met, I had given Danrot directions to bid for it as far as 20,000 florins (upwards of 1,700 guineas), and that even at that rate I much doubted of being able to procure it for you, the connoisseurs and picture-brokers, both here and in Holland, having been unanimously of opinion that it would fetch upwards of two thousand pounds. The only reason that can be assigned for its having been sold so much lower, is the universal scarcity of money which prevails at present throughout Europe.” The whole collection brought but 64,000 florins, though to my certain knowledge Verhulst refused no less than 140,000 for it six years ago, and his executors 100,000 not above a month since. Asks for directions as to packing, insurance, &c.

The EARL OF MANSFIELD to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1779, August 22. Kenwood.—Offering a loan to enable him to raise a regiment.

ADMIRAL AUGUSTUS KEPPEL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1779, September 4. London.—“Sir Charles Hardy anchored safely yesterday at three o'clock in the afternoon at Spithead. If the event is deemed a happy one, it is a sad occasion for joy, the combined fleets of France and Spain offering battle for four days together to Lord Sandwich's boasted fleet, unequal to the risk and chance of battle with the enemies' fleet, far less our own Channel. I am really low spirited with reflection upon it. What would our departed friend Lord Chatham have said? I conclude he would have determined to bring the authors of our disgrace and dishonor to just punishment. No other man or men know how to bring such matter to issue.”

ALLEYNE FITZHERBERT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1779, September 7. Brussels.—Concerning the recent purchase of a Rubens, and recommending Mr. Fitzgibbon, a great-nephew of Marshal Brown, for a place in the Duke's new corps.

— to —

1779, September 21, 24, and 28. Scarborough.—Three letters giving a detailed account of the proceedings of Paul Jones's squadron in that neighbourhood. *Copies.*

SAMUEL BEILBY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1779, September 26. Hunmanby.—“On Thursday night, from about seven to eleven o'clock, I was an eye-witness from Osbaldiston's house of an engagement opposite to it in Filey Bay, off Flamborough Head, between Paul Jones' squadron, consisting of four ships, and two of our ships convoying the fleet from the Baltic. Jones had one ship of 40 guns, two of 36, and a brig of 12; our ships were supposed to be a 40 and a 20, and the largest of them said to have been commanded by Capt. Piercy. The two 36-gun frigates soon took, after seven broadsides, our 20-gun ship. Piercy, in the other, fought Jones for four hours, and, it being in the night, they engaged so close that their guns frequently touched for a long time together. He leaped more than once on Jones' deck, when it was nearly cleared, calling out to him to strike, but the latter declaring he would sooner sink, the action was revived with greater obstinacy than ever. At last Jones must have either sunk, or have been obliged to strike (having many feet of water in the hold, which came in from the lower ports, and between 60 and 70 men killed), had not he called for assistance to a fresh 36-gun frigate, just returned from helping to take our 20-gun ship. She came on the other side of Piercy's ship, who being wounded, and supposed to be incapable of command, from the cry that was heard in our ship when he was wounded, his ship also being almost a wreck, was forced to strike after the first broadside from the frigate. As Jones' ship was supposed to be sinking, and his own boats being shot to pieces, they sent all the boats they could from his frigate to take in his crew. Six English and one Dane got into one boat and made their escape to Filey. Yesterday morning they came and surrendered themselves to Osbaldiston. I have sent you their affidavits, which I took. Osbaldiston directly sent copies of them and an account of the action to the Admiralty. Yesterday morning I saw off Flamborough Head Jones' squadron (steering probably for Dunkirk), two of them with jury masts scarcely able to sail. I am certain that a 50 and 40-gun ship would take his whole squadron should they meet him.

“I thought the above account might amuse you, and have therefore sent it. How inexorable is Ministry in leaving all this coast without a single ship of force! All the ships in Hull, Burlington, Scarborough, and Whitby might easily be destroyed by any determined adventurer.

“P.S.—I am happy in informing you that Osbaldiston assures me he will use his utmost endeavours to prevent George Osbaldiston from giving you any trouble at Scarborough. I am certain he would be glad that you should always carry one member there.”

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

[1779,] October 27. The *Alcide*, at the Nore.—“I am a lieutenant still. Indeed I have had a step in the *Alcide*, being now 2nd lieutenant, which is all the promotion I have or am likely to get. If Lord S[andwich] does not intend to promote me, he need not have appointed me to the very last ship that was to join Sir C. Hardy, so diametrically opposite to what I asked and he promised. We shall pro-

ceed for the Downs and Portsmouth to-morrow—one of the worst manned ships in the service, and in the beginning of winter, which will add to the many pleasant circumstances I have lately met with.”

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].
[1779,] November 15. The *Alcide*, Spithead.—“I discover plainly my promotion was never intended, and that I have been all along amused with specious words and promises. . . . Thus you see of how little avail are large and liberal donations to a government whose ministers esteem nothing but Parliamentary votes to establish them in their places and carry them through their destructive measures. Lord Sandwich’s character is too well known for any man of higher understanding than an idiot to put confidence in his promises. I only wonder how Lord Mandsfeild could pay so much attention to what he said as to relate the conversation to me, for I am stedfast in opinion he never meant to deceive me. Since I saw you, there have been numerous opportunities of *doing it soon and in a handsome manner*, which opportunities have not been lost on other people, as I verily believe twenty captains have been made. I have never yet been so seriously irritated during the course of my service or felt on any professional occasion so much as on this. It is trifling too much with one of the first families in the kingdom. I hope to God some time or other to have it in my power to shew my displeasure.”

The SAME to the SAME.

[1779,] November 30. The *Alcide*, Spithead.—“The *Alcide* is preparing with all expedition for sea, though our destination is not yet known. The reports are various; the West Indies, America, St. Helena, Gibraltar, have all been talked of. Certain it is she goes out with Sir G. Rodney. . . . When I look back on the numerous opportunities that have been lately offered and laid hold of in other lieutenants’ promotion, I fancy that the Admiralty are determined to proscribe me.”

CHARLES STOKES to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1779, December 1. Stamford.—I send a list of my votes in Walton and Mowsley, all which are made by virtue of the tythe. Mr. Burdett has not yet canvassed Shearsby, and if I am defective there it is owing to the inclosure. To unravel this my property is now turned to land. The tythe there is gone, which would have been a *flagellum in manu* to have whipped these up to obedience. I have hopes of regaining some, and if I succeed the number I shall compass will be about 35.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to the DUCHESS.

1779, December 8. Arlington Street.—“The Duke of Richmond made a motion which you will see in the papers, so it was ill attended. Lord Chatham was gone to Hayes, Lord Camden was absent, and I was in the same predicament. But I am afraid to tell you that Lord Shelburn gave notice that he should make a general motion on the state of the nation, grounded on that of yesterday, on this day sennight. This embarrasses me much. My anxious desire to break through the constraint of absence from her I love will almost induce me to reject pressing intreaties that will be made me to stay, but a future letter will decide that point. Though our numbers were small, yet appearances were

strongly in our favour. Lord Paget, Lord Say and Sele, and Lord Townshend voted with us—new votes—Lord Carmarthen and Lord Huntingdon went away, and so did Lord Peterborough, a young man who had just taken his seat. Lord Lothian and Lord Talbot were absent. The principal argument which ran through the whole debate was œconomy, but necessary as it is, and certain as it is that retrenchment in all our expences will very soon become indispensable, nobody seems to have begun. It is impossible we can continue our present mode of living long. Indeed, I must press œconomy to you. You must not purchase everything your eye is attached to—no superfluous cloaths beyond that is requisite for you to appear clean and decent. I assure you I shall put my affairs under regulation, for I have enormous private debts suspended over my head, besides the appearance of general calamity. Almost an universal bankruptcy among the tenants if rents are not lowered is constantly expected. One of mine—a trifling one however—at Newmarket is broken. You must likewise be attentive to the expenses of the children, whose bills, you know, I objected to as extravagant last year. Indeed, everything bad is to be dreaded. If some alteration does not take place, I fear some dreadful convulsion in this country will arise. Things appear ripe, and people enraged. God Almighty avert the storm, and leave the beautiful constitution of this kingdom uninjured and unimpaired.”

Postscript. “Lord Sheburn attacked Lord Stormont, and declares he will make him the object of attack every debate. As Lord Stormont is unsupported, and as Lord Shelburn is backed by the Duke of Richmond, Grafton, &c., Lord Stormont must feel himself very uncomfortable. It will probably drive him out of office.”

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

1779, December 5. The *Alcide*, Spithead.—Giving his reasons why he cannot make up his mind to quit the service except as a last resource.

The SAME to the SAME.

[1779,] December 16. The *Alcide*, Spithead.—Informing him that Sir George Rodney has offered to make him 9th lieutenant in his ship, the *Sandwich*, but that he prefers to remain on board the *Alcide* as long as he is a lieutenant.

The SAME to the SAME.

[1779, December] 25. The *Alcide*, Spithead.—“The wind is fair, and we are preparing to take advantage of it while it is favourable. . . I find the report false of the offer to be made to me of going on board Sir George Rodney’s ship.” I am sure that nothing more can be done till I return. It must be left now to their decision whether I am to remain in this service, at least whether this service is to remain an object to me.

The SAME to the SAME, in Arlington Street.

[1780,] January 9.—Informing him that they have taken a whole Spanish convoy of twenty-two sail of merchant ships, and that he hopes to get his promotion at Gibraltar.

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

[1780, January.]—Sending a list of the ships forming the squadron under the command of Don Luis de Langara.

The SAME to [the SAME].

1780, January 24. The *Resolution*, Gibraltar.—“You did not receive the letter I wrote you off Cape Finisterre, informing you of the capture of a whole Spanish convoy consisting of 23 sail, the vessel I sent it by not going to England. After having changed the prisoners, we proceeded on for Gibraltar, the place of our destination. On the 16th the *Bedford* and *Resolution* made the signal for a fleet, which was followed by one for a general chase from the Admiral, discovering them to be the Spanish squadron which we had some few days before received information of. Our coppered 74's soon brought them to action, and about ten o'clock at night most of the ships were engaged. Just at dusk the *St. Domingo*, of 74 guns, about half a mile on our lee bow, engaged by the *Bienfaisant* and *Edgar*, blew up, and afforded the most tremendous sight I ever beheld; the stream of fire clouded by a column of smoke terminated the whole, as nothing was left of the ship when the smoke dissipated. About dark the *Princessa* struck to the *Resolution*, the *Diligente* to the *Edgar* and *Montagu*. The Admiral's ship, the *Phœnix*, of 84, after receiving the fires of seven or eight ships, struck to the *Defence* and *Bienfaisant*, the *Monarcha* to the *Sandwich*, the *St. Juliana* to the *Prince George*, the *St. Eugenia* to the *Terrible*, and some other ships; the two last are since supposed to be lost, two lieutenants of the *Prince George* being on board the one; the other was so exceedingly shattered that the *Terrible* was obliged to take out her men, and from a principle of humanity suffered them to try to save themselves as well as they could, keeping at the same time the principal officers with them; whether they have saved themselves is not known. You wonder I dont mention the *Alcide*; indeed, we had so very little share of the business that I shall only tell the reason of our not having more. In the first place we did not sail capitally, and secondly was the sternmost ship when we chased, that being our station; however, we did come into action, for having ran up alongside of one of the enemy's ships, supposed to be the *Phœnix*, and having taken in sail to engage her, the very first fire she gave in return to ours brought down our maintopmast, which, falling on the side on which we engaged, disabled us so effectually that we were glad to haul our wind clear of the action; indeed, our place was immediately supplied by two others. The action lasted till nearly 4 in the morning, when we found ourselves so near Cadiz that the *Invincible* counted all the ships in the bay. The Spaniards, considering the great disparity between us, having only 8 to 18, behaved with the utmost bravery, and did not strike till they had either lost their masts or were so disabled as not to have it in their power to return our fire.

“Thus ended the action in their having lost 7 ships out of 8. Our loss is trifling. Though I mentioned little about the *Alcide*, I can tell you something about myself which will not displease you.

“Now move heaven and earth. My dearest brother, make every exertion in your power to get me confirmed, as I am now post captain in the *Resolution*, being appointed Sir Chaloner Ogle's captain, who is an established commodore. Sir Geo. Rodney has behaved exceedingly handsome in it, as I am appointed post at once. There were no sloops or masters and commanders when he made me, which will obviate the

objection of my being put over anyone's head. I have transmitted home a copy of my commission to the Admiralty for confirmation; you must use your whole influence to effect it; write to Keppel, to Sir John L. or Lord Mansfield immediately; there are numerous precedents for it when no sloops are in company."

ALLEYNE FITZHERBERT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1780, March 3. Brussels.—After many delays on the part of Verhulst's executors, I am at last in possession of the Gerard Dow I mentioned to you. The price was 3,000*fl.*, about 300*l.*, a very great price considering the size of the picture, but a very small one if you take into the account the great request in which the capital works of this master are held both in Holland and here, and that Verhulst paid for it upwards of 100*l.* more than its present price, that, too, many years ago. I think it more of a bargain than the other (the Rubens). As to your Tokay, it is arrived from Vienna, but must be tested and approved before it can be sent you. At this moment your eyes are probably fixed upon the great game we are playing at Gibraltar.

BENNET STORER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1780, March 7. Grantham.—Congratulating him on Lord Robert Manners's appointment to a seventy-four, and his success in taking the first ship of force that has been taken from the French.

The DUKE OF BEAUFORT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1780, March 9. Blandford Park.—"I take the first opportunity to congratulate your Grace on Lord Robert Manners's promotion, and also on the success he has met with in his return home in taking a French sixty-four gun ship."

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to his brother [LORD ROBERT MANNERS].

1780, March 10. Arlington Street.—"You are to know that Leicestershire is almost adjusted, and that you are the declared candidate—and will be the chosen one—for the county of Cambridge. I am advised to declare it formally at the assizes, which are next Tuesday, and it will be necessary—if your absence from your ship can be dispensed with—for you to be present. After that there will be a meeting of the freeholders to consider of a petition, on the plan of all the other petitions, when—as you have not an inch of property in that county—it will be indispensably necessary that you should attend and make a most violent speech."

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to [the FREEHOLDERS OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE].

[1780, March.]—Draft of an election address.

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

1780, [March] 29. The *Resolution*, Spithead.—Expressing his desire for a change of ship, and giving his objections to the station he is going to and the people he is to be employed with.

The SAME to the SAME, in Arlington Street.

[1780,] April 9.—A farewell letter.

The MARQUESS OF ROCKINGHAM to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1780, April 5. Grosvenor Square.—“The account you was so good to send me of what had passed at the first meeting in Cambridgeshire gave me much pleasure. . . . I have received your letter with the *hints* of what you suppose may be *agitated* at the ensuing meeting in Cambridgeshire on the 10th instant. You shall certainly hear from me before then by a safe conveyance. I write by *the post*, which is not a very safe conveyance, but, in answer to your last letter, I shall only say that my *ideas* concur with yours.” As to business in the House of Lords, I feel honoured by being entrusted with your proxy, but, for your own sake, you should be *present* when any great business—or matter of public expectation—is agitated in the House of Lords.

Postscript.—“I am told that your Grace was a *dasher at hazard* at the last Newmarket meeting. I have always held that playing at *dice* at *Newmarket* was—an abomination.”

THOMAS THOROTON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1780, April 6. House of Commons.—“I was not honoured with your Grace’s kind letter till Tuesday night, at Screveton, after hunting, and I had appointed Mr. Fillingham and Mr. Staveley to meet me about business on Wednesday noon, at Grantham, by which means I did not leave that place till six o’clock last night. I found it, therefore, impossible to make Cheveley in my way, which I should have been excessively happy to have done could I have been in time for this debate. It is an immense full House, I believe the fullest seen for many years. I am sorry to say Lord George, I fear, is snug at Kelham, but I hope, though I have not yet seen George, that he either is, or will be here. It is made a point of to get all friends down on both sides, and all the cripples, Lord Robert amongst the rest, are here. Numberless enquiries have already been made where Lord G. and George are.

“I got to town soon after five, got out of my chaise in Oxford Road and run to this place, where I found Mr. Dunning on his legs. I had lost great part of his speech, but what I heard was excellent indeed. He stated the corruption of this House and the encreasing interest of the Crown, and ended with a motion that he thought no one could deny: *That the power of the Crown was encreased, encreasing, and ought to be diminished.* This motion, he said, he meant to follow with others as remedies, but did not choose to say *what they were.* Sir Fletcher Norton has spoke very strongly and fully for the motion, and Thomas Pitt, Lord North, and the Lord Advocate and Lord Nugent against it, and, indeed, with a motion to the Chairman to leave the chair. Lord North has been terribly baited and lost his temper. All the arguments against the motion are, that it is an *abstract* question, *no proof*, only *bold assertions*; *it is speculative*, so round again to *abstract, no proof*, speculative; and these are the only arguments hitherto used. I write in the utmost hurry to save the post. The debate still proceeding.”

Postscript.—“Wedderburn is now speaking. It will end soon; all are ripe for the question.”

The SAME to the SAME.

1780, April 7. Arlington Street.—“The news will announce our victory last night, and most of the debate, with tolerable accuracy. Our numbers 233, Ministry 215. My last night’s letter to your Grace will tell you the beginning of the debate. The Lord Advocate was forced to

abandon his motion for the Chairman to leave the chair (the only way in a Committee of putting what is called *the previous question*), as it seemed so direct a negative to the prayers of the petitioners, that we should have had a most amazing majority. He had candidly leave given him to withdraw his motion. He then tried to amend the motion by inserting such words that might leave a loophole for shirkers to escape at. He moved that the word *necessary* might be inserted. This Charles Fox agreed to, as the question implied the necessity by saying that the power of the Crown *ought* to be diminished. If so, it was *necessary* to do it. His amendment was therefore agreed to, and then the question put and carried. Tom Pitt's speech was very good indeed. He said he honored Lord North's private character, but he feared his proceedings as Minister must have broke in on his private comfort, when he considered the numbers of lives which had been lost, and the numberless miseries brought on individuals, by his most notorious mismanagement as Minister. This enraged Lord North to such a degree that he lost all temper, and he was with difficulty stopped by Burke. The resolutions of the Committee were all reported to, and agreed to by the House of Commons. Last night Lord North made great objection to the precipitancy of this measure, but it was insisted upon and carried without a division, as Mr. Fox said, after the House of Commons had so far proceeded in attending to the voice, and redressing the grievances, of the people, he was sure no Minister would be so hardy as to dare to prorogue the Parliament. In short, my Lord, yesterday was a most extraordinary day, and how Ministry can parry the blow I know not. Rigby, in a most able manner, after the division, got up to cover the retreat of the Ministry and spread his broad shield to secure them, though at the same time he gave them many sly licks and hard blows for getting into such a scrape, but, he said, opposition would be elated too much, quarrel amongst themselves, divide, and prove a rope of sand. He gave Burke an opportunity of making a most funny, laughable speech, at the expense of Lord North. Rigby had said that it was a phenomenon and a curiosity to see a Minister so beat in that House. He thought it proved the incorruptibility of the House and the mistake of the petitioners. Burke said the Minister was a curiosity indeed, fitter for the British Museum than that House, and then launched out into such wit and fun that made Lords North and Germaine's faces most extremely grave, and Rigby's most extremely merry indeed.

"The number actually in the division in the House were 445, beside the tellers and those who paired off. This will convince your Grace how anxious each party was to have the attendance of their friends. Every creature was forced down that could be carried into the House, and it was exceedingly lamented that neither Lord George nor George Sutton were in the house on so very remarkable and critical a day, especially as one of the Manners family, poor old Lord Robert, attended to vote against the question. The Committee sit again most certainly on Monday, and your Grace is desired to send George Sutton up to attend that day. I have wrote to Lord George; and indeed, those who have signed and agreed to any petition cannot, in my humble opinion, either consistent with their word, their honor, or their own consciences, absent themselves from a duty which they have promised to perform, and I am assured that the names of the defaulters will be published, that they may be known by the petitioners in general; indeed, the call of the House, which will be enforced, will publish their names, and I should be unhappy if any of your Grace's family were amongst them. The thoughts of my being present yesterday makes me the less regret not being at Chevely, where I should be most happy to be."

The MARQUESS OF ROCKINGHAM to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1780, April 7. Grosvenor Square.—“I have not had a moment's time to write to your Grace in answer to your letter relative to the business which may come on in Cambridgeshire. I cannot now, but I hope to write and send you an express, which you will receive on Sunday. I write now merely to communicate to your Grace, or rather to congratulate you, that 233 gentlemen of the House of Commons voted in support and were the majority *last night* on the *three* important resolutions. I have also obeyed your commands in regard to sending you a *blank proxy*, which you will make use of and honour me with if you cannot come up to London. I scarce think we can have the debate on the *Contractors Bill* before *Wednesday*, and perhaps not so soon, but really, in *these times*, the presence of your Grace, and of all our friends, are very necessary in London.

“Your Grace's being absent is *thought* to have *occasioned the absence* of Lord G[eorge] Sutton and Mr. Sutton. They are said to have been with you at Cheveley, instead of adding two more to our majority.”

The SAME to the SAME.

1780, April 11.—I rejoice in the resolutions which have been come to at the meeting in Cambridgeshire. You should be present for the *Contractors Bill* on Friday. If you are not in town Thursday night, I will enter your proxy on Friday morning.

The DUKE OF RICHMOND to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1780, April 22. Whitehall.—Sending a copy of the motion which he proposes to make in the House of Lords, relating to the state of defence of the counties of Devon and Cornwall, and the Port and Dockyard of Plymouth.

LORD BARRINGTON, L. STANHOPE, and EDWARD COLMAN to the
DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1780, May. Harrington House.—“Lord Harrington having informed us that your Grace was desirous of having his three *Murillos*, we have had them inspected by Sir Joshua Reynolds, Mr. Cosway, and Mr. Cipriani, whose valuations we have inclosed.” *Three signatures.*

SIR HENRY PEYTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1780, May 25. Hagbech Hall, near Wisbech.—I have received letters from friends in Suffolk, saying that my brother, Sir John Rons, would be proposed a candidate to represent the county at the next general election; permit me to request your countenance and support.

ROBERT CROFT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1780, May 27. York.—A letter just received from Cambridge acquaints me with the very flattering and unanimous support that your brother (Lord Robert Manners) has met with at the nomination for candidates (for the county of Cambridge). I congratulate you, as I imagine his success at the election is now no longer doubtful.

The EARL OF TYRCONNEL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1780, June 3.—“I have . . . to remind your Grace of a blind organist, nephew to Mr. L. Abbott; I understand he his well skilled in musick, and

I think Mr. Abbott deserves much attention on account of the early and very handsome promise he made me. Mr. W. Abbott wants an organist's place in some church; at present he is only journeyman to Mr. Stanley, the famous blind organist.

THOMAS THOROTON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1780,] "July 6th [*sc.*, June 6], 'Tuesday night.' Arlington Street. — "Last night I was a miserable spectator of a mob assembling at Sir George Saville's. I immediately ran to acquaint the magistrates assembled—as I happened to know—in Gerard Street. The Guards were soon there, and by good luck, though the mob got with difficulty into his house, not much mischief was done. They got some furniture and burnt it. To-day a more numerous mob than on Friday beset the Houses of Parliament, which were guarded by soldiers, both horse and foot. No mischief had been done, and the Houses are both up. In the Commons, they came to several resolutions, *nem. con.*, viz. That the insults by the mob on Friday last to the members (passing to the House) and to the House itself then sitting, was a high breach of privilege and an insult on the laws and constitution; and an address to the King was voted, to order the Attorney General to prosecute with the utmost rigour, and also an address to desire His Majesty to order all damages sustained by the riots to be repaired, and that the House would make good the same. Then the House resolved it would most seriously take into consideration the Petition, as soon as the present riots and tumults are over. These resolutions being come to, the House adjourned to Thursday. Lord George Gordon was much attacked in the House by all sides. Col. Herbert wondered at his assurance in appearing in his blue cockade, and declared, if no other member chose the task, that he would take it out of his hat. Lord George seemed much intimidated. Many members spoke to order and deprecated all warmth, though they wished firmness and temper was kept, and Lord George promised to assuage as much as he could the warmth of the mob, and thus we broke up. No molestation whatever occurred to me in coming from the House. A dragoon's horse's legs flew from under him and fell on the man; I ran to extricate him, which I did, and the man was unhurt, but I deserted Charles Turner during this time, who was under my arm before that accident, and I hear that during that time he lost his purse with 20 guineas, his watch, and his hat. I was with Lord Rockingham this morning, who expected his house to be attacked, but he had prepared everything for resistance, and I am, as soon as I have finished this, going to see if I can render him any service. If friends are good for anything it is at such times as these. The Duchess of Beaufort is safe from any attacks, but I have been with her Grace to see that she is easy."

[LORD] G. H. CAVENDISH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1780, June 6.] Tuesday night, Ten o'clock. Brookes'.—"As the operations of the mob have been carried on with some vigour, you will not be sorry to be acquainted of their proceedings, though alarmed when you hear them. They last night stripped the house of a tallow chandler in Long Acre, who had appeared as evidence against one of the rioters. They then went to Sir G. Saville's house, which they forced, and did a good deal of damage to. He was not at home, and had very prudently sent away his papers and everything valuable. They have paraded all day Parliament Street and before the House of Commons, and though all the Guards and Light Horse were out, it was with difficulty they

were kept in tolerable order. Lord Sandwich was taken out of his carriage and very nigh torn to pieces, but saved by the Light Horse. The House have resolved to have a committee to enquire and consider of the Acts relating to Popery, on Monday next, if the riots do not subsist (*sic*). The mob have since gutted and burnt the effects of two or three justices of peace, and have set fire to the house of Akerman, the gaoler of Newgate. There are different reports. Some say that all the prisoners are let loose, others that the whole prison is on fire. All the Guards and Light Horse, Horse Guards, &c., are out on duty. Different parties are sent to Lord Rockingham's, Lord Petre's, Sir G. Saville, and every house which is expected to be attacked. Several regiments are ordered to town. Fresh accounts come in every moment. Newgate is on fire. The debtors and rioters are all let out, and they were proceeding to let out the felons. There are different mobs all over the town, and people begin to think very seriously of them. You shall hear from me to-morrow."

LADY E. COMPTON to the DUCHESS OF RUTLAND.

[1780, June 7.]—"I was in hopes to have wrote you a very composed letter to-day, but we have been this evening to the camp in Hyde Park, and to the parade in St. James's Park; there we heard so many different reports and stories that I am quite, I don't know how, nor can I tell what to say to you, or what accounts to send you. There is a great riot now in Southwark and in the Borough. There has been an action to-day at the Fleet prison, which is burnt down, in which twenty of the mob were killed and one officer wounded. People in general seem to imagine this part of the town is quite safe at present, but we sat up till daybreak last night, and intend doing the same to-night. I have been in my habit these two days, ready to fly off to you directly, and I think it very likely we may be with you to-morrow. I hope your races have gone on quietly and pleasantly, that your sweet dear children and your dear self are perfectly well, and that we shall soon meet in happier times—more dreadful ones can hardly be."

WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1780, July ?]—"I am extremely mortified to find myself unexpectedly obliged to leave this part of the world a week sooner than I intended, which disappoints me of the pleasure of paying my respects at Chevely. I should have done it before this time, but that I have been continually watching to learn something of Mr. Mansfield's intentions, in hopes that I might have been able to canvass the resident members before I went for the summer. It now seems uncertain whether he will not take the chance of a dissolution, and put off his appointment till the autumn. I shall, however, prepare myself as much as possible on the contingency, and, indeed, I have the satisfaction of thinking that either he must vacate before the dissolution of this Parliament, or the dissolution must take place before Lord Euston is of age, in either of which cases I entertain very little doubt of success. I venture to trouble your Grace with the enclosed list of the persons whom I think your interest may secure to me. I have included some in the number who, I believe, could not be for me if the contest should be singly between me and Mr. Mansfield, as well as some few to whom I am not certain that your Grace can find means of applying. I have put an 'M' opposite the names of the first, and a quere on the others; I have likewise marked with a 'p' those who have already promised me against Mr. Mansfield. There are several who, I make no doubt, may be depended upon in case Mr. Mansfield should vacate,

without your Grace having the trouble of making a second application. If there are any with whom you may judge it necessary, I flatter myself you will have the goodness to apply to them as soon as you conveniently can.

“If an opportunity should offer of speaking to Dr. Farmer, it may be very useful; but if none should, before the vacancy, I am persuaded he will at least not have engaged himself against me. Mr. Squire, too, may possibly be fixed by your expressing your wishes to him. He tells me that he had intended to give Mr. Mansfield one vote and me the other, at the General Election, and seems rather disposed to be neutral on the expected vacancy. He said he hoped you would not consider it as any breach of his promise, which, to be sure, strictly it is not. I think it on the whole very likely that your interposition might decide him, though I am sensible that there is some delicacy in such a case. Your Grace will see in the list the names of Mr. Easton of St. John’s, and Mr. Town of Emmanuel. I understand from Mr. Cant that they have both connections at Grantham, who would be influenced by you. I beg a thousand pardons for troubling you with so long a letter on this subject. If anything should arise which you wish to write to me upon, will you have the goodness to direct it to New Buildings, Lincoln’s Inn, and it will be forwarded to me on the Western Circuit, in which I shall be initiated this summer. I hope your Cambridgeshire canvass goes on prosperously, and most seriously wish it the same success with that which you have the goodness to undertake.” *The end of this letter is missing.*

F. BARTOLOZZI to MR. THOROTON.

1780, July 1. Bentinck Street.—Informing him that a proof of the Duchess’ portrait will be ready to present to her Grace on Wednesday next.

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

1780, July 19. The *Resolution*, off Sandy Hook.—“We arrived here, my dearest brother, the 15th, after a very fine passage of two months, without any remarkable occurrence but the taking of a homeward-bound French East-Indiaman. You know the purport of our expedition is the following of De Ternai, who sailed, it was supposed, with four sail of the line and transports containing three or four thousand men with intention to take Halifax or Quebec. We were informed on our arrival that he came on the coast four days before us, and the captain of the *Triton* frigate has been chased six hours, and escaped by throwing his boats and other lumber overboard, as the French ships out-sailed him. He says he counted seven or eight sail of the line with 30 transports. This information has prevented our going within the bar, and will bring Admiral Arbuthnot with all his ships out to-morrow, though it is not in the least credited by the people at New York, who say it is impossible for a French squadron to be on the coast without their knowledge; however, the Admiral seems to pay more attention to the judgement of Captain Lutwidge than to all their intelligence, and is determined to go out the very first wind. I am sure I do. The taking of Charlestown has infused the greatest spirits into everybody. The affairs in America are now considered as entirely decided. South Carolina being taken they say the other will fall of course, which, added to the known disunion of the Virginians, will intimidate Pennsylvania, which, when we are in possession of it, will have so great an effect on the Jerseys that with proper encouragement they will join us.

“A small expedition to Rhode Island, a few foraging parties, will close the year, and leave nothing to be done but an expedition against Boston in the spring, and then the Americans must lay down their arms, and with unconditional submission sue for peace on any terms we may please most graciously to give. People who are not quite so sanguine give some time longer to accomplish it, but they are lookt upon as disaffected and ignorant, and justly held in great contempt. As you see by the above plan, there is nothing upon earth so easy. The immediate alteration of politicks in the inhabitants of Charlestown puts me in mind of a revolution in an opera, where the usurper being killed, his guards, who had so faithfully served him through the three first acts, not only quitt him, but become part of the train of the new monarch and join in the chorus; for no sooner did Charlestown surrender than the Loyalists (for the friends to government are very numerous in all the provinces) flockt in in abundance, did everything in their power to assist us, and the troops who opposed will now become a militia, and the people in general very good subjects. I hinted once my doubts whether the people who had come into our measures so quickly should be trusted, as I thought such a change might be suspected, but was taken up short as one who spoke irreverently of a set of men who, doubtless, were always as well attached as the people at New York, but for certain reasons were in a manner compelled to side with the rebels, but would now make very faithfull subjects, which, indeed, is the case with most of the colonies, where they are obliged to conceal their sentiments untill an opportunity offers like that at Charlestown to reveal them without fear. I must now begin to enquire after you all in England, first in private, then in public matters, which I desire you to inform me of, at least concerning your private ones. With this I shall finish, as I do not perceive any liklyhood of intelligence or news to send you.

“This very moment an express is arrived that the French squadron is at present riding at Rhode Island. Admiral Arbuthnot has made the signal to weigh, and we are proceeding with all the ships for the attack, leaving orders for all cruizers as they come in to be sent after us to Rhode Island. Our squadron consists of nine sail of the line, a 50-gun ship, and two of 40 guns. Sir Henry Clinton is embarking with 8,000 men, and will pass Hell Gates and so through the Sound, by which means he will be there as soon as we shall, since we must go round Long Island. This news and our being already under sail prevents me from sending this letter by the paquet as I intended; I will therefore give you an account of our proceedings in this expedition; as my duty calls me on deck, I shall break off till I have something more material to relate.

“July 22d, at Night, off Rhode Island, at anchor.

“Three days at sea brought us in sight of Rhode Island and the French fleet. We count at present 17 sail, 7 of which appear to be of the line, the others frigattes, but we are at too great a distance to determine; to-morrow, I suppose, we shall go in nearer. The troops are not yet arrived, but are expected to-morrow or next day, as they have a very favorable wind. There is one thing which I can't help remarking, as it appears extraordinary and almost unaccountable, that the French should be at anchor a week in Rhode Island without our receiving any information of it, in a country where we have so *many friends*, and the account brought by Capt. Lutwidge in the *Triton* utterly discredited, so certain were the people of New York of receiving immediate information if such an event should happen.”

“ 23d, at night, off Rhode Island, close in.

“ We weighed this morning at daylight, and have been working up this whole day ; we are at present at an anchor about two leagues off, where we have had a fine view of the enemy. They consist of eight sail of the line and six frigattes of 32 guns, moored across the harbour, seemingly well flanked with batteries ; they carried out a hundred guns, which we perceive to be very largely distributed near and about the entrance. The report is that the Americans have ceded Rhode Island to the French, and I beleive with some truth, or else the French have taken possession of it, as the white colours are flying in different parts of the island ; they have three encampments, and appear to be in readiness to receive us. To-morrow will probably make us somewhat wiser, when you shall know everything I am able to tell. God bless you, my dearest brother.

“ August 4th, Block Island.

“ You will wonder at so long a delay when you probably expected to have heard in this something material, and I assure you it was for the sake of telling what you might wish to hear that I waited so long. The next morning the Admirals, attended by two frigattes, reconaitred the place in a boat, where they found that the French have not been idle, for, besides the fortifications that we had erected during our possession of the island, which were not destroyed at the evacuation, they have thrown up several works. The little islands and rocks are well fortified with guns ; the hills and other advantageous spots are planted with small batteries to annoy ships attempting the entrance, especially one battery, which is very strong and commands the whole entrance of the harbour, as it is situated on an island in the middle, and will rake every ship as it comes in. About noon the Admiral returned, weighed, and stood in for Block Island, where we now are, still riding in sight of the French, though at a great distance. On the 23th the General's Aid de Camp arrived and informed the Admiral the troops were in Huntington Bay all embarked, and he was going to reconatre the place ; a frigate was dispatcht with him to Rhode Island, and also to inform the General we were all prepared. This day, the 4th of August, the Aid de Camp returned to inform the Admiral that Gen. Clinton, from the information he had received, found it so strong as not to be attackt with any probability of success, and that he had not men enough for a regular attack, and has actually disembarked his troops. It is now twelve days that we have been here riding in the open sea, waiting for the army, and as without them the taking of it would be impracticable, the Admiral intends to proceed to Gardiner's Bay to wood and water the ships and refresh the people, as they begin to grow sickly, especially our squadron which came from Europe, some ships having 150 and 200 men sick. I am, I beleive, in the most healthy ship in the squadron, having only 17 men ill ; how long we shall remain so I will not pretend to say, as some begin to have symptóms of the scurvy, and we have had as yet no fresh provisions or vegetables to correct it, and I hear we shall not get any great plenty where we are going. I will not seal this till the moment I send it, in case anything should arise worth relating. The attack, I beleive, is given up ; however, we have a chain of frigates cruising from hence to Rhode, and we still see them.

“ August 14th, Gardiner's Bay.

“ We have compleated our water, and are going to sea immediatly ; our destination is a profound secret. The Admiral sent his first Lieutenant

with a flag of truce to Mr. de Ternai, relative to some prisoners, and he is returned. The French have eight sail of the line and 6,000 troops, and are very strong; whether it is in consequence of this or any other intelligence that we are going out I cannot at all say, but it is a very sudden resolution. There is a report that the Comte de Guiche is coming with a force from the West Indies, as he sailed from Martinique with 15 sail of the line; if this intelligence should prove true we shall be soon in a very unpleasant situation. We depend on Sir George Rodney's giving him employment enough on his own station, or else we shall be blockt up in New York or be obliged to leave the coast. The French expect a reinforcement of four sail of the line and 5,000 troops. We remain in the greatest uncertainty in respect to our destination, being constantly in readiness for action, and not a moment beforehand knowing where we are going.

"Having now told you all I know, and that is very little, I shall send this away on board the Admiral, who will send it home amongst his dispatches, where I hope you will get it."

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND, in
Arlington Street.

[1780?] July 26. Southampton.—"Mr. Ekins called upon me yesterday, and after much conversation about you, and my informing him of all the little I knew about your politics, he seemed to think you might be of use to him, as there are two vacancies now of prebends, one at Windsor, the other at Westminster. You best know how you can move in it, but I thought it proper to give you this information, as his modesty, uncommon enough in his profession, seemed unwilling to trouble you."

WILLIAM PRESTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1780, July 31. Trinity College.—Cautioning him in reference to an election agent, and making various suggestions as to canvassing and bringing up voters for the county.

J. WILLIAMS to the DUKE OF RUTLAND, at Belvoir.

1780, August 8. 5, North Street, London.—Offering his services in reference to the Cambridgeshire election.

The MARQUESS OF ROCKINGHAM to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1780, September 12. Wentworth.—Concerning the election for the city of York. Sir Henry Duncombe is a candidate for the county [of York]. I hope he will have your support. He appeals to *the necessity that in these critical times two members should be chosen who might be depended upon as opposers to the present ruinous Administration*. I beg you to order letters to be written immediately to any agents on your estates in Yorkshire, signifying your good wishes for Sir G. Saville and Mr. H. Duncombe's success, and also to apply, if you think proper, to Mr. Manners. There are several freeholders in the neighbourhood of his estates. Mr. Laseelles has desired a meeting of his friends for Saturday next. He has also published a most *furiosus advertisement*. I wish to hear good accounts from Cambridgeshire. I am glad Scarborough is over and well. The election for the county of York is appointed for the 27th. I am grieved that the *squire* of Windsor prevailed against Admiral Keppel.

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1780, September.—An election ballad, addressed to the Cambridgeshire freeholders, in support of Lord Robert Manners, with a letter suggesting that it should be printed and circulated.

DR. E. BARNARD to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1780, September 12. Paul's Cray.—Excusing himself for not having taken part in the Cambridge [University] election.

The DUCHESS OF RUTLAND to the [DUKE OF RUTLAND].

[1780, September 12,] Tuesday. London.—I arrived here yesterday, a good deal fatigued. Mr. Gardener will attend on Thursday at Cambridge, and certainly give Lord Robert one of his votes. Mr. Bird, at Hockerill, will give Lord R. a single one.

The SAME to the SAME.

[1780,] September 13, Wednesday. London.—I have sent Mr. Stanhope's letter, and written to Mr. Manners, who I hear has got four votes. I hope you will come to me triumphant to-morrow night or the next.

CHARLES JAMES FOX to the DUKE OF RUTLAND, at Chevely.

1780, September 14. London.—“Mr. Ramsden, the optician in Piccadilly, says he will not vote for me unless applied to in your Grace's name.

“It is unreasonable, in such a time as this, to expect you to write yourself, but perhaps you would either order somebody to write for you or direct somebody here to speak in your name; it would do as well. I wish you all success possible in your Cambridgeshire business, and am, with great truth and regard,

“My dear Lord, your Grace's most obedient, humble servant,

“C. J. Fox.

“At the close of the poll to-day:—

Rodney	-	-	-	4,230
Fox	-	-	-	3,805
Lincoln	-	-	-	3,070”

The DUCHESS OF RUTLAND to the DUKE OF RUTLAND, at Chevely.

[1780, September 15,] Friday. Arlington Street.—“I must write two words to congratulate you, and tell you how I am quite out of my wits with joy at our triumph in Cambridgeshire, and to be gained in so high a style too; it is delightful. We are all covered with orange ribbons here, but I think you might have sent us a few cockades with the name wrote on them.” Come as soon as you can. I have informed everybody of the good news whom I thought would be interested. Lord Lothian is rejoiced to hear it.

WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1780, September 15,] Friday night. Lincoln's Inn.—“Accept my most cordial congratulations on the glorious triumph of yesterday. I lament that I had not time to offer them in person and share in your

joy at Chevely. Besides the advantage gained by your victory to the cause of the public, believe me, no one can be more truly interested than I must ever be in the success of all your wishes. I was prevented from fulfilling my engagement yesterday by the difficulty of getting horses. I could not help troubling you with this hasty scrawl, which I will not add to unnecessarily."

JOHN WILKES to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1780,] September 18, Monday. Prince's Court.—"I beg leave to congratulate your Grace on the splendid victory in Cambridgeshire. I should most certainly have had the honour of serving under the banners to which I so heartily wished success, if my duty to the freeholders of Middlesex had not detained me that very day at Brentford, although we had not there the slightest skirmish. I am delighted that the Jew was entirely vanquished in so well fought a field. It was high time to drive the boar out of the garden."

THE MARQUESS OF ROCKINGHAM to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1780, September 16. Wentworth.—Mr. Lascelles has declined the contest for this county (York). The meeting of his friends was not numerous or considerable. Great spirit and unanimity prevailed throughout this county in favour of Sir George Savile and Mr. Henry Duncombe. A large subscription was entered into in their support.

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

1780, September 20. The *Resolution*, Gardiner's Island Bay.—Since I wrote by the *Renown* our whole employment has been cruising off Rhode Island in sight of the French, who do not seem to have any desire of hazarding an action.

We were preparing for a cruise when we were stopped by the arrival of Sir George Rodney with ten sail of the line at Sandy Hook; whether he is come upon a supposition that the Comte de Guichen was meditating a blow there, as he has certainly left the West Indies, or from any other intelligence, I know not. Admiral Arbuthnot had no previous notice of it, and we are now waiting for the arrival of Sir George or his orders to determine our destination. My particular one, I have no doubt, will be the West Indies, therefore I shall desire you to write to me there, but so little can I guess in what part that it must be the old seaman's direction, "Windward Islands, Jamaica, or elsewhere."

"Lord Cornwallis has gained a very complete victory at South Carolina, where he displayed the greatest genius and ability."

Postscript.—"Pray send me a Delphin Horace, Morogues *sur la Tactique Navale*, a Court Calendar, or any other book or new pamphlet."

DR. E. BARNARD to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1780, September 20. Paul's Cray.—"I beg leave to present my congratulations upon Lord Robert's success, though I knew not where to find the voter Bentham. Your great majority proves that—*non tati auxilio*—I am here almost out of the world, and sometimes out of the reach of the post." My neighbour, Mr. Townshend, is from home electioneering.

JOHN BUTCHER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1780, September 21. Cambridge.—The bill at the Sun Inn is so large that I could not pay it without express instructions. The White Bear bill is only 450*l.*, the Crown 600*l.* odd (Lord Robert and Mr. York jointly). The bills of the other houses are settled, but greatly exceed my expectations. Yet, I flatter myself, your Grace will find the whole expense under 12,000*l.*, which, I am well assured, is not half the amount of Mr. York's expense. There polled for Lord Robert 580 single votes, or thereabouts, and more than 200 were left to poll when Sir Sampson declined, and, considering that Sir Henry Peyton polled 200 jointly for Lord Robert and Mr. Yorke, who would have polled singly if wanted, I am justified in saying, though I am laughed at for the assertion, that Lord Robert could have polled nearly 1,000 single votes.

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

1781, September 27. The *Resolution*.—"As soon as we arrived off Sandy Hook from the West Indies, we were ordered to sea without crossing the bar, to look for the Viscomte de Barras with the Rhode Island squadron, consisting of seven sail of the line, and after being out a few days to the southward, on the 5th saw Le Comte de Grasse at an anchor in the Chesapeak, where he had arrived two days before us with twenty-eight sail of the line from the West Indies, twenty-four of which were actually with him. When he perceived us he stood out, forming his line, and an action commenced at four o'clock in the evening which lasted till sunset, when both sides desisted firing. The next day on our side was chiefly spent in repairing our damages. The enemy, partly by carrying more sail and partly from a shift of wind, gained the wind of us, where they remained three days afterwards, and though they constantly had it in their power to give us battle the whole time—our fleet being to leward and under very little sail—yet they uniformly declined it. It appeared extraordinary at the time that the enemy, with five sail of the line superior, should avoid an action, but they had a deeper stake; their object was Lord Cornwallis and the Chesapeak, where they had disembarked, as we afterwards found, 3,000 men, and had left four sail of the line, which they soon regained, leaving us indeed the sea, but at the same time a disabled fleet and incapable of acting offensively, therefore we proceeded to New York, where we arrived the 20th. The ships that wanted but little repair remain at Staten Island, the rest proceeded up to the North River, amongst which the *Resolution* is one, having two of our lower deck beams damaged, one of which it is absolutely necessary to shift should there be timber large enough in the yard, and the cat-head and rails, mainmast and bowsprit to fish, and a great deal of our rigging to shift, and several other damages which, as you are not seaman enough to understand, and I am not likely to get them repaired or replaced, will not trouble you with the catalogue.

"I need not point out the situation of affairs in this country, though Admiral Digby's arrival has given great hopes to many people, especially on the shore. I confess it does not afford much to me from the arrangement of Mons. de Grasse's squadron, and which, if joined by De Barras, will have such an immense superiority as to render the forcing his line next to impracticable as long as he remains where he is. I fear De Grasse is too good an officer to abandon such a strong post unless forced by bad weather or a want of provisions, which I do not find any cause to suppose will happen. Admiral Digby has arrived at New York, and there has been a counsel of war held; what the result is I know not, but from the damages and wants of all our ships, and the total emptiness of all the

store-houses, I cannot even guess when we shall be ready. We felt severely the danger of keeping coppered line of battle ships long out without looking at their bottoms, as the *Terrible*, one of the finest seventy-fours we had, by her exceeding bad state even before she left the West Indies, and by the firing of her own guns, and the enemy's shot in the action, was found in so desperate a state that she was ordered to be scuttled and set on fire, which was done the night after we lost sight of the French fleet, it being thought impracticable to keep her above water till we got into port.

"Poor Finch commanded her, and has undergone vast fatigue in her both in body and in mind; his situation has all along been most anxious and distressing, and indeed all his friends in the fleet have almost felt as much, knowing that her fate would probably be decided either in an action or the first gale of wind, but fortunately it happened so that we saved all her men. I shall send this letter by him; he is a worthy and honest man.

"News is just arrived that the Rhode Island squadron has joined De Grasse, which makes the enemy thirty-five sail of the line and a 50-gun ship, moored in a double line. Another council of war has been held between the Generals and Admirals, and it is reported that it is determined to make an attempt on their line, and a desperate one it will be if put into execution, and, if not, Lord Cornwallis and his army, I am afraid, are in a most perilous situation, from which they cannot be extricated by any other means; in short, it is so melancholy a prospect to look forward on that I wish to drop the subject and wait calmly for the event, which one way or other must soon happen. If we don't succeed in our attempt, and are repulsed, the fate of America is decided, and the West Indies will be left an open prey to the French arms; and shou'd we succeed so as to open a passage and throw in succour, I fear it would be only a temporary relief, as probably in the course of things such superiority must at last carry the point."

"I had as nigh an escape in the last affair as I ever wish to have; the peak of my hat was shot off by a ball; I felt a slight inconvenience from it for a few moments, but no injury. I am not without hopes of seeing you soon. Another action will render it highly necessary for the *Resolution* to return home, unless they intend she shall share the same fate as the *Terrible*, but my comfort is—if it is any comfort—there are several ships worse than mine; indeed, the *Ajax* is almost as bad as the *Terrible* was, and one or two more not much better."

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].
[17]80, October 4. The *Resolution*.—I am in a great hurry, occasioned by our immediate sailing. An extraordinary event has happened. "General Arnold has quitted the Americans, and is at present at New York with about thirty other officers and gentlemen. Some say he had a design to have seized Washington, and that it was prematurely discovered; others make Washington an accomplice, and that it is from dread of the French. A report prevails that there is a negotiation on foot with Washington. These are only surmises."
"We are now under sail, going off Rhode Island, it is supposed to prevent the French from getting out, should this be true."

THOMAS THOROTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].
1780, October 11. Screeveton.—Concerning arrangements for mortgages. *On the second leaf is a letter from Levett Blackborne to the Duke of Rutland on the same subject.*

The DUCHESS OF BEAUFORT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND, at Chevely.

1780, October 30. Berkeley Square.—Reporting convalescence of her daughter (the Duchess of Rutland) and the good health of the children, including the new-born.

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

1780, October 31. The *Resolution*, New York.—Sir George Rodney “has positively told me he should take the *Resolution* with him to the West Indies, which I am not at all displeas’d at, as I absolutely loath this station. I have not had much conversation with him, occasioned by the disagreeable service I am on at present—the court martial of Captain Bateman, of the *Yarmouth*, for misbehaviour in the April fight—as it would not be decent for any of the members to have private conversation with Sir George, he being the prosecutor; but he has given me to understand he will appoint me to any ship that becomes vacant if I wish to quit the *Resolution*.” “This station, besides its natural disagreeable service, is rendered more so by the total disagreement of the commanders-in-chief. They have both written home complaints of each other, and Sir George has taken Clinton’s side, and has wrote also against Arbuthnot. Commodore Drake, second in command, is hardly on speaking terms with any of the three, so you may guess how the service is carried on. We shall sail in ten days. I am extremely impatient to be gone.”

The EARL OF TYRCONNEL to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1780, November 30.—Enclosing a letter reporting the death of a surveyor of customs at the port of Scarborough, and suggesting that the Duke should ask Lord North for the place for a protegé. *Enclosed is a letter from John Robinson, Scarborough, November 26, reporting as above.*

The EARL OF SHELBURNE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1780, December 21,] Thursday. Berkeley Square.—“I shall attend to-morrow for the purpose of saying a few words to signifye to the House the reason of my deferring the motion. I admire your Grace’s philosophy, and will endeavour to imitate it by going to Bowood as soon as I can, without any loquellish principle or wish.” In all seasons and all places you may rely upon my sincere attachment.

WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1781?] January 31. New Buildings, Lincoln’s Inn.—“Having so often lately had occasion to trouble you on my own account, what apology can I make for venturing to break in upon you on that of another? A friend of mine, of the name of Robinson, who was formerly of Trinity College, lives at Leicester, and serves two curacies in that neighbourhood, has understood that you are looking for a domestic chaplain, and has written to desire me to apply to your Grace in his favor. I cannot be guilty of making any request on such a subject, but as I was at college a good deal acquainted with him, it is impossible for me to decline mentioning the circumstance. If your Grace should have the goodness to make any enquiry about him, and the result should be favorable, I can only say that I shall be very happy in being the means of introducing him to such a protector. What qualification your Grace

requires, or he possesses, for such a situation, I do not pretend to know ; as an acquaintance and friend, I have found that he had a great deal to recommend him. I believe his circumstances at present are rather distressing, and, from the behaviour of some of his relations, very different from what he had reason to expect. You will, I trust, on this account forgive my taking this liberty. I left Cambridge a few days ago, and without much anxiety, though Townshend remained canvassing, in possession of the field. I hope to have the happiness of seeing your Grace for a few days in town. I had a letter this evening from my brother at Plymouth, written last Wednesday morning ; he expected to sail in a few hours."

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1781.] March 9, Friday. Lincoln's [Inn].—You will, I am sure, admit Parliamentary engagements as an excuse for my not instantly thanking you for your letter. The favourable idea you have received of my first attempt [*i.e.*, first speech in Parliament, 26 February 1781] I must attribute to a partial reporter, and, what is yet more, a willing hearer. If, however, it has been in any degree successful, what effect should it have but to revive and increase, if possible, my sense of that friendship which has enabled me to pursue the favourite objects of my mind ? I cannot deceive myself with the thought of anything which relates to me being to penetrate, as you say, the obscurity of retirement, but much less can I bring myself to think of that retirement as applied to your Grace. Let me rather hope that I shall have the satisfaction of fighting under your banner in the cause to which we are both attached, and of proving to the world how much I know the value and feel the honour of such a connexion. I leave town on Wednesday to join the circuit. Tell my brother, for the peace of his conscience, that the loss of a vote was not felt yesterday, as the Contractors Bill was not opposed. The time may soon come when a vote will be of more consequence. [*Correspondence*, p. 1.]

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

1781, May 8. The *Resolution*.—I am now what you so much wished me to be, that is, captain of a 74-gun ship, and, what is more, she is allowed in general to be the fastest sailer of any line battle ship or frigate in the West Indies. If complete in her complement of men and in good repair, she would be the most desirable ship in the service, but at present is a hundred and twenty-five short.

It has been thought prudent not to risk an action with the French, but to proceed to Barbadoes to guard that island, as it was generally supposed its reduction was the immediate object of the French Admiral.

June 15.—“We are just arrived at Barbadoes, where I own I hope we may make some stay to recruit our people, who are fairly worn out with keeping the sea, and the want of fresh provisions and vegetables. The first I do not see much chance of getting here, as it is beyond the price Government allows ; but unless Sir George Rodney breaks through that rule, we shall not have men to fight our ships. Some of the ships have lost 70 men and have 200 sick.” If I were obliged on my oath to say the cause of their death, I should say they were starved, for though they have the same allowance as in other countries, the salt provision, which is generally very indifferent, has not nourishment sufficient to supply the prodigious diminution of strength the body undergoes in this torrid climate. You will naturally ask how I like this country, and if it

agrees with me. I answer, exceedingly well, and I do not know that I have ever enjoyed my health better.

Young Brown is with me. He is a very fine boy. He is rather young, but I have got him appointed my acting lieutenant, and if I can overcome the difficulty of his not having served his time, I would get him a real commission.

“The time now seems big with events. Twenty sail of our ships and twenty-four of the French are in the West Indies, and there is a report the French have been joined by their ships from America.”

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

[1781,] June 20. The *Resolution*.—I imagine our immediate destination will be America, during the hurricane season. The French are still in Martinique.

C. J. GREVILLE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND, at Chevely Park.

[1781,] June 27, Wednesday. [Admiralty.]—Concerning some naval encounters of the *Flora* and the *Crescent* in the Mediterranean.

JOHN ROBINSON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1781, July 8. Custom House, Scarborough.—Reporting the death of John Burgh, collector at the port of Whitby, and asking the Duke's interest to obtain the appointment.

WILLIAM COLE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1781, July 26. Ely.—Concerning subscriptions for the river Cam.

JOHN BUTCHER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1781, July 27. Cambridge.—Mentioning a proposal to oblige the sheriff with a carriage and four to attend the judges; and asking for further directions as to the outstanding election bills.

E. SUTTON to THOMAS THOROTON.

[1781,] July 27. 20 leagues off the Cape of Good Hope.—“You will doubtless be grieved to hear the disagreeable situation I have been in from the time we got into Praya Road after the action with the French at that place. I will relate it literally as it happened, and in as concise a manner as possible. I was anchored the outermost ship a full mile, and made the signal to Commodore Johnstone for fourteen sail, at a little after nine in the morning. He came on board the *Isis* and stayed about five or ten minutes, scarcely spoke to me, and seemed in a terrible haste. I begged he would send me a few troops or men as the *Isis* was sickly, short of complement 14 men when we sailed from England, and 25 men ashore watering. The reason of my requesting some men of him was on account of laying the outermost ship, and knowing the weight of the action would lay on me, and the probability of the ship being cut off, as no ships were near to support her; but he in his coarse way made answer, ‘Why do you not take better care of your ship?’ He had scarcely left the *Isis* before the French Commodore came round the point, without colours till he got upon our bows, then hoisted French colours and began a very heavy fire: four other French ships did the same, and the French Commodore and another came under our stern as they quitted the bay, so near that you might have shot any

person with a pistol; the *Hannibal* came as near ahead. We fortunately suffered very little in point of men, but the rigging and masts were very much damaged. The French quitted the bay at twelve. At a little before three, Johnstone went out immediately after the *Hero*, who came so near that I spoke to Captain Hawker; begged he would acquaint the Commodore I would be with him immediately. At this time Commodore Johnstone had my signal flying. At about ten minutes after the *Hero* had passed the *Isis* was under sail, and the *Monmouth* was passing me, going out within hail. I run up to the Commodore, and he hailed me; asked me if I was ready for battle. I told him yes, as ready as I could be. He said he was going to engage immediately; I said, 'Very well.' In talking with him I mentioned I wished I had got a mizen-topsail yard up, which was shot away, as was the mizen-yard, and down upon deck. He replied, 'Never mind your mizen-topsail yard'; and was rather rough in his manner of speaking. I then told him I did not mean to make him any excuses, that I would follow him to the last moment, and repeated it twice or thrice. He made no answer, and whilst I was speaking to him my fore-topmast went away from the wound it had received, and the *Romney* shot ahead of the *Isis*, as I could not set my foresail, and as the wreck of the fore-topmast fell over the foreyard; but luckily I got the fore-topsail set immediately, and had it been anybody but me, it would have been looked upon as a very brisk manœuvre; at least, many people would have tormented people's ears with it; and in five minutes I had my foresail set, and under the same sail with the Commodore. By this time the Commodore had got a good way ahead of me—a mile, or perhaps a mile and half—from my not being able to set my foresail, and from towing the wreck of the fore-topmast. In this situation he made the signal for the line a battle abreast, and my signal for being out of the line; this was a little after five in the afternoon. All this time we never bore directly down upon the enemy, who were about five miles from us, their dismasted ship in tow. At six o'clock or $\frac{1}{2}$ after five he made the signal for the line ahead, by which means, as he had run past the enemy, we soon got into the line, the French about two miles from us. When in a line ahead, the Commodore put his helm up as if he meant to engage, but never stood long toward them; but at last he got so near that had he steered for them a quarter of an hour the French would have begun firing, which made me send word down to the officer on the lower gun-deck to desire he would be very cautious not to let the people fire when the French did, for I meant to run close on board before I would have them fire. I then called down from the gun-way to the people to desire they would not think of firing till we got close, and not till the upper deck guns fired. About six the sun set, the enemy very near, for we now and then went slanting down to them for a little while; at about eight at night the Commodore made signal to speak the sternmost ships. As I was next to him I soon came within hail, and for the first time he spoke civil, which was remarked by the people, who called out, 'By God, we have pleased the old Commodore at last!' When he spoke to me, he said, 'Sutton (or it might be Captain), how do you make it out?' I told him very well. The French lights were clear in sight. He then said, 'Set your main and crowd all the sail you can for Saint Iago (where I am going).' I informed him I was fearful of setting my mainsail on account of the mast, which had received a large shot directly through the middle, and I dare not hoist my main-topsail, for I was certain the main-topmast would go, for it was shot half in two. I did not tell him about the main-topmast, but he called out, 'Run no risk of your masts, but carry all the sail you can,' which I did. The

next morning he came within hail of the *Isis*, and asked what damage we had received; he then came on board with his lieutenant. When he came on board he said, 'Where are your damages?' I shewed him the mainmast and the mizen-mast, which was shot a third through, that the foremast had a shot, and the bowsprit was lightly touched, that the bobstaves of the bowsprit were shot, and the staves of every mast, and all the boats, &c., &c., and a large shot through the rudder. He laughed, and said all these things were nothing, and said gentlemen would enquire into my extraordinary conduct. I asked him what extraordinary conduct of yesterday. I told him he might do as he pleased, I did not care. He then went on the forecandle, and said something on the forecandle which vexed me, and I told him he might do what he pleased, that I did not mind him, that I did [not] care how soon I was brought to a court martial. He then came and looked at the mainmast, and said, 'To be sure, Captain Sutton, it is a bad shot, and so is the mizen-mast, the rigging of the bowsprit badly shot; but do not let you and me use coarse language.' I informed him I had no intention of the sort, that I meant nothing but civility, so long as he treated me properly; that I conceived myself under obligation to him for the favour he did me in asking for the *Isis*. When we got into Praya Road he said, 'You remember what passed at sea?' I said, 'Yes,' but 'if you have a mind you may go home with my dispatches.' I told him I could not think of bearing the stigma he had thrown on me, without a court martial. 'I shall be at home in a few months, and will bring anybody you please, but you had better consider for an hour and write me word,' which I did, and wrote to him that I could not accuse myself of injuring the service, and would take the judgment of a court martial, but would not quit my ship; upon which he put Captain Lumley on board to act. I then applied for a court martial, which he never has granted. Commodore Johnstone has made a fine fortune by the prize which he took at Soldanna Bay. I think it will be rather hard if I have not a right, as I am properly captain of the ship, and Captain Lumley is only acting; however, at any rate I am determined to prosecute Johnstone, for a man cannot be guilty till he is tried. I wish you would advise with Bradly, for the earlier application is made in these cases the better. I have the pay of the ship, I believe, but that is nothing in comparison with prize money."

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

1781, July —. The *Resolution*, St. John's Road, Antigua.—I have just returned from a court martial, which has ended in condemning to death sixty-four men for mutiny on board the *Santa Monica*.

"We expect to leave this island shortly and go to compleat our water at Montserrat, and then proceed to St. Eustatia, where we shall learn our destination, during the hurricane season." Sir George Rodney goes home immediately, I believe.

"I do not think things seem to be in the most flourishing situation in this country, nor indeed anywhere. I wish heartily to hear from home some good news, as we are tired and dispirited with hearing of nothing but misfortunes."

HENRY HOPE TO SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS, P.R.S.A.

1781, August 14. Amsterdam.—I "learn from Mr. Metcalfe you had my letter which acquainted you of this expedition in regard to the Friesland Girl. She is still in my possession for want of a conve-

nient occasion of sending her to your embrace, and I fear I must detain her here all winter on this account, which, however strange it may appear, will be a great misfortune to me." I send account of purchase, and have drawn on you for the balance.

RALPH HEATHCOTE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1781, August 16. Sileby.—Requesting, on the plea of age and desire of tranquillity, that his name may be left out of the next commission of the peace.

LORD G. H. CAVENDISH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1781, August 28. Plimpton.—Concerning movements of the fleet, and some sporting matters.

THOMAS THOROTON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND, in Arlington Street.

1781, September 8. Screveton.—“We were to have set out for Cheveley the next day, when we received a letter acquainting us that the combined fleets were off Plymouth, and that all officers were ordered to their regiments, that Lord George, who was on his journey to Kelham, was overtaken by an express and was gone back to his regiment. This news stopped us, till Katherine’s letter arrived, which confirmed us in the resolution of stopping till we heard further. It is confounded unlucky. I do not apprehend the least danger of an invasion, but such a fleet blocking up our Channel will, I fear, confine your Grace longer than we could wish. However, we are ready to set out for Cheveley the very moment we hear your Grace is on your return to that place, and we heartily hope your journey will be no further than London, but pray let us hear your motions, as we shall hold ourselves in readiness to attend your Grace’s call.”

DR. RICHARD WATSON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1781, September 28. Cambridge.—I owe many acknowledgements for your kind attention during my illness. I hope soon to set out for Westmoreland, in hopes that my native air will restore me. “Enough of self; and yet politics is the worst of all possible subjects, for, supposing the end of all our obstinacy and folly accomplished, supposing America subdued, what will you do with her? You have no prison large enough to hold her, you have no troops numerous enough to garrison her, you have no fleet large enough to prevent her infringement of the Navigation Act, which, though great before, will be a thousand to one greater now. I hope you will contrive to make a good appearance on the first day of Parliament.”

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1781,] October 9. *Resolution*, New York.—“The bearer, John Kidd, is the person I recommended in a letter from the West Indies, who was my servant, and lost his leg in the action off Martinique.”

THE COUNTESS OF AYLESFORD to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1781, October 16. Lime Grove.—Announcing her son’s intended marriage with Miss Thyune, and congratulating him on Lord Robert [Manners] being safe and well after the [naval] engagement.

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

1781, December 14. The *Resolution*.—We left America about the 11th of November with eighteen sail of the line. The French fleet, consisting of twenty-five sail, arrived at Martinique seven days before us.

“A most unfortunate as well as a most extraordinary occurrence has happened in this country, no less than the re-capture of St. Eustatia, by four French frigates and three hundred men. The island is reckoned among the strongest in the West Indies, and was garrisoned by eight hundred men. It was taken by surprise.” It is not fair to relate the common conversation here, without hearing what defence the commanding officer has to urge in his favour. It is at present very injurious to his character.

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SIR SAMUEL HOOD to LORD ROBERT MANNERS.

[1782,] January 13. The *Resolution*.—Concerning the purchase of a boat.

E. SUTTON to MR. THOROTON.

1782, January 14. Bombay.—“Since our arrival here, which was on the 6th, I have seen the very partial account that villain Johnstone has given. It gives me some uneasiness, because the world is generally prejudiced by the first impressions, however false, which I am sure his are. From his account people would suppose the *Isis* never fired a shot, though the most exposed. As to the French *Hannibal* being dismasted by the ships in the bay, it is totally false; she lost her mizzen-mast, but all the people present will allow if any ship carried her other masts away it must have been the *Isis* (for she very near touched the *Isis*), and our guns were kept ready for her, till they would bear, as I saw she would fall with her stern towards us (as she did), and at the farthest ten yards. In that situation the *Hannibal* received a well-directed fire of every gun in the *Isis*, and repeated very expeditiously; by the time she had well got out of reach all her masts went away, so the world will judge how just his account is. He never takes notice of our being in the line; and as to his having our signal out three hours, he might as well have said twenty; and for his not being able to join his convoy, I got up with the mast in the situation mine was in, which was close-reefed topsails, no proper mizzen-topsail, and a great part of the time was afraid to carry the mainsail. This is all Greek to you, but some sailors will perhaps explain it to you. Since Johnstone left us, I applied to Captain Alms to know whether he had any orders about me; he told me none, nor knew of any. I then considered my situation as an awkward one, being the next in command, and in a place where no charge existed against me, and from under the jurisdiction of Johnstone. So circumstanced, and not knowing how far I might be justified in case we fell in with an enemy, I claimed the command of the *Isis* in right of my commission, which I looked upon as superior to an acting order. Captain Alms informed me he knew of no other commander to the *Isis* than Captain Lumley. I told him in answer, that I still thought I had a right, but was satisfied with having claimed what I thought my right and my duty. I think I must be entitled to my prize money for

Soldanna Bay, for the laws of England hold every person innocent till they are found guilty. I mean to attack Johnstone for it, if I have not a right to it as captain of the *Isis*, which I certainly am, till superseded and put out of the ship; but I beg you will enquire and consult with Bradley. You must naturally think I am much hurt, but I hope poor Moosy makes herself easy, though I fear the contrary. I shall be happy when I get home to have the matter settled, however it may be determined, which it is impossible to happen otherwise than in my favour, for I did everything that man could do; and, as to Mr. Johnstone, had he been inclined to destroy the French fleet, he might have done it, and I am sure their business would have been finished in an hour and a half, for they were most terribly beat, particularly the French Commodore and another, besides the dismasted ship, and our ships were all perfect, except the *Isis*, and she had suffered nothing in point of men; besides, we had the advantage of three 32-gun frigates. We are to sail this day for Ceylon, where we are to meet the Admiral, and I hope to have an end put to the horrid and wretched situation which I have been in for these ten months."

DR. RICHARD WATSON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, January 15. Cambridge.—I shall take care to carry out your orders as to the payment of the election bills, and the innkeepers shall understand they are indebted to your peremptory orders. I cannot, as a friend to mankind, regret the separation of America from England. "I do not quite understand what is meant by those who are for not acknowledging the independence of America; she has, in fact, been independent for several years, and an English Act of Parliament is probably treated by Congress with as much contempt as a Pope's Bull would be treated by the House of Lords." If the war is to be continued in order to make America submit to our Legislature, we shall probably be undone before the event takes place, and when it has taken place we shall get nothing by it but what a fair trade would give us without it. The sense of the nation, I take it, is now as decidedly against the continuance of the war as it was for it a few years ago.

THOMAS THOROTON to the DUKE OF [RUTLAND].

1782, January 29. Screveton.—Concerning a scheme for improving the navigation of the Trent.

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

1782, February 8. The *Resolution*, St. Kitts.—"I set down to write to you, though the signal is now flying to prepare for battle. The enemy consist of twenty-nine sail of the line and three 50-gun ships standing in for us. Therefore you must not expect a long letter or a very correct account, as I am frequently looking out to observe their progress. They have already made three attacks upon us without success, and, I believe, have received infinitely more damage than they have done us. One of their attacks was pretty severe and fell mostly on our rear; we came off very well in point of men, but are much cutt in the masts and rigging, having our bowsprit, all our lower masts, all our top masts, and all our top gallant masts wounded, owing to our peculiar situation when the French made the attack, which I have not time at present to describe; all I have to say is that if our reinforcement should precede

that of the French we shall do very well, if not I cannot guess the consequences.

"You know, I suppose, that though the citadel on Brimstone Hill still holds out, the rest of the island remains in possession of the French, which makes our situation not so tenable as it would be were we further in shore, which we cannot be, on account of the batteries the French may erect, without being exposed; an attempt, indeed, was made by the troupes to take possession of the heights, but without effect, and General Prescott, thinking it out of his power to throw any succours into Brimstone Hill, or to take possession of any post which would be tenable, returned a week ago with the troupes to Antigua. Sir Samuel Hood seems determined that we shall see the event of the business, expecting, I believe—what I fear he will be mistaken in—a reinforcement previous to De Grasse's. I understand the French commanding officers are all at variance. De Grasse is not for risking his squadron, probably wishing to preserve it for the more important conquest of Jamaica. The Marquis de Bouillé declares he will not give the island up, though De Grasse should leave him, and Bougainville sides with De Bouillé. The taking possession of this road was well judged, well conducted, and well executed, though indeed the French had an opportunity—which they missed—of bringing our rear to a very severe account. The van and center divisions brought to an anchor under the fire of the rear, which was engaged with the enemy's center, and then, the center being at an anchor and properly placed, covered us while we anchored, making, I think, the most masterly manœuvre I ever saw.

"With the utmost concern I must inform you of an event which will hurt you much, I am sure, which is the loss of poor Brown; he went in the long-boat in company with other ships boats to bring out a vessel for the reception of our wounded men some days after the action, and has never returned, nor have I had the least tidings of him or the boat; another long-boat was lost, but her people are saved. There were in our boat ten of the best men in the ship, which, with him, has given me most inexpressible concern. I had a very sincere regard for him. There is but one ray of hope, in his being taken by some one of the enemy's small vessels, of which there are a good many cruising under the land, and which might have escaped us. I have permission, and intend to send a flag of truce to the Marquis de Bouillé to enquire if such a capture has been made, but I do not flatter myself much with hopes.

"The constant sight of the enemy has made them quite familiar to us, and though at least once a day they form in such a position as to make it appear they are going to attack us, yet when they come near gunshot they always tack and stand from our fleet. If they mean by this to harrass us they are quite mistaken, as we have always time to make our meals in the 24 hours, but it must fatigue them exceedingly, the currents constantly obliging them to carry a great deal of sail to keep their station, and we have the satisfaction to observe them carrying away something daily, especially those ships which appear to have suffered in the action. You know we are at anchor and the French under sail. I have put this on paper to give you some little idea of our situation; you must not suppose it accurate. The intention of the enemy seems to be an attack on our rear. I have put down the names of the ships which are likely to sustain it, also the three Admiral's ships. The enemy still keep the appearance of an inclination for an attack this evening, therefore I will finish this letter and send it on board the vessel which is to sail to-night if she can get clear. The Admiral only to day signified his intentions of sending his dispatches home, or you should have heard more particulars, which you shall the first opportunity." *Rough plan.*

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

[1782,] February 9.—I have this moment received a letter from the Marquis de St. Simon, vere politely acquainting me that Monsieur Brown and all my people are safe and prisoners at St. Eustatia. The difficulty now lies in getting them exchanged, which I shall use every process to effect.

SIR SAMUEL HOOD to LORD ROBERT MANNERS, on board the
Resolution.

1782, February 14. *Barfleur*.—"The rendezvous is from five to eight leagues E.N.E. from Antigua and *not* St. John's Road." *Signed. Seal of arms. Endorsed.* "This rendezvous to be opened upon the *Barfleur's* hoisting a white flag with a blue cross from corner to corner at the main top-gallant masthead."

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to his brother [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

1782, February 22. St. John's Road, Antigua.—My last letter "informed you of our situation at St. Kitts. The very day after we perceived an alteration in the garrison, and they apprized us by signals appointed that many of their works were destroyed, and that by two batteries the enemy had last erected they had lost many men. Two days after we had the same unpleasant signal repeated, on which the Admiral sent an officer to endeavour to get into the hill to learn more particularly their situation but could not effect it, and on the 15th of Feb. a flag of truce came off to say it had capitulated, having two very large breaches in the wall, their magazines of rum and provisions utterly destroyed by shells, and the different works so diffaced and damaged as not to be any longer tenable. Few situations could have been more unpleasing than ours—to see an island surrender in our sight without having it in our power to afford any relief beside that of passively remaining and keeping possession of our ground in sight of it. However, we had the satisfaction of reflecting that every exertion which it lay in our power to make had not been neglected. Had the troops we carried from Antigua been sufficient to have thrown themselves into the hill, in all probability the French would have abandoned their design, in which case I think it would have been one of the most brilliant events this war. After the surrender of the island it became highly necessary for us to take some immediate steps for our own safety, as then the manœuvres of the enemy both by sea and land indicated a very severe attack, had they collected their whole force, which consisted of thirty-four sail of the line and thirteen small vessels, which we imagined to be fire ships, and were anchored within four or five miles of us, to windward; on shore they were beginning to raise bomb batteries, and the Marquis de Bouillé, with 3,000 men, was marching to operate against us from that quarter. The Admiral, having some intimation of this, did not, you may imagine, hesitate long what steps he should take, therefore summoned his captains and told them he should cut his cables at 11 o'clock that night without making any signal, and, having regulated our watches accordingly, we each cut our cables at the same precise moment of time, and sailed out in a line with so little noise or confusion that the enemy did not miss us for four hours after. Nothing could have been more fortunately executed, as not one accident happened from it.

"Taking the whole in one light, though not successful in the point we aimed at, nevertheless it was well conducted, and has given the enemy a pretty severe check, and if you give him half the credit the enemy does,

Sir Samuel Hood will stand very high in the public estimation. Their sea officers say it was a bold and well-conducted attempt, but they were sure our getting possession of Basseterre Road could be of no consequence, as they knew we had not troops sufficient to relieve the place. However, they confess they cannot keep the line of battle with that precision we do, and manœuvre with so much sail out without the danger of running aboard each other. The Marquis de Bouillé, St. Simon, and the land officers set no bounds to their praises; they speak in the highest terms of our manœuvres, and, contrasting them with their own, draw a comparison not very flattering to the latter; but I must tell you they are [at] variance with De Grasse, for De Grasse sent to the M. de Bouillé, two days before the surrender, to say that if the island did not surrender by that day week he would positively leave it, whether he chose to embark or not. I wish it had held out long enough for them to have put his resolution in practice.

“Comte Dillon, who is appointed Governor of St. Kitts, told an officer of the navy who was sent with a flag of truce by Sir Samuel Hood, that it was not necessary to keep their intentions any longer secret, that Barbadoes and Antigua were the next objects, then Jamaica, and lastly New York, and then they will consent to make peace; and in my conscience I believe they intend all this, as we have just received accounts of the arrival of the remainder of the Marquis de Vandsieul’s squadron, which, together with four Spanish men-of-war also arrived, make their fleet, now lying within twelve leagues of us, forty-four sail of the line, a most astonishing fleet, and out of those only five of 64 guns; ours consists of twenty-two of the line, and we are taught to expect Sir George Rodney with a large reinforcement, but have as yet heard nothing to be depended upon.

“I have not got Brown yet, but the Comte de Grasse has promised he would send him and all my people, and long-boat, and I believe would have done it had we remained a day longer in Basseterre Road. We are on the point of leaving this place to proceed to Barbadoes—as I imagine—to join our reinforcement. The inhabitants petition Sir Samuel very much to stay here with the squadron, which he does not think proper to do for the above-mentioned reason.”

DR. RICHARD WATSON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, February 24. Cambridge.—Enquiring after the health of the Duchess.

THOMAS THOROTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, March 5. Screveton.—We got to Cambridge on Friday night, where I had the pleasure to find Dr. Watson much better than I expected to see him. He is in high spirits with the majority Opposition had, and says that if there is a *heartly union* of all the good old Whigs, and if His Majesty will trust them, he thinks the Americans certainly will, and that this country may, still be saved. Nothing else will save it.

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

1782, March 10. The *Resolution*, St. Lucia.—“Sir George Rodney is arrived with a force which gives a new face to the affairs of this country; not that I mean the lost islands will be recovered, but I think the few remaining Windward Islands are safe, and that the designs of the enemy on Jamaica will be frustrated. The very defenceless state of all our islands through the want of troops will always oblige him to act on

the defensive, as no island is safe but the one we are immediately protecting; at least it was the case before the arrival of Sir George and his reinforcement.”

The *Resolution* is ordered to sea this morning, and not in the most pleasant condition, being entirely destitute of stores and all our rigging condemned as unserviceable. To say the truth, she herself complains a little. “I am administering to her the most salutary and efficacious remedies that can be applied in this country, and there is soon to be a consultation of carpenters upon her, as it is generally supposed a change of climate will be found the only means of restoring her health, which has been lately very much impaired; and as her disorder is chiefly a violent relaxation in all her parts, so as to admit of the free ingress and egress of water—the reverse of a diabetes—I opine a northern climate is the most proper to brace her up and restore many of her faculties, which she has now, I grieve to say, entirely lost.”

Next month the ship will have been three years coppered and out of dock, which is the usual time of their service; and from the loss of the *Terrible*, and the very bad state of the ships of the same standing, it is probable they will go home at nearly the same time. It is remarked that copper-bottom ships, when they once begin to shew their defects, drop all at once, which is the case of the *Invincible*, who is now in as bad a state as the *Terrible* was, and several others, which they are afraid even to trust home.

I heard with much concern of the loss you met with at Brookes’, but I trust it was not to the extent of what I heard.

If Sir George Rodney “chuses to risk the marines of the fleet, I think he may retake Monserrat or some such island, but he is not strong enough in troops to recapture St. Kitts or Granada, or any of the more important islands, without leaving some of our own in the power of the enemy. The French convoy is not yet arrived at Martinique, as I wrote you word of before, so that they have now but 36 sail of the line, but the rest are expected very soon. I want much to hear from England how you take the loss of St. Kitts and the settlements of Demerari and the rest on the main.”

“Brown is returned home with all my people from St. Eustatia, from whence they were sent by the Comte de Grasse, who very politely lamented the loss of the boat, as it prevented him from sending them immediately and in the same state in which they were taken.”

THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND],
in Arlington Street.

[1782.] March 15.—I was hurried out of town sooner than I intended, by the illness of my daughter. I shall thank you for a line when any material event takes place.

THOMAS THOROTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, March 15. Screveton.—Many thanks for your kind letter and the Gazette. It has raised our spirits to a high degree. We all join in most sincere congratulations on these fresh honours Lord Robert has so fairly won, and on his safety.

DR. RICHARD WATSON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, March 17. Cambridge.—Concerning an exchange of land with Peterhouse College. I congratulate you on the honour which your brother has gained: his reputation is now established, and you can

push his interest, when opportunity offers, with credit. Soame Jenkyns has published a book entitled *Disquisitions on several subjects*; his 7th Disquisition is on Government and Civil Liberty, in which he has attempted to maul Mr. Locke's principles and to ridicule what you and I hold most sacred. I ought to have no secrets when I speak to you, but I beg the matter may not be known. I did but get the book on Thursday, and on Friday night I sent an answer to it to Debrett and desired him to print it immediately, under the title of an *Answer to a Disquisition on Government and Civil Liberty*. I hope it may do some good at the present moment, at least that it may prevent his disquisition from doing mischief. I shall tell Lord Rockingham that I wrote it, for he will keep the secret. I should have had no objection to have put my name to it, notwithstanding its being so hastily written, but that I am not well enough to bear the torrent of abuse it would expose me to; and I am unwilling to quarrel with an agreeable neighbour. *N.B.*—Debrett himself does not know the author of the answer he is about to publish.

JOHN EKINS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, March 18.—I congratulate you upon Lord Robert Manners's safety, and on his honourable share in the late engagement with the French fleet. I hope I may by this time rejoice with you on the prospect which our poor country once more has of recovering from the calamities and disgrace which have so long depressed her. It will give me additional pleasure if, among those who shall at this critical time undertake her support, I shall be so happy to read your name, for I am convinced that there is no one from their rank and consequence in this country, and few from their abilities, if they were properly exerted, who are better able to assist her in this time of distress. I shall hope in a post or two to see the change take place which has been so long wanted; but I cannot but be fearful of these delays.

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to [the DUKE OF RUTLAND],
in Arlington Street.

[1782,] March 22.—“I think I may now congratulate you as sincerely as I thank you for your letters, giving me all your intelligence concerning that wretched administration which is now no more. I shall be in London in the beginning of April, when I hope to see you, and find you perfectly satisfied with the new administration. I sincerely hope you will now exert yourself, and prove that you can be of great use to your country. You know how faithfully I love you, and how truly I wish you to make that figure which I know you are capable of making.”

R. SLOPER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, March 26. West Woodhay.—Most heartily do I congratulate you and my country upon your friends being in office.

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND,
in Arlington Street.

[1782, March,] Thursday.—“I sincerely wish you may be satisfied with the new arrangements, and that I may wish you joy of having some employment yourself that is suited to you, and that may bring your talents forth and rescue you from that inactivity which is your greatest fault. I have always spoke out to you, for I truly wish every honour

this country can give you may attend you. Lord Cornwallis has just received a letter with the melancholy accounts from the West Indies. I suppose you have heard from Lord Robert, and that he is well."

JOHN MURKINS to the DUKE OF RUTLAND, at Belvoir Castle.

1782, April 4.—Asking for patronage to procure an inferior post under the new Administration.

LORD GEORGE SUTTON to his nephew, the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, April 5. Grosvenor Street.—Asking him to intercede with the present ministers to recommend the writer's succession to the family titles and honours formerly granted and vested in his grandfather, the late Lord Lexington.

The COMMITTEE OF ANTIGALLICANS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, April 5.—Inviting him to accept the office of Grand President of this Association, established for the encouragement of the Commerce and Manufactures of this Kingdom. *Signed*: "Mahon, Grand President; Watkin Lewes, Past President; T. (?) Callander, Register."

SIR SAMUEL HOOD to —. STEPHENS.

1782, April 13.—"I am grieved most exceedingly for that truly gallant and amiable young nobleman, Lord Robert Manners. One leg gone and the other wounded, and his right arm broke; but I think his habit of body is good, and therefore hope and trust he will do well." *Copy.*

LORD ROBERT MANNERS to CAPTAIN REYNOLDS, on board the *Monarch*.

[1782, April.] The *Resolution*.—"I am as well as a man can be with one leg off, one wounded, and right arm broke. The doctor, who is sitting by me at present, says there are every hopes of recovery. I thank you much for your present. Whenever it should suit you, I shall be happy to see you." (*This letter is kept in a separate pouch.*)

ADMIRAL J. GAMBIER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, April 15. Queen Street, Mayfair.—Referring to a disappointment of a promised command; mentioning the late Marquess of Granby as a friend and patron, and asking for the Duke's recommendation to the present First Lord of the Admiralty.

T. (?) CALLANDER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, April 17. Ship Tavern, Ratcliff Cross.—Thanking him for accepting the office of Grand President of the "Antigallicans," and mentioning the day of their approaching anniversary. *Large seal.*

SIR G. B. RODNEY to SIR SAMUEL HOOD.

1782, April 17. The *Formidable*.—Giving him sailing orders and discretionary powers. *Copy, signed by Sir Samuel Hood.*

GEORGE POCHIN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND, at Belvoir Castle.
1782, April 19. Bourn.—Concerning the Leicestershire militia.

SIR SAMUEL HOOD to SIR GEORGE BRYDGES RODNEY.

1782, April 22. The *Barfleur*, at sea.—Acknowledging the receipt of his letter, and giving particulars of the pursuit of the French fleet and the capture on the 19th inst. of four French ships, the *Caton*, *Jason*, *L'Aimable*, and *Ceres*, formerly His Majesty's sloop *Ceres*.
Copy.

SIR SAMUEL HOOD to LORD ROBERT MANNERS, in London.

1782, April 22. The *Barfleur*, off Alcavala, St. Domingo.—“I most sincerely hope and pray this may find your Lordship as well as your unhappy misfortune will possibly allow, and that you may be restored to perfect health.” From the *Andromache*, where I paid you my respects, I went to the *Formidable*, and as the various methods I had tried were ineffectual to induce Sir George Rodney to quit the *Ville de Paris* and pursue the flying enemy, I added the following P.S. in answer to a note he sent me:—“As I understand the *Royal Oak*, *Alcide* and *Centaur*, with the prizes *Glorieux* and *Hector*, are gone towards Jamaica, will they not be in great danger from *our* being so far astern?” This brought me a letter from Sir George, of which I send a copy.

Now where was Sir George's judgment “to subject me with only *ten* sail of the line, to fall in with twenty at *least* of the French, and at the same time to keep twenty-two sail with him to take care of the *Ville de Paris*, without the shadow of a prospect of meeting a single ship of the enemy's. The French fleet, which your Lordship had so large a share of glory in putting to flight on the 12th, to the number twenty-six, including frigates, passed the Mona channel *only* the day *before* I was in it. If divine Providence was not to assist us, as it has most kindly done in many instances since we left St. Lucia, what would become of our poor distressed country? It is painful to think of, and I have not patience, my Lord, to dwell longer upon so truly mortifying and much to be lamented subject, but will just observe to your Lordship that on the morning of the 15th, finding Sir George could not bring himself to lose sight of the *Ville de Paris*, I pressed him much to add half a dozen ships of the line and a couple of frigates to my division and allow me to pursue the *flying* enemy, and pledged myself to give him a good account of them. His answer was, ‘We will make all sail as fast as we can,’ to which I replied, ‘You will be too late, depend upon it, if you wait for the *Ville de Paris*’; and when I last saw the Commander-in-chief, on the 17th at sunsett, he was laying too with his whole fleet.”
Seal of arms.

Endorsed “Received June 19th. My dearest Bob died of his wounds April 23rd, 1782.”

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1782?] April 30. Downing Street.—Lincoln is not actually vacant, nor do I know that Government has any direct interest there that will signify for any candidate; but I am so far committed to Mr. Furnor by what passed before I knew that you had anything in contemplation, that I cannot encourage anyone in opposition to him if he stands. I will explain this to Major Hobart on the first opportunity. [*Correspondence*, p. 3.]

CAPTAIN FRANCIS REYNOLDS to LORD ROBERT MANNERS, in
Arlington Street.

1782, May 2. *The Monarch*.—Sending him good wishes, and news from the West Indies. *Seal of Arms*. *Same endorsement as on the letter from Sir Samuel Hood of 22 April*.

GENERAL A. ST. LEGER to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1782, May 4. St. Lucia.—Before this you will have heard of the terrible wound poor Lord Robert received in the action with the French fleet. By letters I received he was in as fair a way as could be expected, and I trust he will recover. He is an honour to his King and country, and the whole fleet lament the accident. I flatter myself by this time the Cabinet at home is settled in such a manner as to profit by the late event. I hope there is reason to think the Spaniards will be disappointed in their views to Jamaica.

SIR THOMAS GASCOIGNE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND, at
Newcastle-on-Tyne.

1782, May 18. London.—A letter of condolence on the death of Lord Robert Manners.

COLONEL EDMUND STEVENS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, May 18. King Street.—The like.

T. TOWNSHEND to ———.

1782, May 18. Albemarle Street.—Begging that his condolences may be conveyed to the Duke and Duchess of Rutland.

MAJOR H. F. R. STANHOPE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, May 18. London.—A letter of condolence.

The SAME to [the SAME].

1782, May 20. London.—Offering to come to Belvoir.

The MARQUESS OF ROCKINGHAM to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1782, May 20. Wimbledon.—“Lord Cranston and Captain Byron were with me yesterday. The accounts they gave me of the fortitude with which your dear brother bore the misfortune and pains of his wounds, while the expectation of the possibility of his life existed, and the calmness and resignation of his mind when the fatal turn appeared, are circumstances which, I trust, will afford great consolation to your Grace.”

CHARLES HOWARD (Purser of H.M.S. *Resolution*) to the DUKE
OF RUTLAND.

1782, May 20. Buckland, near Portsmouth.—A letter of condolence.

THOMAS PENNYSTONE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, May 21. Cheveley Park.—The like.

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

[1782, May 21,] Tuesday. Southampton.—Proposing to set out for Belvoir immediately.

DR. ROBERT KNOX to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, May 21. George Street, Hanover Square.—A letter of condolence.

ROBERT BLAIR to the DUKE OF RUTLAND, at Belvoir.

1782, May 23. London.—“The *Resolution* did not get within gunshot of the enemy in the first action. On the morning of the 12th, she sustained a severe fire from nine or ten of the French ships, in breaking through their line. Your Grace may guess my feelings when I saw Lord Robert brought down wounded, the first man. His behaviour on this, as on every other occasion, was heroism itself. A cannon shot had wounded both legs, and at the same instant he received a compound fracture of his right arm, I believe by a splinter. The left leg was in such a state as to preclude all hopes of saving it, and accordingly I took it off immediately, at his own desire. It will scarcely be credited not only how undaunted he appeared but how perfectly he seemed to possess himself during an operation always dreadful, and in that situation particularly so, making jocular remarks on the operation with a smiling countenance during its most painful steps, about which, among other matters of that kind, he used to amuse himself in making enquiries when well.

“It was probably owing in a great measure to this composure and serenity of mind that the symptomatic fever was slight and soon over. He conversed with great ease and cheerfulness with the flag officers and other friends who came to visit him during two days he remained in the *Resolution*, and at one time talked seriously of remaining in the command of her as before.

“The same flattering appearances continued for a week after he got on board the *Andromache*. His wounds looked remarkably well, his appetite was good, and he passed his time in conversation, reading and being read to, and hearing music, which he generally accompanied with humming or whistling. In short, being perfectly freed from the cares of a command, his mind seemed perfectly at ease, and he declared that he never was easier or better in his life. I had cautioned his friends about indulging too far the very sanguine hopes which it was natural to entertain of his recovery. His Lordship perfectly knew that the chief danger—to which he was particularly liable from the uncommon irritability of his nerves—remained to be got over, that of a locked jaw and tetanus. No person who has been any time on service in a hot climate can be entirely ignorant of it, and Lord Robert had been very particular before his own accident in his enquiries on this subject.

“When the fatal symptoms appeared, he acquainted me of them with the utmost serenity and unconcern, said he thought it needless to take any medicines, and that he had entirely made up *his mind to everything*; this was his expression. He suffered himself, however, to be prevailed on, and fortunately the medicines necessary in the cure of this disease, if they fail, have the advantage of alleviating pain. He seemed at first to receive considerable benefit, but the symptoms soon recurred with redoubled violence, and swallowing, which had been very difficult, became impossible. His speech soon after for the first time became wild and incoherent, talking about the action and giving orders in the night; but

next morn'g he was again sensible, and continued so and free from pain, till his dissolution, which took place just as the sun passed the meridian, without a groan or the least sign of uneasiness.

“When Captain Byron desired to know how long I thought it necessary to defer his funeral, I proposed that it should first be considered how far it might be proper, or expected by his friends, to have his Lordship's remains carried to England, mentioning also how this might be effected. The plain question to be determined seemed to be, how far this measure would be acceptable to your Grace. And it was also mentioned that his losing his life in a manner so gallant, and on an occasion so glorious and so beneficial to his country, might well entitle him to every mark of respect that could be showed by his country. Lord Cranston and Captain Byron, endeavouring to judge how themselves would be influenced on a similar occasion, were of opinion that the funeral ought to take place immediately; and with respect to the other consideration that a monument might equally be erected notwithstanding. Considered abstractedly, it certainly appears of little moment, and I ventured to give it as my opinion, that Lord Robert's, had it been possible then to consult him, would have coincided with theirs. There seems to be some degree of propriety in committing the body of a sea officer to that element on which he has passed the most active part of his life, and where he had so gloriously distinguished himself. I speak this with the utmost deference to your Grace's opinion, which it gives me the most unfeigned concern to have had the ill fortune to be ignorant of on this occasion.

“His Lordship's funeral was attended by a company of marines, a band of musick, and all the usual military honours and solemnities.”

H. COUNTESS OF CHATHAM to ———.

1782, May 23. Hayes.—A letter of condolence.

D. PULTENEY to THOMAS THOROTON, Senior, at Belvoir Castle.

1782, [May 24,] Friday.—Concerning the Duke's sorrow.

D. PULTENEY to [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

N.D.—A letter of condolence, with a copy of verses.

DR. RICHARD WATSON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND, at Belvoir.

[1782, May 24,] Friday.—Your letter to the freeholders, with a little alteration, I will have read on Wednesday. You shall have an immediate account of that day's meeting. “The whole kingdom mourns with you in their hearts.”

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1782, May .]—“I take the liberty of acquainting your Grace, from the accounts of the Admiralty, that Sir Samuel Hood was sent with ten sail of the line to cruise to leeward, that he came up with five French ships, two of which and a frigate he had taken; they struck to the *Valiant* and *Magnificent*; one of the French ships is *L'Esprit*, of eighty, and the other of seventy-four guns, and one of them is laden with every sort of naval stores. I am induced to write, as you may not have accounts of this from others. The victory to which poor Lord Robert [Munners] contributed, in itself and consequences—for this is only a continuance of the 12th—will prove more fatal to France than any action since the battle off La Hogue.”

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1782, May 25,] Saturday.—Lord Lothian, Mr. Ekins, Lord Chatham, Lord George Cavendish, Colonel Stevens, Stanhope, and others are “employing” each other to set out for Belvoir and attempt to relieve you by introducing new objects. I should think if you had any preference on so melancholy a subject, Westminster Hall would be the proper scene for a monument.

WILLIAM PRESTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, May 26. Trinity College, [Cambridge].—A letter of condolence, and concerning the approaching election of a member in the place of Lord Robert Manners.

—— to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1782, May 27. The Terrace, Kensington.—A copy of verses on the death of Lord Robert Manners.

CAPTAIN G. BYRON to [T. THOROTON].

[1782, May 28,] Tuesday. Somerset Street.—“Poor Lord Robert was buried at sea in the latitude 31, close by the island that is about one hundred leagues from the Island of Bermudas. We consulted among ourselves what was best to be done, and all agreed it was better to bury his Lordship’s body at sea than to keep it. It would have been very difficult, for it would have been beat to peices in the cask. It was buried, Sir, with all the honors of war that it lay’d in our power to pay him; and I firmly beleive there never was a more awful melancholy burial. If I had known the Duke of Rutland would have wished his brother to have been brought home, at all events I would have endeavored to have done it. I hope from my heart he will beleive so.”

DR. RICHARD WATSON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1782, May 29,] Wednesday.—Condolences. He has had some trouble in quieting the dissenters, who had intended to oppose the election of Sir Henry Peyton.

ROBERT BLAIR to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, June 1. London.—Begging to be allowed to return the present which the Duke put into his hand on leaving Belvoir, and which he considers so far in excess of his deserts that he wishes the Duke to consider whether he has not made some mistake in the matter.

MAJOR H. F. R. STANHOPE to [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

1782, June 3. London.—I am most anxious to hear of your health under your affliction. Let me conjure you to leave Belvoir, where everything, from the recollections of boyhood to those of mature age, is associated with your brother, and where you first heard of his heroic death. Your friends revere your lamentations, but require you not to forget the duties you owe as a husband, as a father, and as a good citizen. I beg pardon for saying so much, but indeed you must not lose yourself entirely. Once more let me advise you to come to towE, at least for a few days.

WILLIAM CONSTABLE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, June 12. Burton Constable.—A letter of condolence.

CHARLES LEWIS MORDAUNT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, June. Halfall.—I am obliged for your enquiries after my health and our little work at Halfall. We have 600 spindles complete with all their appendages—our powers calculated to 1,300—an employment for about 160 poor children and women. “The Liverpool people are endeavouring to form a regiment of *guard du cotes*.” They will hardly collect above 200 or 300 men, “which is nothing to defend a town of that extent.” I do not find your Grace engaged in a public employ. I was thinking of Ireland or Master of the Horse. A laudable ambition is an object for every young man. The want of it I take to be the reason of so many of young nobility falling into the deceit of gaming and ruining their fortunes almost before they can recollect themselves. Idleness is the mother of vice.

JOHN HEBB to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1782?] June 23. Gray’s Inn.—Conveying the thanks of the Corporation of Scarborough for a remittance towards paying their debt, and for providing a transcript and translation of their charters and records.

THOMAS THOROTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND], in London.

1782, July 20. Screveton.—Yesterday we went to Belvoir. I never saw Lord Granby, Lady Katherine, Lord Charles, and Lord Robert look so well. I hope your Grace stays for some *good* purpose, which you are thoroughly *right in*. That over, we shall rejoice to see you in the country, which is rich, I mean in look, beyond expression.

SAMUEL BEILBY to ———.

1782, July 25. Ferriby, near Hull.—I enclose an advertisement which pledges you as a candidate for the town of Hull the first opportunity that offers, and engages you coming down to Hull as soon as the court martial is determined. That court martial, from the account Lord Chatham gave me of the matter, will terminate, I am certain, highly to your and Major Stanhope’s honour. Mr. Thornton has been here canvassing. You should canvass the London votes directly.

STEPHEN WHISSON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, July 26. Trinity College, Cambridge.—Acknowledging a present of venison.

ADMIRAL J. GAMBIER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, July 28. Cookham, Berks. — Hoping that the Duke’s patronage will procure him justice and compensation.

CAPTAIN EDWARD THOMPSON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1782, July 30. Bedford Square.—Concerning some verses on the death of Lord Robert Manners, and suggesting that the line in Milton’s *Lycidas*—

“Without the meed of a *melodious* tear,”

was a misprint for

“Deserved the meed of a *parental* tear,”

or,

“Deserved the need of some *melodious* seer.”

JOSEPH HILL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, July 31. Wargrave, near Twyford.—I see by the newspapers that your Grace has had audience of His Majesty. I hope it terminated to your satisfaction, and that your Grace received the honour you had so fair a claim to, in the way that made it most agreeable to you.

COUNT DE GRASSE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, August 10.—“J’ai été d’autant plus sensible à la perte de Lord Manners, que j’avois déjà eu l’honneur de le connoître. Son courage et sa bravoure lui avoient acquis mon estime et mon admiration, et sa mort m’a fait beaucoup de peine. Elle m’en cause encore aujourd’hui, puisqu’elle me prive du plaisir de vous voir et de vous faire ma cour. Récévez, Monsieur le Duc, les temoignages de toute ma reconnaissance pour ce que vous avés la bonté de me dire de flatter.” *Signed.*

MAJOR H. F. R. STANHOPE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, August 30.—“There is a most shocking piece of intelligence which I must communicate to you, which is the loss of the *Royal George*. She sank at Spithead in the midst of the fleet; poor Kempenfelt, with five hundred men, were drowned in her. It is really too melaucholy an account to dwell upon.” I conjure you to write the letter I asked you for to Conway. My memorial is just arrived and shall be presented to-morrow. “If I am prevented going to Gibraltar, I shall be inconsolable. My situation requires every possible exertion to refute the prejudices of the world.”

R. THOROTON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND, at Chevely Park.

[1782,] August 30.—“I saw Sir Joshua Reynolds to-day, who desired me to tell you he wished you would send him your sentiments concerning the picture of your father with his two aid-de-camps, one of whom called upon Sir Joshua while he was at Chevely, and left word he was at liberty to sit at any time convenient to Sir Joshua.”

Lord Chatham and Mr. Pitt mean to come down on Sunday. Stanhope told me to-day he was afraid he could not come.

Sir Godfrey Webster, Jack Townshend, and many others are going volunteers to Gibraltar; this is the sole news of the day. I beg my love to the handsomest woman in the world.

ABRAHAM JOBSON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, September 4. Isle of Ely.—Concerning the by-election for Cambridgeshire consequent on the death of Lord Robert Manners.

MAJOR H. F. R. STANHOPE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, September 5. London.—I received the King’s permission to go to Gibraltar at half-past twelve o’clock last night, and very early this morning I saw Admiral Keppel, who assured me I had not a moment to lose, as the fleet would sail with this wind immediately. I have thus been unable to see you, as I should wish to have done for the friendly, warm letter you have written to General Conway on my business.

THOMAS THOROTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1782,] September 5, Thursday. Arlington Street.—All the news I hear is Sir J. Lowther has offered to build a ship at his own expense. Stanhope goes to-morrow to Portsmouth to embark for Gibraltar.

JOHN HEBB to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1782, September 6. Scarborough.—Mr. Lascelles, our late county member, is arrived here with the intention, as it is said, of offering himself as a candidate for this borough. I should be glad to have an expression of your Grace's sentiments on this intelligence.

MAJOR H. F. R. STANHOPE to [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

1782, September 9, Monday. Portsmouth.—“I left London on Friday morning, and made use of all possible expedition to get to Portsmouth in time for the fleet sailing, which I expected would happen, from what Lord Keppel told me, in a very few hours after my arrival.

“That event, however, you see, has not yet taken place, and you may judge of my disappointment at not having taken my leave of you, which I now find I could have done with safety.

“Lord Howe's fleet here consists of thirty-four sail of the line, including the *Pegase*, which will probably follow us, as she cannot be ready under two or three days, and we are to be joined off Plymouth by two more sail of the line.

“The loss of the *Royal George* at this moment is a most heavy one. I never saw a more shocking spectacle than she exhibits; all her masts are above water, and she has rose considerably within the last few days, owing probably to her guns being loose and breaking through the sides of the ship. A number of dead bodies are floating round her, and fresh ones rising as fast as they are taken up. I wish to God that this scene of horror may not damp the spirits of the Jacks. I confess I think it has had that effect, and that it is very impolitick to allow them to come near the wreck.

“The troops were all embarked this morning, and if the ordnance ships are ready we shall sail to-morrow. I propose taking my passage in the *Berwick*, Charles Phipps having pressed me very much to accompany him. I was indeed originally engaged to go with him, but upon his ship going to the Downs I had accepted of an invitation from Sir J. Jarvis. That engagement, however, of course I gave up upon the *Berwick* returning to Spithead. Barrington is the most popular man in the fleet. Lord Howe, I find, is not so generally beloved, but equally respected I think.

“Mulgrave is at the head of a party of young men, consisting of Keppel, Berkley, Bertie Conway, the Finches, &c., &c. I live with them entirely. They are all perfectly good-humoured and very hospitable, but not very polished in their manners. I cannot help reflecting, however painful the recollection may be to you, upon the difference of your poor brother's behaviour. With the most consummate bravery he united all the good breeding of a fine gentleman, a character totally unknown here. Forgive me, my dear Duke, for this digression. I must once more revert to the subject of my regret at not seeing you before I leave England. And it is really very painful to me, not only because it would have given me so much pleasure to have taken leave of you in person, and to have expressed my affection, but because I fear you do not perfectly understand my motives for going. I wished to have explained to you that really the cause of my taking this step was

not so foolish a one as that of exciting the compassion of a certain lady. I do not deny that I told her so, but upon my word I had more rational and more substantial motives for what I did. I thought of it first myself, but I was confirmed in my opinion of its being a popular measure in my present situation by General Craig and several of my military friends, General Conway excepted. I have taken the liberty of enclosing my memorial for your perusal at your leisure.

“The King’s permission for my going on service, I think, is a favourable symptom of his approbation of my conduct. I acquainted General Conway, that as Government was now in possession of all the facts relating to my conduct at Tobago, as those facts were supported by the evidence of all my officers, as Mr. Ferguson—on whose charge alone I was ordered to be tried—had disclaimed being my accuser, that I conceived the charge now fell to the ground. I should therefore, I added, submit my conduct to His Majesty’s judgement. I informed him that as long as any practicable means could be devised of bringing me to a court martial, and as long as my accusers adhered to that character, that I had done everything in my power to submit my conduct to publick examination. But as the state of the case was now altered, as Mr. Ferguson’s charge was not only totally unsupported by evidence, but even abandoned by himself, and as my defence was confirmed by all my officers, I feel no more uneasiness on the subject, and here the matter rests.”

JOHN HEBB to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1782, September 10. Scarborough.—Mentioning the date of the approaching Corporation dinner, for which the Duke had promised a present of venison, and referring to the liquidation of the Corporation debts.

GEORGE HAGGITT to [JOHN] EKINS, at Newton Tony.

1782, September 11. Rushton.—Mentioning, for the information of the Duke of Rutland, the candidature of Edward Lascelles, Esq., for Scarborough borough at the next election.

HENRY SWINBURNE to [the DUKE OF RUTLAND].

1782, September 11. Hamsterly.—Asking for the loan of books on Italian history, and for interest for a cadetship to Madras for a nephew, now in the Austrian service.

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, September 13. London.—“As the fifteenth is so near, when your Grace said you should be in town, I have nothing to say but what may be deferred till that time. The business of this letter is to thank your Grace—which I forgot to do when I was at Chevely—for the letter, which I received from the keeper of the park, to inform me that a buck was ready whenever I should send for it, and I am now ready for the buck. I have company dine with me next Thursday, which I think is the nineteenth, and should be glad to have it by that time. I should have wrote to the keeper not to trouble your Grace, but I have forgot his name, though I have not forgot his countenance, which struck me very much.”

SIR ROBERT MURRAY KEITH to GEORGE NANGLE.

1782, September 20. Vienna.—A testimonial to Mr. Nangle, an officer in the Austrian service wishing for employment under the East India Company. *Accompanying this is a letter of the same date from Sir R. M. Keith addressed to the Directors of the Company.*

THOMAS THOROTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1782, September 22,] Sunday night.—“I called upon Sir J. Reynolds, who will now immediately employ Serres about your brother’s picture, as Brown will be able to give him some account of the particulars of the action, the seaman not being able in the least to make Mr. Serres comprehend anything about it. The picture frames are done and shall be sent immediately. The Baltic Fleet are safe off Flamborough Head, and there is an account of the Grand Fleet being seen all well a very considerable way on their passage.

GEORGE POCHIN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND, in Arlington Street.

1782, September 27. Newcastle.—Mentioning apprehensions of a coalition ministry ; and concerning winter quarters for the [Leicestershire] Militia.

JO. HUNTRISS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, October 1. Scarborough.—The report of the intention of Mr. Lascelles to contest this borough turns out to have been founded on a misapprehension. Your Grace’s influence here is too strong to be overcome, if there were twenty candidates.

GEORGE POCHIN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, October 2. Newcastle. — Reporting an affray between some officers of the [Leicestershire] Militia and the watchmen.

BENNET STORER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, October 6. Grantham.—Congratulating him on being invested with the blue ribbon of the Order of the Garter.

JOHN ROBINSON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND, in London.

1782, October 6. Custom House, Scarborough. — Reporting the result of the annual election of magistrates for the borough ; and mentioning, for the Duke’s consideration, the diminution in the writer’s own receipts owing to the depression of trade.

HILDEBRAND OAKES to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, October 16. Godmanchester. — Claiming relationship—the Duke’s grandfather, Charles, Duke of Somerset, and the writer’s grandfather, Sir John Jacob, having been children of sisters ;—and asking influence to obtain a small post, so that he may not starve.

SIR THOMAS GASCOIGNE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, October 18. Kirkleatham.—Congratulating him on his investiture with the Order of the Garter, and expressing hopes that he will engage in an active sphere of politics.

THOMAS THOROTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, October 18. Scriveton.—Mrs. Sutton and all of us send grateful thanks for your kind concern for poor Evelyn [Sutton]. I have enclosed a copy of his letter of December last. We join in our respects to all at Stoke. *Enclosed is a copy of letter [from Evelyn Sutton] dated from Isis Moubat, on the coast of Arabia Felix, December 5, 1781, relating to a claim for prize money, and containing complaints against Commodore Johnstone.*

JAMES METCALFE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1782,] October 19.—Mr. Ralph, the painter, is at his third day's work on the picture of the children. He *will* put a hawk in Lord Charles' hand, and Lord Robert is tumbling over the dog very well. The picture will be finished by Wednesday se'nnight, the 30th.

R. THOROTON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND, at Stoke, near Bristol.

[1782, October 21?] Monday. London.—“The great offer of Sir James Lowther in building his ship had near cost him his life. He went to Whitehaven to propose the terms of raising the men upon his estate to man her, which so incensed the people that they began a riot, broke his carriage to pieces, and would have in all probability destroyed him if he had not made his escape. The Duke of Norfolk is the author of this intelligence. The Parliament is prorogued to the 26th November, the cause of which I have good reason to believe is that a negociation is now on the *tapis* concerning the independence of America. This point it is thought necessary to settle before the new Ministry meet the Parliament. George Byng is come over from Ireland, and boasts that Opposition will divide a hundred and seventy. Fox had a great meeting at the Shakespear in commemoration of the day on which the city of Westminster elected the Man of the People. The meeting was very full, but chiefly electors, and I believe he is still very popular among them. Many people believe Conway is near going out, but I fancy without foundation.”

THOMAS THOROTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1782,] October 21. Arlington Street.—I hope you and the Duchess are arrived safe at Stoke. I have been to Sir J. Reynolds. The picture of your brother must first go to Dickenson's, Mr. Myers not being at present ready for it. Gothard gets forward with his picture, and says it will be fit to show to Sir J. Reynolds in about a fortnight. I think it will make a very capital print. Shutz's resignation I hope goes in to the King to-morrow; it went to General Conway to-day. It is feared the *Ville de Paris* and another ship are lost. The *Ville de Paris* was seen a hundred leagues from the Irish coast, her mainmast and foremast gone. It is generally believed the combined fleet will risk an engagement very soon, and everybody is in hourly expectation of hearing from Lord Howe.

JOSEPH HILL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, November 4. Great Queen Street.—The transports have landed their stores for the relief of Gibraltar. Lord Howe has offered the enemy battle, which they have declined, and he is returning home. An express, I understand, is arrived to this effect.

MAJOR H. F. R. STANHOPE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, November 6. Plymouth.—I am just arrived from Gibraltar with Captain Conway in the *Jatona*, and as Lord Howe's orders prevent all passengers from quitting the ship for twenty-four hours, I must write to say I am looking forward to seeing you on Friday in town. As I promise myself the satisfaction of giving you personally the account of my voyage, I shall not anticipate it by letter.

G. BERNARD to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, November 7. Albemarle Street.—I am just come from Lord Shelburne's. Captains Conway and Duncan are arrived from Lord Howe with accounts of a trifling action, in which neither side lost a ship. Lord Howe with the whole fleet will be home in eight days, having completely relieved Gibraltar.

The EARL OF SHELBURNE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1782, November 7. Treasury Chambers.—Urgently requesting him to attend the meeting of Parliament on the 26th instant. *Signed*.

R. [WATSON] BISHOP OF LLANDAFF to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, November 11. Cambridge.—What accompanies this I beg may not go beyond your inspection till it is determined whether it is to come into the world or not. My heart is much for it, because I think it would do much good. As to the statue nothing is yet done. I have had conferences about it. I will second any beginning, but, having regard to your honour, will not take the initiative.

LORD ROBERT MANNERS.

[1782.]—An account of the life and death of Lord Robert Manners. *In the handwriting of the Bishop of Llandaff, with corrections and alterations by the Duke of Rutland.*

R. BISHOP OF LLANDAFF to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, November 13. Cambridge.—The principal members of the Cambridgeshire Committee reside in London. You will see some of them at the meeting of Parliament, and if they advise the measure you will then call a meeting. It will be improper for me, for the future, to attend either committee or county meetings; but I shall be ready to give advice. My opinion on the measure is that Government should purchase all the Burgage tenures, so as to annihilate as many members for boroughs as they add for counties. I have bought a house in Great

George Street, Westminster, from Lady Carpenter. The situation is not fashionable, but it is convenient, and I shall have a better house than I could have had for the same sum in a more polite part of the town. Lord Shelburne has requested me not to publish the letter to the Archbishop at the present moment, and I shall accordingly postpone the publication.

JOHN SAWYER to the DUKE OF RUTLAND, at Belvoir.

1782, November 15. Chevely Park.—I sent the picture from Newmarket yesterday morning. Mr. Ralph says the expense of the picture, with the frame and carriage of it from London, is forty guineas.

ADMIRAL J. GAMBIER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, November 27. Queen Street, Mayfair.—Mentioning a promise from the First Lord of the Admiralty, Lord Keppel, and renewing request for the Duke's patronage.

THOMAS THOROTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1782, November.] Arlington Street, Wednesday.—The Prince has been ill and his physician has been much alarmed, and still does not pronounce him out of all danger. His disorder proceeds from a total relaxation of all the vessels. Keat, the surgeon, says that if His Royal Highness takes proper care he will certainly do well, but if the contrary, there is every reason to dread the worst consequences. "This is for *your ear alone*. He said that if he was to live by rule he did not desire life upon such terms, and he would be d——d if he would submit to it."

MAJOR H. F. R. STANHOPE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1782, November. London.—I was much disappointed at not finding you in town on my arrival last Friday. I congratulate you on your new honours. The old insuperable torment of the Tobago business (court martial) keeps me from going to see you. The combined fleet "behaved in the most scandalous manner. They engaged us—with a superiority of 12 sail of the line—at the distance of three-quarters of a mile, and continued firing for six hours without approaching. I was in Mulgrave's ship—the *Courageuse*—during the action. It was not in Lord Howe's power to continue the engagement, or to come nearer to the enemy, as he could not get to windward of them. Monsieur de la M. Picket led the van in a three-decker. He attacked the *Ganges*—Captain Fielding—but hauled his wind the moment Admiral Barrington luffed up to him." We are all satisfied with Lord Howe. I landed at Gibraltar for a few hours, but could not stay, as I was dependent on the fleet. General Elliott has acquired immortal honour by his gallant and very able defence. He speaks very confidently of the security of Gibraltar. The nearest approach of the Spaniards is about 900 yards.

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1782, December ?]—"I really believe no person living is so entangled in all sorts of difficulties, and sunk into such certain ruin as myself, without being immediately brought into Parliament. I shall not now say

whether lightly or not, but this has arose, without any kind of doubt, from my expectation of being now in the House of Commons. That this step may be attended with difficulties and inconvenience to your Grace I have no kind of scruple to believe, and that idea many years ago made me acquiesce without a murmur in several things asserted by Stanhope at that time. But if your Grace will fairly consider that 1,500*l.* or 2,000*l.* is what you would stake at play or give for a picture, and that to me it makes the difference of rank in life or immediate ruin, that it is only an inconvenient sum to your Grace, and that my situation includes my all, I can only judge from myself, that there is no person I had so lived with, even without my having raised his expectations, that should not claim from me a sacrifice of that inconvenience to his preservation." I fear my indiscretion, aggravated by report from those who were jealous of the intimacy which I was then honoured with, have done me injury in your opinion; but except in the Cambridge election, where I was pre-engaged, I have never acted contrary to your wishes. I am now at extremity, and the only solution to this despair and ruin is, that your Grace should apply to Lord Shelburne or Orde for a seat which has been offered at a price, and should give me that price by a draft at six months or otherwise. I believe that if I were assured of my liberty, I could repay what I ask to be advanced.

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1782, December?]—I assure your Grace that I intended no disrespect by the expressions of my last letter, but wrote under the pressure of a desperate situation. I am much relieved, however, by your Grace's assurances.

R. BISHOP OF LLANDAFF to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1782, December 27. Cambridge.—As to the statue, I believe the scheme is abandoned. "I do not know what the Ministry *have* done with respect to America, but I know what they *ought* to have done; they ought to have admitted her independence in the most unequivocal and unconditional manner; and, having done that, she would either have ceased being the *offensive* ally of France, or she would have been *justly* considered by this country as an inveterate enemy whom we had a *right* to subdue, if we had the power to do it. No engagement with France can authorize America to abet the unjust views of that Court; but whilst her independence is in any degree withheld she is fighting her own battle, and, in my judgment, engaged in a just cause."

LORD ROBERT MANNERS.

[1782.]—A copy of Latin verses to the memory of Lord Robert Manners. *Signed* R. Grosvenor.

The SAME.

[1782.]—Draft of an inscription to be placed on a tablet erected by the Duke of Rutland to the memory of his brother.

[GENERAL] A. ST. LEGER to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1783, January 9. Barbados.—A friendly letter, complaining of the effect of the climate and the want of active employment.

R. BISHOP OF LLANDAFF to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1783, January 10. Cambridge.—Sending some letters relating to the late project for a memorial statue to Lord Robert Manners.

GEORGE CARTWRIGHT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1783, January 29. Marnham.—Mentioning that Lord Shelburne has asked the writer's opinion concerning the improvements which may be made in the Labrador fisheries, and enclosing a memorial. *Memorial enclosed.*

[ADMIRAL] J. GAMBIER to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1783, January 30. Queen Street.—Referring to a promise by the Duke to use his influence with the First Lord of the Admiralty, and urging an early application in his favour.

THOMAS THOROTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1783, February 1. Scriveton.—I am so retired here that I have not heard one syllable about the peace beyond what the newspapers give us. I am sure a peace is desirable and necessary. The fireplace in the late Duke's dressing-room at Belvoir has been found to be built upon a beam, which is burnt above one third through. I fear the beam must be taken out and a wall built up from the foundation to supply the deficiency.

RICHARD GAMBLE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1783, February 4. *Apollo*, off Cadiz.—“The *Apollo* and *Bombay Castle*, of seventy-four guns, being ordered to reconnoitre the combined fleets which rendezvous at Cadiz, we in consequence appeared off there on the 26th of last month, distant from the enemy two leagues. It being clear weather, we plainly counted sixty sail of men-of-war and a great number of transports, the French Admiral having a white flag at the main-top-gallant masthead. The next day we spoke a neutral vessel which left Cadiz the day before. Her account of the enemy corresponded with what we had seen, with this addition, that the whole reinforcement intended for the West Indies was to sail by the 14th inst. The *Bombay* going to England with this intelligence, gives me an opportunity of informing your Lordship we are ordered to stay on the coast to watch the enemy's motions, with an intention to apprise Admiral Pigot that the enemy are on their passage, which will give him an opportunity of intercepting them before they form a junction with their fleet in the West India Islands. If the above news is any satisfaction to your Lordship, I shall be very happy in being the means of acquainting your Lordship with it.”

HENRY BOYCE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1783, February 5. Portsmouth.—Having served on board H.M.S. *Resolution* under Lord Robert Manners, I ask your influence to obtain employment from the Admiralty.

MAJOR H. F. R. STANHOPE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1783. February 15.—I have waited with anxious expectation for the opportunity of a private conversation with you, but being convinced that it is vain to look for it, I cannot sit down satisfied without making one exertion. As I am sure no other cause of coldness has existed between us, I can only impute your withdrawing your friendship to our different sentiment on political subjects—a difference of opinion I little expected ever to experience. Attached to you by friendship, it was my wish and expectation to have adhered to your political principles, which I thought coincided with my own. Under this conviction I came into Parliament by your friendly assistance. We were both attached to the same men and the same measures until the unfortunate separation of those men which took place upon Lord Rockingham's death. You then sent for me and desired me to follow the direction of my own judgment, assuring me that you left me to be guided by my own conviction. Since then, you have never been confidential with me upon political or any other subjects. If you had expressed your wish that I should support Government, I should have had no alternative but to obey or resign my seat. Had you left me to myself I should have doubted before following my own judgment. But when, unsolicited by me, you proposed in the most unreserved and handsome manner that I should follow Mr. Fox if my principles inclined me to oppose Government, I did not apprehend that I should offend you by so acting. I appeal to your candour to judge of my conduct. I must also remind you of the sacrifice I made to your friendship by accepting in your regiment a rank inferior to that which I actually held in the Guards, a step which has been most unfortunate for myself.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUCHESS OF RUTLAND.

[1783, February 17.] House of Commons.—Mr. Pulteney “begs the favor of her Grace to excuse this scrap,” and the very doubtful news it conveys. It is generally believed the Ministry will carry the question, but certainly by no great majority. Fox and Lord North have been laughed at for their alliance by almost every speaker. It is now a quarter past one, and neither Fox or Pitt have yet risen.

LORD BARRINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1783, February 19. Beckett.—I have read in the newspapers of your having accepted the staff which was so many years in the hands of your grandfather. I take the earliest opportunity of expressing my satisfaction that the staff of Lord Steward has been so properly given.

CHARLES HOWARD to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1783, February 20. Portsmouth.—Your friends will welcome your new appointment, as likely to be the means of drawing you out of that retirement and pensiveness you have too much given way to since the death of your brother, and because it will oblige you to take part in the business of the country, which is much in need of men of your Grace's character. I have been confined by an attack of rheumatic gout, but hope soon to have the pleasure of calling upon you.

JOHN HUNTRISS to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1783, February 21. Scarborough.—Congratulating him on his appointment as Lord Steward of His Majesty's household. Mentioning the death of a common councillor of the borough, and asking the Duke to obtain the vacant place of surveyor for William Thompson.

WILLIAM PARKIN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1783, February 21. Scarborough.—Applying for his interest for an appointment as Inspector of Windows.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUCHESS OF RUTLAND, in Arlington Street.

[1783, February 21.]—The motion now debating is nearly as follows: "That the Peace is not, comparatively with the state of other kingdoms, as good as could have been expected. Powys, as before, has spoke very well and wittily against the motion. Sir Cecil Wray has declared that he will stop here and give no vote at all, that he will not follow his colleague, Fox, in his violent measures." This was the more surprising as he is one of the blue and buff. I think the ministers will certainly be nearer to-day than they were the last time, if they have made proper exertions in telling the House and canvassing. Lord J. Cavendish, in a long speech, has been recommending a coalition of parties, with an exception to Lord Shelburne only. Neither Pitt nor Fox have yet spoken.

WILLIAM DAWES to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1783, March 4. Portsmouth.—Having served on board the *Resolution* under Lord Robert Manners, let me ask your interest to obtain me employment.

HENRY BOYCE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1783, March 6. Portsmouth.—Mentioning the Duke's reply to his former letter, and making a further suggestion as to his application for employment.

WILLIAM DAWES to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND.]

1783, March 20. Portsmouth.—Concerning a sketch of the fleet at St. Kitts, for which the Duke had expressed a wish.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1783, April 4.—Lord Shelburne and Mr. Pitt both concur in the propriety and indeed necessity of your being in town on Monday. I have contrived to let it be known to the Duke of Portland that you are coming. "I understand that Jersey's hounds are offered to Hinchinbroke. This is a Whig Ministry!"

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1783, April?] Sunday. Newmarket.—The meetings were very full, and though there were ex-ministers here of all sorts, I do not remember to have heard a word of politics. I am as impatient for being a member of Parliament as Sancho was of being made a governor.

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1783, April?] Tuesday. Newmarket.—On sporting matters, and giving political gossip.

LORD KEPPEL to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1783, May 1. Admiralty.—Enclosing a letter from Captain Sutton.

SIR JAMES LOWTHER to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1783, May 3. Charles Street.—Requesting him to speak to General Smith and his son and the two Mr. Suttons, Mr. Poehin, and other friends, to attend the House early on Monday next, “when a malicious petition is to be presented relative to the Westmoreland Militia.”

[J. S.] COPLEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[178—,] Tuesday.—Requesting the Duke “will do him the honour to fix a time for him to take his Grace’s portrait. Mr. Copley has reserved two figures that the Duke may have that which he prefers, and he wishes to know which that will be, that he may make use of the other before the pears leave town.”

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1783, August 3 or 10?] Saturday. Brighthelmstone. — “This place contains, besides Pitt, a great number of very distinguished names, and amongst them your favourite Lady Jersey, who has shown no great reserve to some of her friends, though at present she is waiting for a successor to Lord Carlisle. . . . It seems generally agreed that Pitt may be Prime Minister as soon as he will, which Vernon told me Rigby told him, who was told so by Lord Thurlow, who was told so by the King before he went to Spa.” I am ashamed of sending such stuff to you, who must be better informed; but certainly “Pitt has the *monstrari digito* whenever he appears abroad here, and I believe the real confidence of every man of every description.”

LORD GEORGE SUTTON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1783, August] 27, Wednesday. Grosvenor Street.—Concerning an application for an appointment for Mr. Peart.

ALLEYNE FITZHERBERT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1783, October 1. Warsaw.—I have arranged for eighty bottles of my best Tokay to be sent you from Brussels. “I have been resting myself here these ten days, and can truly say that I never spent ten days with more satisfaction, owing chiefly, if not solely, to the kindness and the society of His Polish Majesty. You may depend upon what I say when I assure you that he is not only one of the most pleasing, but one of the most sensible and well-informed men that I ever met with; and far from attributing to him personally the smallest share in the calamities his country has been exposed to of late, I am persuaded, on the contrary, that if it had been possible to have averted either by courage or address he would have effected it.” I am just on the point of starting for St. Petersburg.

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1783, November 7. Southampton.—I shall “fully state to your Grace what every principle of prudence and honesty suggested as soon as I received your Grace’s letter in April. A bare existence in England out of a jail by means of Parliament is, I assure your Grace, no object with me in my present circumstances. I should endeavor to make myself as usefull as I could there to Pitt for half a year or a year, and in the meantime settle as well as I could all my affairs, and I then think the being thus patronized by your Grace, together with Lord Chatham’s and perhaps Pitt’s own good wishes, might get me some appointment to the East Indies.” I should then leave your borough open for any of your friends, and perhaps stand some chance of repaying you. This I have considered ever since your Grace’s promise of bringing me in at a dissolution.

Mr. Lyte was a month with me at Frampton’s. “He told me the King had a great opinion of your Grace, and that your situation was at present undoubtedly the greatest of any one he knew. He had been sent to the House of Commons by the King to hear the debate on the Prince of Wales’s establishment, when I remember Pitt was particularly great, and he says the King thinks it impossible Pitt should long keep himself out of the situation he declined, though at that time he fancied at first Pitt was deserting him, and not so bold as Fox would have been at the same age. He said Lord Shelburne was not at first much liked, but he would have grown a favourite very fast with the King if he had continued. As Lyte has no holiday in the year but at Frampton’s, nor is allowed by the King to go anywhere else to open his mouth, I have no doubt the above is very true.”

G. SELWYN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1783, November 15. Cleveland Court.—On business.

THOMAS FOSTER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1783, November 18. Scarborough.—Acknowledging the safe arrival of the Duke’s present, a picture of his late brother.

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1783,] November 22, Saturday. Berkeley Square.—[*Correspondence*, p. 4.]

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1783,] November 23. Southampton.—I thank your Grace for the effectual assistance contained throughout your letter. As soon as I am settled in France I shall inform you. It seems ridiculous in me to form a guess at such a distance, but it appears to me “if Pitt employed the same emissaries and means of getting members together that is practised by the other party, Fox’s ministry might be destroyed next week with his India Bill, which is, to be sure, the most barefaced, violent act since the Act of Settlement, and will really give him if carried a power of five or six years’ continuance, independent of the Crown, over all the Eastern Empire.”

BARON HELLDORFF to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1783, December 1—Mentioning the writer’s *Historical account of the Prussian army*.

———— to ———.

1783, December 2. Wargrave.—“On my return yesterday from town, I met several boys coming from Eton, who informed Lord Baugmore that they were all going home, Dr. Davies and the masters having thought proper, after what had passed, to dismiss the boys for the Christmas holidays. Instead, therefore, of pursuing my journey immediately to Wargrave, we turned off at Slough for Eton to collect my Lord's clothes, &c., for the holidays. On the return of the Provost last week to Eton, I was informed that the assistants had taken the earliest opportunity of waiting on Dr. Davies with their resignations. Their complaint was then made to the Provost, who requested them to explain wherein Dr. Davies had been negligent in the discharge of his duty, and in that case the statutes would authorise him to redress any breach of them. They all bore honorable testimony to his diligence and zeal in the execution of his office, but complained of his injurious and ungentlemanly behaviour to them. The Provost expressed his concern for their private differences, which he said were not a statutable object of his cognizance, and offered his mediation to heal their differences, which was accepted of by both parties. Nearly two days elapsed in recriminations and messages, and nothing was settled. In this interval about ten of the oppidants, mostly very irregular boys, drew up a list of their grievances, such as absences, &c., and presented them to Dr. Davies, who for a day or two had conducted the business of the upper school by himself. They were of course rejected by him, which was the signal of revolt to those ten boys and the inferior forms; for the captain of the oppidants, all the upper part of the school, and all the collegers to a boy, disapproved of, and never joined in, the disturbance. Dr. Davies was drove out of school, and with great difficulty escaped by a back door to the Provost's; and, but for this fortunate escape, he would probably have fallen a victim to the wanton insolence of a few oppidants of the upper part of the school, and those in the lower forms. They then proceeded to break all the school windows, and all Dr. Davies', and then broke into his chambers, made a general havoc of his furniture, and destroyed his papers. The assistants, who had laid aside their gowns, then took the alarm; they met Davies at the Provost's, overtures were made by Dr. Davies to prevent further outrage, and they resumed their former office of assistants. By this time the boys had made a complete destruction of all the windows in the school, and the holidays were announced to them, and they left Eton. *A perfect reconciliation and harmony* is now declared on both sides to subsist between Dr. Davies and assistants. But mark the end. A party is forming, I am well informed, for certain of the boys' parents to meet in the holidays and to declare that unless Dr. Davies is removed from the school their boys shall not return to it. I hope the assistants do not encourage this plan, for should this be the case, and Davies remain obstinate, how will the assistants act? They are now reconciled to Davies; will they then quit the school afterwards with their pupils? Their measures are generally thought to have been ill-timed and precipitate, and the school will certainly be much hurt, for Davies, too, has his supporters, I hear. My Lord Baugmore and his brothers are all well, and Augustus' arm in a fair way of returning to its wonted activity; however, we shall send for a pidgeon from Windsor to see that all is right. The signal of a rebellion in future at Eton, I conclude, will be to flog or kill the masters.”

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1783,] December 6, Saturday night. Berkeley Square.—[*Correspondence*, p. 5.]

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1783, December 23.] Berkeley Square.—[*Correspondence*, p. 6.]

The DUKE OF BEAUFORT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1783, December 24. Badminton.—I desire you will express to His Majesty my grateful acknowledgments for the offer of the office of Lord Chamberlain, but I must beg leave to decline the acceptance of that honour at present. I thank your Grace and Mr. Pitt for the obliging manner in which you have conveyed me His Majesty's message.

JOHN HUNTRISS to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1783, December 26. Scarborough.—In the expectation of a dissolution, George Wiggin Osbaldiston, Esq., has offered himself a candidate for this borough. I hope your interest is strong enough, in spite of this opposition, to secure the nomination of one of the representatives. Mr. James Cooper will inform you where to find the electors who are in London.

CHARLES HOWARD to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1783, December 28. Portsmouth.—Congratulating him upon becoming a member of the new Administration.

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1783,] December 28. Southampton.—I set out to-morrow for France. The people here approve highly of the new appointments, and Pitt's attention to borough interest has rescued him, in the opinion of the coffee-house politicians here, from being too virtuous and speculative for a minister. As to the dissolution, it has certainly hurt Pitt in point of character for spirit and firmness that no such event has taken place, probably with as much justice as other political judgments are commonly passed. Of the thirty or forty independent members, there are not ten who do not think of the 1,000*l.* or 2,000*l.* which it will cost them to be re-elected. "If there is no prospect of a dissolution, and Pitt will bring me in for some Looe or Newton, I will engage to speak as much nonsense for him as his opponents for the most part do against him."

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[GEORGE] NUGENT, EARL TEMPLE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, January 11. Stowe.—In answer to your enquiries relating to the office of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland:—On a rough estimate my establishment would have required at least 15,000*l.* per annum added to the present salary of 20,000*l.* I think you must calculate upon spending that sum from your private income. The sum of 3,000*l.* is always given for equipage money, and you will find your first expenses exceed that sum. Do not engage for your aides-de-camp, chaplains, or pages, till I have told you what of these you will be forced to give in Ireland. The government of that kingdom is

indeed most delicate. Part of Lord Northington's correspondence I have seen, but had not time to consider the whole, and therefore am unable to enter into a minute plan which I should otherwise offer to you. I will discuss it with you when I come to town, and, if wished, meet you with your official friends. "The task is difficult, but with your principles, firmness, and moderation, I have no doubt but that you may govern with advantage to the empire, and credit to yourself."

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

1784, February 11. St. James. — Appointing Charles, Duke of Rutland to be Lieutenant-General and General-Governor of His Majesty's kingdom of Ireland. *Signed by* Stephen Cottrell.

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, February 13. Hillsborough.—Recommending Mr. Richard Magenis as one of his aides-de-camp.

HENRY DUNDAS to the SAME.

1784, February 13.—Gratefully accepting the offer for his nephew to be aide-de-camp to the Duke.

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1784, February 13,] Friday.—"I am extremely sorry that illness prevents my meeting my Irish friends this day in Arlington Street, and, as it is likely I may not see you again for a long, long time, I send you my best wishes, which I had rather do by writing than seeing you, praying that every comfort may accompany you and every success attend you in your difficult undertaking."

The SAME to the SAME, in Arlington Street.

[1784, February?] Saturday morning.—If General Burgoyne resigns the command of the army in Ireland, I think an offer of it to Lord George Lennox would be proper to make. I had not an opportunity of speaking about it yesterday at St. James'.

LORD HOOD to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, February 14. Dover Street.—Introducing the bearer, Mr. George.

LORD MONTFORI to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, February 16. London.—Introducing his son, Henry Bromley.

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1784,] February 17, Tuesday night. Berkeley Square.—[*Correspondence*, p. 6.]

The EARL OF CHATHAM to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] February 17, Tuesday. Berkeley Square.—I have enclosed, as you desired, a blank proxy for you to execute. I will only add, many, many sincere and affectionate good wishes for your success.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND]

1784, February 17. Albemarle Street.—“Your instructions and all papers relating to the Government of Ireland will be delivered to Mr. Orde to-morrow, who sets out to meet your Grace at Holyhead.

“However, as I understood that you expected to receive some notice on this subject by a messenger to be dispatched this evening, I thought it of importance that you should not be disappointed. I have nothing new to send you. The foolish Committee at the St. Albans are trying with Mr. Pitt to make out something of the steps that have been lately taken; but Mr. Pitt seems firm. That beast Lord North adds to the beauties of his character by threatening to stop the supplis.

“We are clear that you will make an excellent Lord Lieutenant, but we much regret the loss of you as an excellent Lord Privy Seal.

“Lord Chatham has delivered me your Grace’s message concerning Major Manners. I touched upon that string yesterday with the King; but he seems determined that McLean shall not retain his rank if he sells. I do not think the other part of the business quite desperate if that could be got over. I will return to the charge to-morrow, but still have little hopes to gain the first point; but if that wild thief Mac will be tractable upon it, I have my hopes upon the second and essential point, though the King talked of his youth.

“I shall have a letter to write to you upon the subject of the Geneva emigrants, whom Lord Northington has affected to discountenance, because the scheme was Lord Temple’s. I think they ought to have at present the support of Government, and that they will be of use to Ireland.

“My messenger will wait for the Duchess’s letters, as I thought that your Grace would not forgive me if I did not facilitate every communication between you. You may depend upon the punctuality of my correspondence, and that I will give you as early an account as possible of every material circumstance on this side of the water.”

The EARL OF NORTHINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, February 19. Dublin Castle.—Congratulating him upon his appointment to the Government of Ireland, and offering assistance.

WILLIAM PITT to SIR E. NEWENHAM.

1784, February 19. Berkeley Square.—I hope you will excuse the delay in my acknowledging your letter. It is difficult for me at present to say anything, the Lord Lieutenant being set out for Ireland, and his recommendation upon such subjects being very essential.

EARL TEMPLE to the DUCHESS OF RUTLAND.

[1784, February 19 (about).]—Expressing his opinion that the Duke could not get such a carriage as he wished built in Ireland, but recommending that a chariot should be bought in London and sent round by sea.

M. O'BYRNE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, February 26. London.—Though we differ a little in politics, give me leave to introduce my friend, Mr. William Doyle, a gentleman who is perfectly acquainted with the true interests of Ireland. He has, however, the misfortune of differing with you, as I do, in a few trifling particulars, which I fear will prevent him taking a public, decided part with you. “I was not a little mortified to hear from Bob Thurroton that her Grace the Duchess was much pecked at my passing through Arlington Street on my friend Charles’ coach-box with Lord Surrey, &c. I went with Charles not only as a private friend but as a publick man, whom I think must have a large share in the rudder of this distracted island, or else down we go by the Almighty, that’s my opinion. But that her Grace could think so meanly of me as to suppose I could hish a catt belonging to her is doing me great injustice, and what I am incapable of. Once more adieu, my Lord Duke. You’r really a good fellow, and I most sincerely wish your Grace success. Stick to *Doyle*, a word to the *wise*.”

VISCOUNT LIFFORD to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND], Lord Lieutenant.

1784, February 26, Thursday.—Stating that the (Irish) House of Lords had passed, with only one negative, the address moved by Lord Mornington; and asking at what time it would be convenient to his Grace to receive the address.

The EARL OF NORTHINGTON.

[1784,] February 27.—Memorandum that it was arranged by Lord Northington to obtain the reversionary grant of Secretary of State for Mr. W. Ponsonby, and that Mr. Burton, nephew to Mr. Ponsonby, should be appointed paymaster to the troops abroad.

ARRANGEMENTS.

[Same date?]—Notes apparently of an interview, in which various gentlemen were mentioned for peerages or for advancement in rank. *In the handwriting of the Duke of Rutland.*

The EARL OF NORTHINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, February 27. Castletown.—“When I had the honour of an audience of your Grace, the subjects were so numerous we had to dis-course upon, that everything I had to mention to your Grace could not immediately occur. To this hurry I have to impute my neglect in omitting to mention to your Grace Lord Gosford’s name as one of those barons to whom my administration was pledged, in the event of its continuance, to recommend to His Majesty for the degree of Viscount in the peerage.

“His Lordship is perfectly respectable, of considerable fortune, and has been some years a baron, consequently very fit for such a mark of His Majesty’s grace. I have likewise to add that his brother-in-law the Bishop of Ferns was the only bishop, out of four who hold boroughs, that gave his *two* seats to the nomination of His Majesty’s Government, a conduct which certainly deserves to be noticed.”

THE EARL OF NORTHINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, February 27. Castletown.—I should have mentioned to your Grace the situation of Lord Antrim, whose family is one of the oldest in the kingdom, and who, on applying to the King for a remainder to be given to his daughter, had a promise of his wish being acceded to.

R. ARCHBISHOP OF ARMAGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, February 29. Henrietta Street.—I have received your draft for 1,000*l.*, and shall distribute the money, as you direct, for the benefit of poor manufacturers in the different parishes. A donation of this kind must be understood to proceed from a friendly disposition to the welfare of this country.

THE EARL OF NORTHINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, February 29. Castletown.—I am glad you are satisfied with the open and liberal manner in which I have communicated what I thought would give you assistance, and I thank you for repairing the slight the King's ministers in England have put upon me, and recommending afresh my nomination to the deanery of Waterford. You have my best wishes in the arduous post you have undertaken.

JOHN FITZGIBBON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784, February.]—Recommending Mr. Stewart to succeed to the office of Surgeon-General in case of a vacancy.

EARL GOWER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, March 3. Whitehall.—I congratulate you on your safe arrival. The only Irish member of Parliament of my acquaintance who is a speaker of weight is Mr. Scott, the present Prime Sergeant. I believe him to be an able and honest man, and if your political connexions do not prevent it, I shall be obliged to you for any mark of favour you can give him in his professional line. I am obliged to you for waiting half-an-hour to receive the zealous congratulations of my friends at Newcastle. Our situation on this side the water is a little improved since you left us, and I believe the Duchess of Rutland's opinion of the characters and politics of Brooks's is not changed since the late violent and unjustifiable attack upon Mr. Pitt and his friends. But you will have better and more circumstantial accounts from others of the state of this country.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, March 3. Whitehall.—“I have been waiting from day to day in hopes of sending you something more determinate than I can even now transmit to your Grace. Divisions have run much as usual in the House; there, however, is this to be remarked, that the members for Bristol and Sir C. Bamfylde, member for Exeter, thought it unadvisable to vote for the last address of the House of Commons. This looks like a shake. It is doubted whether they will be able to carry their question upon the Mutiny Bill, which is to limit the duration to a month. They do not seem inclined to oppose the supplies directly; at least, I think they find great difficulty in bringing up their troops to that attack.

"Mr. Pitt performs something better every time. There was a vigorous attempt made a few nights ago to remove that obnoxious Minister from His Majesty's presence and councils for ever by a mob of chairmen from Brooks's, who had nearly effected their purpose. Lord Chatham's carriage was demolished, and many bludgeons aimed at his head as well as at his brother's; their servants who defended them were very severely handled. I was not present, but went up to White's from Lord Temple's, when I heard what had passed. I some time afterwards presumed to go into Brooks's, which gave so much offence, that there is no abuse that can be thought of that is spared upon this occasion. I was going alone, but my son, in spite of my entreatys, would go with me, and his behaviour in the midst of a number of bludgeons was such as to recompense me very amply for all the abuse that can be thrown upon me by the banditti, either above stairs or below.

"Negotiation, I think, is now quite at an end; though Powys and Marsham break out with a bit of a proposal every now and then. Since one of the high contracting parties has objected to the word *equal*, as inadmissible, all prospect of agreement seems to be lost.

"I cannot rejoice at anything that happens in these times, for though I have as little inclination as any man that breathes to quit the ground upon which I stand, or to yield to the insolent demands which are made, yet I see the innumerable difficultys in carrying on the business of the country. In spite of all we can do, I see it stand still when every exertion ought to be made.

"I have of late received many extraordinary dispatches from your Grace's predecessor. He is much offended at his having received no signification of the King's approbation of *his services*. God help the man; was there ever so absurd an expectation? He resigns precisely at the only time that it could be of detriment to His Majesty's business, not to say more. He sends his resignation with every mark of intemperance, and then is offended that "he is not thanked for his egregious absurdity. Give me leave to recommend to you the consideration of Lord Courtown when you have an opportunity. "The King empowered me to use his name fully to your Grace, and I sincerely say that I have no doubt but the success of Lord Courtown will be very pleasing to His Majesty." The favour was asked of the Duke of Portland, who was anxious to do it, as it was the only *wish* His Majesty expressed to that administration. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to [EARL TEMPLE].

1784, March 8. Dublin Castle.—A dispute has arisen between the Primate and the Archbishop of Dublin with respect to the precedence on the ceremonial of the Order of St. Patrick. The Primate claims to walk single. The Archbishop claims to walk at the Primate's left hand. I ask for your opinion and decision as to what was understood and intended as to their particular ranks when you founded the order. The matter seems trifling, but the dispute is conducted with great heat. *Draft*.

LORD AMHERST to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, March 9. Whitehall.—Recommending an officer of his own name.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, March 9. Albemarle Street.—As to the protecting duties, and the trade of Portugal, I must postpone any opinion till I send an English

messenger, which I hope to do in a very few days. I agree with you, that what relates to the Navigation Act may well be likewise postponed. As to the Parliamentary reform, I look upon it as a measure so ruinous to the prosperity of Ireland, that I cannot doubt of the good sense of the Parliament on this occasion, or of their disposition to reject so crude and undigested a proposal.

I entirely agree with you upon the Post Office Bill. It ought to be carried through as expeditiously as possible. As to the illiberality of excluding all privilege reciprocally on each side of the water, I do not see the matter in the same light. Privilege of franking had its original foundation in the necessary communication between the representative and the constituent. That principle cannot, with any reason, be extended to the English member franking in Ireland, or the Irish member franking in England. But if, hereafter, there should be a disposition in both countries to shew that kind of civility and indulgence to each other, I shall readily adopt whatever promotes harmony and good neighbourhood.

I am glad to find that you think that the Duke of Leinster relents. If he attends to his own interests and consequence, he can see no advantage to either in opposition to your government. It is the business of all men of property and real weight to support you; and to suppose that a man will sacrifice those considerations to a fancied connexion with English politics, is to pay no very flattering compliment to his understanding. It is certainly desirable to gratify the Duke of Leinster in every reasonable wish; but if he will not enter into any engagement with you, I think the King will have no objection to your proposal with regard to Lord Clifden, if you should, upon further consideration, think proper to make it.

“You will hear of the majority of *one* against us yesterday. They have declined opposition to the Mutiny Bill to-day, and seem completely out of spirits.”

We have appointed a Committee of Council to transact the business of the late Board of Trade; they are to meet to-morrow for the first time. This will be useful, and a great relief to my office. *Marked* “Secret and separate.”

THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUCHESS [OF RUTLAND].

[1784.] March 9. Waverley.—I have just received your kind letter, and treat you to thank my friend for his remembrance of my recommendation. I hope most truly that the firmness of His Majesty and his present Ministers may continue, which will ensure you a comfortable reign in Ireland. I hope you and your children are all well, and that you will have a prosperous voyage.

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, March 10, Tuesday night. Berkeley Square.—[*Correspondence*, p. 7.]

[THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.]

1784, March 10. Dublin Castle.—I am glad to be able to inform you of the prospect here of a quiet and well-supported administration. A general disposition for English government, and an aversion from the innovations proposed by restless individuals, seem to be the prevailing principles of all the leading men with whom I have conversed. “The protecting duties and the reform of Parliament are the two great popular questions to be brought forward in the course of this session;

and I flatter myself the Cabinet will agree with me that they are to be met by a firm and decided opposition. In a former despatch I mentioned an idea that Mr. Gardiner's proposition might be a small duty of five per cent. on the import of English manufactured goods, and I suggested whether *in that case* it might not be the opinion of ministers in England that some concession should be made. But I must inform your Lordship that I understand this to be but a part of his whole plan, which extends likewise to a duty amounting to a prohibition on the export of raw materials such as linen and woollen yarn. But this second part of his scheme is not to be brought forward till a future period. With respect to the reform of Parliament, on the suggestion of Mr. Brownlow, a meeting was held on the seventh at Lord Charlemont's to take the subject into consideration. It was attended by about forty persons, when it was agreed that a Bill should be brought in framed on the plan of the National Convention, but that all allusion to that assembly should be studiously avoided in the introduction of the business. Mr. Brownlow moves, and is seconded by Sir E. Newenham, and Saturday is the day fixed for the motion. It is my intention to give leave for the admission of the Bill, and to reject it with grave and solid arguments, which I trust will be done by a very great majority."

Lord Bristol (Bishop of Derry) has been quiet, generally, though Lord Hillsborough sends me a Derry Gazette with some factious answers to violent addresses. I shall keep a vigilant eye on his conduct.

As to Post Office arrangements and the purchase of Mr. Hamilton's place, I cannot yet speak precisely, as the negotiation with the Duke of Leinster and the Ponsonbys still remains open. Lord Annaly is dangerously ill. In the event of his death, I should recommend Mr. Scott, the Prime Serjeant, as his successor. The important cause respecting the Ely property is now coming to immediate decision. It is the first act of appellate jurisdiction of the House of Lords of Ireland. There are great apprehensions of this power in the minds of the deliberate and wise part of the nation. They dread the importation of private prejudices, which are already operating, to my own knowledge.

Mr. Orde took his seat yesterday, and spoke well. I cannot adequately express his unwearied exertions and prudent management. He did not omit to remind me of the application respecting Lord Courtown. Indeed, I want no spur to my zeal in regard to a recommendation coming from the Duke of Montagu and yourself, and in which the King has expressed a wish. *Draft, partly re-written.*

LORD HAWKE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, March 10. Bloomsbury Square.—Introducing and recommending Major Kildale.

LORD CAMELFORD to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, March 11. Oxford Street.—Recommending a young clergyman for a benefice on family grounds.

WILLIAM CONSTABLE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, March 12.—Recommending Captain Johnson, an old officer, and his family to the Duke's protection.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, March 17. Whitehall.—“Having received to-day by the post a letter from a Mr. Chamberlain at Scarborough inclosing one to your

Grace, I thought it right to lose no time in transmitting it to you. I therefore dispatch a messenger on purpose, as the contents of a Scarborough letter at this time may be of moment to you. Our day of d——n is not fixed, but not far off, and the country in excellent humour. There is a great contest threatened at York upon the address, and many grandees on both sides gone down; we expect to carry it. They do not stir much in the House of Commons, but such patriots as Beauchamp and Eden snarl a little now and then, and shew their white teeth and whiter livers.

“Your letter of the 20th gave us great satisfaction. If Mr. Orde’s modesty will accept them, make my best compliments of congratulation to him on his outset in the Irish House of Commons.

“I write to General Cunningham by this messenger. I mean to re-state to him the King’s intentions notified to him by my letter to Lord Temple, from the spirit of which I have never varied, and *he* cannot think I have. I really think he will have the first regiment of dragoons vacant in *Ireland*, but the King will not bind himself by an absolute promise, and I do not think that the General acts wisely in pressing it in the manner he does. Your Grace very well knows, that from the first moment of your appointment I thought he had a right to that favour, and that if there had been a vacancy on the staff of a Lieut.-General that he had very good pretensions to be offered that office. I hope I have writ civilly to him, and wish that, if you have no objection to it, you would assure him of my real intention to serve him to the best of my power, and that there are others of the King’s Ministers who are equally well inclined to him.

“You shall hear from me again in a very few days. The Chancellor is laid up with the gout, which delays our business. Lord Mansfield is much out of order, and, I think, breaks visibly very fast.

“The Opposition are trying to run down Mr. Pitt upon the subject of the reform. They call him a lukewarm friend. You know that I could, from my heart, forgive him that crime, if he were guilty of it, but the accusation is both false and impudent.

“I wait Mr. Pitt’s leisure to answer many parts of your Grace’s letter, which I will do in official form, as soon as I can procure his opinions.”

“P.S.—The Duchess does the Cabinet the honour of giving them a dinner on Friday.”

SIR EDWARD NEWENHAM to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, March 18.—Sending a memorial relative to his dismissal from the post of a collector of the revenue in the county of Dublin. *Accompanying this is a copy of memorial to Mr. Pitt, also copy of memorial to the King.*

HENRY DUNDAS to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, [March] 21, Sunday.—Let me recommend Mr. Ross, son of Sir John Lockhart Ross, for promotion, if the request is not an improper one. We had a very merry Cabinet dinner with the Duchess last Friday.

The EARL OF GUILFORD to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, March 22. Henrietta Street, Cavendish Square.—Recommending Mrs. Mary Wright as an object of charity.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, March 22.—“Though I take it for granted that Mr. Pitt has acquainted you with the news of the day, I cannot suffer a messenger to go without telling your Grace that the Parliament is to be prorogued to-morrow and dissolved the next day. We are in a great bustle, and I hope we shall have a good deliverance. God speed you in your own work.”

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1784,] March 23, Tuesday night. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence*, p. 9.]

[The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.]

1784, March 24. Dublin Castle.—“Your Lordship has already been assured that at all times I should very strictly observe the conduct and proceedings of the Bishop of Derry, which, though perhaps less important than distant representation may describe them, ought not, however, to be allowed such latitude and indulgence as must gradually extend to the power of effecting mischief. His lordship’s forwardness to seize any opportunity of involving this country in disorder and tumult can be but little doubted, and as the event of the Bill for correcting defects in the representation of the people in Parliament may probably create some agitation in his mind, and be employed by him as an instrument of irritation to others, I have judged it prudent to take preparatory steps to counteract any measure he may be disposed to adopt, strictly attentive to the most cautious and secret mode of proceeding. For this purpose I have despatched a gentleman of the neighbourhood, who will not be suspected by the bishop, and on whom I can certainly depend, to watch the effect which the news of the ejection of the Bill shall produce. I shall be much concerned to find myself obliged to proceed to extremities and to take a step which in every degree might occasion a ferment, or be productive of any temporary confusion; but I think it essential to the interest of His Majesty’s Government that an example should be made among the abettors of sedition, if such there be, in this country, should any legal clear ground of criminality be discovered against them.

“The Duke of Leinster, who sees opposition to be no longer effectual, seems inclined to enter upon terms of negotiation. At the same time he declines the office of Post Master, though he is willing to accept any employment—if any such can be formed—more honourable, though not more lucrative. Since my arrival in this country, I have entertained an idea of establishing some of that description, which might become objects to the great peers of this country. A President of the Council and a Privy Seal with rank, and a Speaker of the House of Lords, separate from the office of Chancellor, are objects which occur to me to be very practicable and desirable; if means can at the same time be devised of giving them salaries, without additional charge or burthen to the establishment. But it is necessary to know how far the office of President of the Council can be appointed under a Lord Lieutenant. Your Lordship will therefore be pleased to give me your opinion on this point, and to transmit to me a copy of the appointment of a Lord President in England, in case the idea should be further pursued.

“The Provost, who has always some object in view—and whose objects have not generally been marked with the character of moderation and

humility—is willing to resign his offices of Secretary of State and Privy Seal, provided a similar negotiation to that with Mr. Hamilton should take place with Mr. Rigby, and the Mastership of the Rolls becoming vacant, his views might be gratified with that office. I may observe to your Lordship, that such an arrangement would put it into the power of Government to hold out an object in the Privy Seal to Lord Mornington, who is not only well disposed to take a leading part in favour of Administration, but who by his talents and distinguished abilities is very well qualified for that service.

“Lord Hillsborough’s attachment to His Majesty’s person and Government is not unknown to your Lordship, and if I may be allowed to form an opinion of his views here from the opportunities I have already had of conversing with him, though he does not seek office, he would not, I believe, decline it, as Speaker of the House of Lords, could the idea suggested above, be carried into execution. His Lordship would, I am persuaded, discharge the duties of the station with honour to himself and utility to the public, and might perhaps feel the gratification of his wishes in being appointed to fill it. Lord Shannon holds the language of a firm friend to English Government. His professions on that head are free and open, nor are they [] with any unreasonable demands in favour of his friends and extensive parliamentary connexions.

“Lord Clifden seems perfectly disposed to lend his assistance to Government, but not without a steady view to his object. His particular wish at this time is some official establishment for his second son, and which would be accomplished by his succeeding to Mr. Foster’s employment in case of a vacancy. The ease as well as advantage of Government would be more effectually consulted by conferring that office on Lord Clermont in lieu of the Post Office, and removing Lord Clifden to the latter, by which a seat at the Revenue Board would be left vacant. His brother, the Archbishop of Cashel, acts much on the same principles, and pursues pretty nearly the same line of conduct. He does not lose sight of the Primacy or the See of Dublin, but seems content, however, without any promise, and means only, as he professes, to endeavour to recommend himself by his good services.

“Mr. Ponsonby is ready to unite his strength in the support of Government, provided his terms are acceded to. His proposals are similar to those which were agreed upon by Lord Northington, to all of which I cannot give my entire assent. He demands the office of Secretary of State for his son for life, which your Lordship will agree with me is not to be acquiesced in. As his connexions are very extensive, it is of importance that he should be a zealous and unequivocal advocate for His Majesty’s Government. I am therefore willing to engage to him the Post Office for his eldest son, a peerage for Mr. O’Calligan, his son-in-law, together with some inferior arrangements to gratify his numerous dependants.

“The views of Mr. Loftus, who is ready to support my Administration, extended to a peerage, which was engaged to him by my predecessor; but some difficulty now arises with respect to his pension, which he had agreed to relinquish. Your Lordship will by this perceive that he has lost his great cause with Mr. Rochford, the judgment of the King’s Bench being this day set aside in the House of Lords by the casting voice of the Chancellor. I am sorry to repeat to your Lordship, that in the course of this business much prejudice has appeared, and one very extraordinary and infamous circumstance has been brought to light. Lord Viscount Strangford wrote to Mr. Rochford offering him his vote for the sum of two hundred pounds, at the same time saying that he

would be content to accept a hundred immediately paid down. Mr. Rochford very properly transmitted the letter to the Chancellor, and Lord Strangford is ordered to attend in his place on Friday next, when I trust he will be proceeded against with all the rigour which so notorious an act of corruption and dishonour deserves." *Draft and fair copy.*

[The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.]

[1784, c. March 24.]—"He has also undertaken to procure and forthwith to communicate to me certain information upon several important points of which we have not been able to gain sufficient evidence, and particularly respecting the mode the Bishop (of Derry) has taken to enlist and embody the men for his regiment, whether by giving them money, and by obliging them to take and subscribe any particular test, and also in regard to his ordering and importing arms, of which various reports have been conveyed to me. Upon this head, indeed, your Lordship may possibly have it in your power to gain intelligence by proper enquiries addressed to Birmingham, from whence the arms are said to have been ordered. I am further to learn by means of this gentleman whether any suspicious persons who may be supposed to be emissaries from any other quarter in connection or alliance with the Bishop, frequently resort to him, and may be traced to their principals." *Incomplete.*

LORD SYDNEY to the [Duke of Rutland,] LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND.

1784, March 24. Whitehall.—Transmitting a copy of the King's speech on the dissolution of the English Parliament. *Signed.*

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH.

1784, March 25.—Memorandum of conversation between Lord Hillsborough and Mr. Orde, in which he expressed his desire to be Lord Lieutenant's minister for County Down with regard to patronage.

The COUNTESS OF GRANARD to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, March 26. Lucan Lodge.—Recommending Mr. Little for Church preferment.

HENRY DUNDAS to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1784,] March 31. London.—Introducing his nephew, Captain Charles Ross, of the 3rd Dragoons, son of Sir John Lockhart Ross.

The EARL OF STAMFORD to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, April 3. London.—Complaining of the Duchess of Rutland having canvassed votes for Mr. Macnamara for the borough of Leicester.

The EARL OF SHELburnE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, April 3. London.—"Your Grace will have heard the run which the elections have taken in favour of the present Ministry.

Every place is likely to go according to the utmost of their wishes, as far as I hear, except the City, which is entirely ascribed to mismanagement, and there is some doubt about Cambridge, which you understand a great deal better than I do. Mr. Coke is likely to come in for Norfolk, and some other opposition members in other places, merely for want of candidates to oppose them. In the meantime I know nothing decisive of the great points which must finally decide who is right and who is wrong, such as the American commerce, the East Indies, the finance, and the system of alliance on the Continent, which we shall never again, I hope, be without. As to Ireland, I have always thought that as long as this country is unsettled, let what will be done, Ireland will be so too; on the other hand, let the country be settled, though nothing be done, Ireland will be quiet in consequence. I believe even its commerce and its wealth depend more upon this principle than all the laws the greatest orators can think of proposing. I wish, however, for the present, the case was the reverse, and that we depended on Ireland for our tranquillity, for your Grace, by all accounts, has already found the secret of tranquilizing that country and uniting the material points of it in the support of a government founded on large and honourable principles. I make no doubt your Grace has by this time found out the character of my countrymen, and, among a thousand good qualities, how disposed they are to convert every word into a promise, and that you will not suffer your fine and honourable feelings to be the dupe of arts which have been learnt and hackney'd under administrations of a very different stamp."

"It's difficult to say what will become of this distracted country. I own, notwithstanding present appearances, writing to your Grace as I do in great confidence, I foresee little else than distraction."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, April 4. Albemarle Street.—Our elections go on amazingly well. Cambridge—Pitt, 334; Euston, 288; Townshend, 267; Mansfield, 181. Westminster looks well. Hood yesterday 262 ahead of Fox, and Sir Cecil 42 ahead of Fox. You seem to go on well. Since I have been in the King's service, I have not seen him so much satisfied with any despatches as yours, either as to matter or to style. I hope the Duchess and all your charming family will arrive at Dublin in perfect health.

The SAME to the SAME.

1784, April 5. Whitehall.—We are in high spirits here. Our elections go amazingly well. I think Fox will lose Westminster. He is to-day 120 below Sir Cecil Wray, and out of sight of Lord Hood. Lord North has been very nearly shaken at Banbury, and upon a poll would have carried it only by one. "When you make your new arrangements, will you allow me, without attempting to embarrass you," to beg you to think of Lord Courtown. The King is very much disposed to him. He has a very awkward situation to be relieved from. Mr. Pitt is just arrived from Cambridge. He has, I believe, actually chosen Lord Euston. My best respects to the Duchess. We miss you both here, but you are serving the cause effectually where you are.

LORD CLERMONT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, April 5. London.—I have considered your Grace's and Mr. Orde's reasons as to residence very maturely. They have great weight

with me, and I agree with the spirit of them. I shall state frankly my wishes. As I have been Postmaster-General of Ireland for twenty-four years, and during that period have received the approbation of every Postmaster-General here, I think it would appear a want of attention to me if my name were omitted on the first appointment of a Postmaster-General of Ireland. I should therefore wish to be in the first commission; and shall go to Ireland and attend during the whole of the first quarter. At the expiration of the quarter I shall be ready to resign, on such terms as shall seem reasonable to your Grace. Although I really intend to spend part of every year in Ireland, I cannot answer for my being so constantly there as might be expected, and shall, therefore, be willing to resign as I have pointed out, but I do not wish this to be divulged at present.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO LADY ———.

1784, April 5. Dublin Castle.—In reply to your ladyship's application, I must state how much I am embarrassed with applications, and the collection of Lisburne, should it be vacated, is applied for by Lord Hillsborough for a person whose name, so far as I can recollect, is not the same with the one you recommend. Your friend's name shall, however, be inserted in my book of applications. *Draft.*

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO LORD SYDNEY.

1784, April 8. Dublin Castle.—“The last official despatch gave you an account of the debate on the protecting duties, with the rejection of the measure. On the subsequent night, great numbers of journeymen were discharged by the master manufacturers, whose factious conduct, together with a Paving Bill introduced into Parliament by Sir J. Blaquiere, caused a commotion in this city which in its commencement bore a very alarming appearance. The rioters forced open the doors of the House of Commons, and, having taken possession of the gallery, elected among themselves a speaker, and insisted that Mr. Foster, a very respectable member of Parliament—whose name cannot be unknown to your Lordship—should be delivered up to their rage with a rope about his neck. I immediately ordered a body of troops down to the spot, who in a very short space of time quelled the tumult and dispersed the rioters, two or three of whom have been seized and committed to Newgate. I cannot have here the satisfaction of informing your Lordship that the magistrates of this city were by any means sufficiently alert in the performance of their duty. In general they seemed little disposed to pursue those measures of exertion which were alone calculated to put a period to the confusion. A committee is therefore appointed to enquire into their conduct. I have issued out a proclamation offering a reward on the discovery of any persons who should have been found assisting and fomenting the above disturbance, and, in consequence of an address from the House of Commons, a reward has likewise been offered for the apprehension of the printer and publisher of a seditious paper called ‘*The Volunteer's Journal*,’ which was voted a scandalous libel and an insult on the King's government. For the present the disorders appear to have subsided, though, by the circulation of inflammatory handbills and some other circumstances, it is to be apprehended that more violence may yet be intended.” There are some persons who, I believe, are real friends to Government, who are “desirous that some concessions should be made on the present occasion, but their advice arises either from a

temporising principle or from an inclination to run a race of popularity; but my opinion is, that while the city is under the influence of tumult and faction; it would be complete folly to temporise and adopt any other line than that of firmness and decision. For my part, I am determined "to make no concession on the part of the Government. It is rather fortunate for me "that this commenced before Parliament adjourned, as my conduct in the business has throughout had the sanction of the House of Commons. I have no apprehension about events, being persuaded it will tend to strengthen my government in the conclusion. An account was this day received of the insurrection of the White-boys—who have been long dormant—in the county of Kilkenny. I have therefore issued out a proclamation for the apprehension of the insurgents, and, if necessary, I propose to send a detachment of troops into that country." Lord Annaly is dead. I must take the liberty of repeating my recommendation of Prime Sergeant Scott to be his successor.
Draft.

SIR GEORGE YONGE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, April 10. War Office.—I am glad to hear you are likely to have a quiet government, and to be able to confirm the pleasing hope of things being as well with the Government here. The new Parliament promises to be a good one. The elections are in general very favourable, and the decision in Yorkshire in our favour is a great event, with which, as with others, you must be well satisfied.

[THOMAS ORDE] to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] April 10, Tuesday. Phœnix Park.—Lord Hillsborough has informed you of the Dean of Down and his very old pretensions to recommend a successor. Under all the circumstances, I conclude you will comply with his recommendation.

[The SAME to the SAME.]

[1784,] April 11, Wednesday evening.—On business.

NUGENT, EARL TEMPLE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, April 12. Pall Mall.—I have introduced Mr. Martin to Mr. Pitt, but have taken care to prepare him for disappointment in his object of an English seat. He asked me for a letter to Orde on the subject of Scott's seat, but I only gave him a letter of a very general kind. I am delighted at hearing from so many quarters the success of your government: you know the warm and eager part I always take in it. "Flood is—as you well know—in England. He told Martin that he was to be in the English House of Commons, brought in upon the same independent line as before. That *cannot* now be, all the boroughs being returned; it, however, confirms an opinion which I long since entertained, that he will play with the Duke of Chandos the same game which succeeded so well with him when tried upon the late Lord Wandesford. Any Irishman will tell the story to you. Fox is now clearly defeated. He will not, however, decline, and, what is singular, he is not returned elsewhere, and declares that he is *not* to be in the House of Commons till after the meeting. Almost all other elections have gone equally triumphantly, nor do I see how they can return more than 160 doubtful

and enemies. Bedfordshire is indeed very hard run. Lord Ossory is safe, but St. John only five above Lord Ongley, and the poll is to last this day and to-morrow. My brother is safe in Bucks, but I do not guess who will be his colleague. Westminster is indeed a cruel blow upon the party. Their exertions have been incredible, particularly upon the part of her Grace of Devon, who in the course of her canvass had heard more plain English of the grossest sort than ever fell to the share of any lady of her rank. Since I wrote to you that learned dissertation upon the rank of his Grace of Dublin, in which I was sincerely grieved to find him right, I have received a letter from the Revd. Mr. Butler, whom you was so good as to name your chaplain, to inform me that he was afraid of being turned out of a garrett which I gave him. Let me entreat you—as that event would expose him to arrests—to suffer him to remain till you can kindly provide for him, which Lord Northington solemnly promised, and performed in the same way as he performed most other engagements. Let me likewise recommend—not to your patronage, for he wants nothing—but simply to your notice at levees or elsewhere, the Deputy Adjutant-General Captain Fremantle; he is a worthy, modest young man, and I am sure will not disgrace any attentions which you may be so good as to shew him. To the same notice let me beg to recommend Mr. Talbot, late Colonel of the Leinster Provincials; his family, his property, and character will speak loudly for him, and I interest myself much for him from these circumstances, from my intimate acquaintance with him, and from my near relationship to his wife. I have now, my dear Duke, exhausted your patience. In all this I trust that I have not pressed upon your indulgence to me, in allowing me to name to your notice those for whom I felt interested in Ireland; but I mean invariably to adhere to the rule which I laid down, of never recommending the numerous applications which I receive to your special situation.”

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, April 12. Whitehall.—I felt obliged, from the importance of its contents, to send your letter, though marked *secret and confidential*, to the King. Of this I have no reason to repent, as I have now received H.M.'s orders to express in the strongest terms his approbation of every part of your conduct in the late tumultuous insurrection at Dublin. His Majesty believes that your firmness on this occasion will be the means of strengthening your administration. I am much concerned at the appearance of an insurrection of anything like the White Boys; but hope that the steps you have taken will suppress any attempts of those people to disturb the tranquillity of the country. The loss is much to be regretted of so able a servant of the Crown as Lord Annaly. As I have before said, since I have been in the King's service I have never seen His Majesty so pleased with any despatches as with yours. Elections here go on very well, and our majority is likely to be considerably greater than what we reckoned upon. I am going to dine at the City Easter Feast. I wish the (Westminster) election could end to-day in Lord Hood's and Sir Cecil's favour; but I doubt the poll will be kept open some days longer. I trust the Duchess will have had a safe and pleasant passage. *Marked* “Secret and separate.”

HENRY DUNDAS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] April 13. Edinburgh.—There is a hard contest in Mid Lothian between Sir William Cunningham and Mr. Dundas, of Dundas, a steady

friend. Let me ask you to endeavour if possible to get Mr. Hamilton, of Riccarton, who is a clergyman in Ireland, and at Dublin, to come and vote. I have written to Mr. Pitt to take what steps he can with regard to voters who are in England, but I entreat you as a firm and efficient supporter of our common cause to get Mr. Hamilton to repair without delay to this country to vote for Mr. Dundas.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, April 17. Whitehall.—Notifying the approval by the King in Council of seven Bills transmitted by the messenger. *Signed.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1784, April 17. Whitehall.—I have sent back your Bills, and will not repeat what I have said in my public letter of this date. I hope you are near the end of your Parliamentary business, and quite at the end of popular tumults. There is a disposition here to question the principles of Mr. Foster's Bill regarding the Press. Friend as I am to freedom, I think it is most effectually preserved by guards against the licentiousness now prevailing. However, the Bill did not originate with you, and you will judge of the propriety of pushing it on or modifying it according to circumstances. "Our elections go on well. Coventry is carried by Sir Sampson Gideon and Mr. Wilmot against Lord Sheffield and one of the Conways. Sir Francis Basset is beat in two thirds of the places where he pushed his friends. He has returned but three, himself inclusive, and there is a petition against two of them, himself likewise inclusive.

"Fox has been polling all the Roman Catholic hairdressers, cooks, &c. in and out of Westminster, and now, to shew his impartiality, has formed a coalition with Lord George Gordon, who for these last two days has attended him on the hustings. A scrutiny will be necessary, as he is endeavouring to gain a majority by polling hundreds of bad votes, but Wray is still about 160 ahead of him."

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, April 19. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence, p. 11.*]

* The SAME to the SAME.

1784, April 21. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence, p. 12.*]

JOHN MORTLOCK to LORD ———.

[1784,] April 22. Cambridge.—Asking for a recommendation to the Lord Lieutenant on behalf of two ladies, named Trotter, who were put on the "*concordatum* list" by Lord Townshend when he was in Ireland, but have been since struck off.

The EARL OF HARDWICKE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, April 24. London.—As to the receivership vacated by Mr. Mortlock on coming in for the town, it would not be considered proper

to continue it to his partner, and Mr. Mortlock does not press it. Our county election is over. Mr. Yorke and Sir Henry Peyton were unanimously chosen. Let me recommend my friend Mr. St. George, of the Revenue Board, generally to your notice as a worthy man of good family and standing attached to Government.

THE DUKE OF RICHMOND to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, April 25. Goodwood.—My brother-in-law, Mr. Ogilvie, has mentioned to me a claim of his to some employment in Ireland. I cannot, as I have told him, interfere in Irish patronage, nor can I take upon myself to ask any favour for him; but I have a very sincere esteem and regard for him as a private friend, and should your Grace think it proper, on account of any use he may be of in Ireland or of his connexions there, to show him any mark of favour, I shall sincerely rejoice in his success.

I have great hopes, from the temper of the people here, that our favourite object of a Parliamentary reform is gaining ground apace. The popularity of Mr. Pitt and his administration is excessive. He has the fullest support of the people from all quarters, and when they have given him real power, they will expect that he should use it in carrying those measures in their favour to which he is pledged; and I am happy to say that he is very well disposed to keep his word, and by continuing to do right, will preserve his popularity.

LORD CLERMONT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, April 26. London.—I thank you for your very kind offer of appointing me the first Postmaster-General, if I choose it. I shall, however, be ready and willing to decline the honour if your Grace thinks it more expedient for His Majesty's service. From my long experience of your Grace's friendship, I do not doubt of your inclination to grant me an equivalent to the employment I have had for twenty years; and that will doubtless be arranged when Mr. Orde is here.

EARL CORNWALLIS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, April 27. Culford.—Lieutenant Bowen, who will have the honour of delivering this letter, lost his leg under my command in the action at Camden. He has no patron but myself, and if you have any opportunity of providing for him in the line of fort major or fort adjutant, you will greatly oblige me and do an act of charity. The young man comes from Limerick.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, April 28. Whitehall.—I have to acknowledge your letters, and to assure you of the full confidence of His Majesty and his servants, and of their readiness to support you. We hope that the late riots in Dublin will not have the effect expected by their authors, and that the unostensible abettors of these practices will be deprived of every prospect of success in raising dangerous commotions.

Your Bills will be returned as soon as possible; every measure is taken for expediting them. You will receive with this the official intimation of the King's consent to your proposals relating to Mr. Scott. The King is well apprised of the advantages of placing him on the Bench in the room of the late Lord Annull, and of promoting him to a

seat in the House of Peers. His Majesty is sensible of the importance of a strong support to his government in the House of Lords, and is therefore ready to adopt your suggestions for promoting the respectable persons alluded to in several of your late despatches. Lord Clermont has called upon me and stated his readiness to resign his place of Postmaster on the commencement of the new Act, but he expects an equivalent. With regard to the Duke of Leinster's application in favour of Mr. Ogilvie, and Lord Northington's testimonial as to the intentions of the late Administration in his favour, I agree with you. I do not choose to express upon paper, even to you, my sense of the whole of that proceeding; but, notwithstanding his many applications, which have all been complied with, Lord Northington stopped short of adding the name of the person whom he *would* have recommended to succeed Mr. Foster as Customer of the Port of Dublin. I do not offer an opinion as to whether this application should be admitted or not, but it should be made clear that whatever you do is not in consequence of this extraordinary proceeding of Lord Northington's. Our predecessors have left us many legacies not very convenient to us, or, in my opinion, very honourable to them.

When I mentioned the House of Lords, I think I should have said one word upon what has fallen from the King when His Majesty has been talking to me upon the affairs of Ireland, I mean the necessity there will be in future to consider well of the persons who may be recommended to the peerage. That situation, as your Grace well observes, now becomes a much more important one than formerly, and from that House a great part of the support of Government must hereafter be derived.

I need hardly mention that pains are taken here to represent in as unfavourable a light as possible everything which has lately happened in Dublin. Those Irish who are connected with the late Administration are among the foremost to spread and aggravate the accounts of the late tumults and their probable consequences. I can assure you that the resolution and firmness which has marked your administration are extremely acceptable to His Majesty.

I have received a long letter from Sir Lucius O'Brien complaining of Lord North's usage of him. I am waiting for some answer from Lord North, but I think Sir Lucius makes out a case of scandalous usage.

The Dutch ambassadors at Paris have intimated their readiness to conclude the definitive treaty—a change favourable to us. Our late advices from the East Indies promise peace with Tippoo Saib.

There has been a total and sudden change in the Danish Ministry. The King seems pleased with it, perhaps more from family than political reasons. The Prince Royal is at the head of his father's councils, and has been his instrument in this ministerial revolution. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

PHILIP YORKE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, April 29. New Cavendish Street.—I regret to be unable to comply with your request on behalf of Mr. Mortlock as to appointing his partner (Mr. Francis) to the office of Receiver-General.

VISCOUNT WEYMOUTH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, May 6. Arlington Street.—Recommending the bearer, Mr. Dawson, to promotion in some office of an humble grade.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] May 6. St. James's Square.—I am ashamed to have been four or five days in England without acknowledging the favour of your Grace's recommendations at Bramber. I have, on Mr. Hill's suggestion, returned my thanks to the electors; and I am now engaged in searching for a qualification. After inquiries elsewhere, I have been obliged to ask Mr. Hill to renew the application to you. Mr. Hill says he knows how to do it if you order him in a particular way. Sutton has met Pitt in the Park, and says he both talks and looks with the greatest confidence. Lord Chatham tells me they can divide if necessary two to one, and every one whom I have talked with on politics seem quite at ease, and concur in supposing Mr. Pitt will be a fixed Minister for as long a period and with as decisive a majority as Lord North. I am confident there is nothing to disturb him from abroad. When I was at Rouen during the drawing of the militia, they were taking children and all sorts of substitutes, a practice which is particularly guarded against when there is a prospect of war. The sensible, thinking people there all concur in wishing this Mr. Fox at the devil, as he seems to them always embroiling matters, without advantage to the kingdom or to himself. As they dare not talk of their own ministers, the characters and names of our ministers are perfectly known through France. Your answer to the Catholic address was printed in capital letters in every foreign gazette, and generally attended with some comment of approbation. I know no other news from abroad that can be interesting, except, as conversation to any Catholics at your Court, that the Pope is expected at Paris in June. I was told that the supposed motive of his visit was to settle three or four objects proposed by the Court—one to allow the marriage of priests; another to procure a grant from the Benedictines sufficient to establish a number of commanderies for superannuated officers; another to obtain, with the Pope's consent, a third of the *benefices simples* (sinecures) for the same purpose. As to home news, the Coalition are so generally routed that I hardly know how to send a list. Among their beaten candidates are Sturt—Dorsetshire; Bunbury—Suffolk; T. Grenville—Bucks; Byng—Middlesex, who has demanded a scrutiny; Foljambe—Yorkshire; Halsey—Herts; Sir R. Clayton—Surrey; Lord Verney—Bucks, probably; Elwes and Hartley—Berks. The above list you have probably seen long ago. I shall only add that in the elections still depending Cruger will probably beat Danbury at Bristol, Aubrey beat Lord Verney for Bucks, and Fox beat Sir C. Wray for Westminster. Atkinson has waived the scrutiny for the City, so that Sawbridge is at present returned. Fox at the opening of the poll to-day is 160 odd ahead, but as there will probably be a scrutiny and there are probably many hundred bad votes, the event may yet be doubtful. I only go into particulars because, Mr. Hill says, the Duchess has a bet with the Prince of Wales on it, for I don't think it matters sixpence whether Fox is member for Westminster or not. "There never was a House of Commons where he could do so little harm, and if there was no such man in opposition half Mr. Pitt's abilities as minister, and of course half his consequence, would be lost."

"I hear at Betty's, where all parties seem to talk without any sort of heat at present, that Fox can't bear to think of politicks, and is only forming a scheme to Italy next summer, so that probably no opposition is intended this year." I am sure it is not their interest to begin now, but this is "no argument with Fox, whose temper I have seen so much of as a jockey, and whose extreme activity and eagerness to be doing will lead him into any sort of contradiction or absurdity." You have seen by

the English papers about the Duchess of Devonshire's canvass. Some say she has pushed matters too far, and may be brought before a committee for bribery. I hear of instances in the Cambridge election where the Duchess of Rutland's orders had a very good effect—though without a bribe.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, May 6. Whitehall.—I send by this messenger all the Bills except that for continuing the expiring laws. An accident has happened to that, and although I wished to detain it as you desired, it has got sealed through an official mistake. I will see what can be done about it to-morrow. Let me impress upon you to advise your friends to be attentive to the contents of the bills now they do not admit of alterations, for the inaccuracies in them are very numerous. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

The SAME to the SAME.

1784, May 7.—I find it is impossible to rectify the mistake; but hope that it will be attended by no serious inconveniences. Let me repeat the necessity of attention to accuracy in the formation of Bills in Ireland. Charles Fox is chosen for Kirkwall, &c., in the Orkneys.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD [SYDNEY].

1784, May 8. Dublin Castle.—I thank you for two satisfactory dispatches in your own hand answering my questions. I am much impressed by your mention of the King's approbation of my conduct. You may depend on my unremitting attention to promote the general advantage of both countries.

I am glad to report perfect quiet established in this metropolis. There have been attempts to revive the spirit of arms, and some two or three hundred of the lowest class of the people have been paraded through the streets in conjunction with some of the volunteer corps for the purpose of military exercise, but they bear nothing in their appearance to be apprehended; and the most respectable of the volunteers are not ambitious of associating with such recruits, so that I am persuaded this effort at mischief will fail of its effect without any direct interposition of Government, which it is of great consequence to avoid.

The reports of the judges from their circuits are highly satisfactory. The different counties are described to be tranquil; and the factious spirit shown in this city has extended no further.

I thank you for your dispatch in returning the Bills. It is important to put an early period to this session, which your exertions will have enabled me to do by Thursday the 13th instant.

It would have caused great embarrassment to this Government if the Bill to secure the liberty of the press had been intercepted in England. It would have revived discontent, which it might have been impossible to have again suppressed. It would have given so decided a victory to the factious and disorderly that no government could have maintained the obedience which is necessary to all societies, and of which this country stands more in need than any other. Little more would have been requisite to have convinced you of the urgent policy of this measure than to have transmitted to you a few of the inflammatory newspapers, in which you would have found that my administration was not the cause; that the Government at large was not the cause, but that

the station of the King in this country and the connexion between Great Britain and Ireland were the peculiar objects at which all these malicious shafts of sedition and mischief were pointed; that to promote these views the aid of France was in direct terms recommended to be solicited, and that the assassination of the principal leaders in the country was stated as the most efficacious means to establish these dangerous doctrines. "The unanimous assent of both Houses of Parliament was not coldly given to this measure. Every advocate for decency and order is anxious for its fate. The greater number of printers are themselves desirous of this protecting duty on profligate and licentious publications, that some equal chance may be acquired for such as confine themselves within the limits of moderation and temper. And even Lord Charlemount—with an honor which distinguishes his character in spite of his political tenets—refused to present a petition against the bill from the city of Belfast, and has convinced the inhabitants of the reasonableness and propriety of the measure." Milton, who was "no enemy to the liberty of the Press, in his address to the Parliament for the liberty of unlicensed printing, points out the grounds exactly on which this Act is framed. He says, 'And as for regulating the Press, let no man think to have the honor of advising you better than yourselves have done in that order published next before this, that no book be printed unless the printer and the author's name, or at least the printer's, be registered.' Thus far this great advocate for liberty" gives his sanction to the principle of this bill.

"I have myself little doubt but that French influence and French money have been the foundation on which these disorders and tumults have been raised, but a circumstance has been related to me which" may not be unworthy the attention of His Majesty's ministers. I have been informed that one O'Leary, a priest, who is well acquainted with the strength of this country and with the connexions and views of all its individuals, has been received as domestic chaplain in the house of the Spanish Minister in England. I think this fact worthy of enquiry.

You may depend on my strict attention to all those whom I may judge fit to recommend for advancement to the peerage, and I cannot but express my acknowledgement that His Majesty approves of my proposition for the creation of offices for peers. The Duke of Leinster, who was one of those for whom I intended one of the principal of those new arrangements, is so "fickle and unsteady in his opinions, and so weak in all his publick conduct, that I hardly know how I shall be able to dispose of him. There seems to be a perpetual conflict and struggle in his mind between avarice, pride, and ambition. His consequence is solely confined to his name and situation in this country; and if disappointment should drive him to great hostility, with the rabble of Dublin at his heels, he might be able to create some confusion. He is at present in opposition, though the prospect of such an office as President of the Council would secure his support and make him truckle to Government." *Draft.*

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, May 11. Whitehall.—Leave of absence for Lieut.-Colonel Irving. *Signed.*

The SAME to the SAME.

1784, May 12. Whitehall.—Reporting the reception by His Majesty of the address of Protestant Seceders transmitted by the Duke's letter of 30th April. *Signed.*

[DANIEL PULTENEY] to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784, May 14?—I have received your letter, and after the numerous favours received would not wish to renew an application which you had disapproved. I am trying applications to others for a qualification. If they all fail, you will pardon me if I renew my application to your Grace. "In point of law Mr. Hill will see how absurd any scruple can be on the subject, but what is a sufficient answer as to creditors is this. If I had a known grant of 300*l.* a year in any *register county* known precisely to a creditor, and he had sufficient time to sue out a proper process against it, it would be certainly subject to an execution, but for this purpose it is requisite the creditor should know the terms of the grant, the situation of the land it issues from, and have time to form his process, &c., whereas all that would pass in this case would be to receive the grant from your Grace in the morning, the contents of which nobody could know but Mr. Hill, deliver it in and swear to it, before George Sutton perhaps, and sign a reconveyance to your Grace at night. But the fact in reality is that I have no creditor of that sort, even if they had the power, as none of them had ever an idea of getting money from me, but of persecuting me till I bring Fox over, which they imagine that would effect. In one word, I have seen half-a-dozen executions against Fitzpatrick's and Fox's horses; the latter's books have been sold in the streets; Lord E. Bentinck's horses have been sold by advertisement; Will Hanger, Stanhope, and 50 others have at this time all sorts of demands upon them and judgements against them, but nobody ever thought or heard of any claim on a qualification, which with one third at least of the House is known to be fictitious. If your Grace would sign a grant from the estate which O'Byrne receives his annuity from, I should make no more scruple, if it is necessary to get his consent, than to ask him for a thing of the most perfect indifference. But I hope any renewal of this subject will be perfectly needless, and that Pantou, by some means or other, will be able to get the grant. Stanley would be a very proper person for me to apply to, but that he would be a month before he understood what I meant, and I have, besides, an idea that he has so fettered himself with Mrs. Stanley's jointure, and has left his writings, &c. so much in the hands of her father, who is an attorney, that he really has not a qualification to grant; but your Grace's name would be so fully sufficient that nobody could think for a moment of examining a title that was signed by your Grace. I could get Lord Egremont or Lord Derby, I should suppose, to do such a thing with a single line, but your Grace will easily see the impropriety of such an application to people so closely connected with Fox."

The MARQUESS OF CARMARTHEN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, May 14. Grosvenor Square.—Recommending Mr. Barthelmon, a violin player.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, May 14.—I return the amended copy of your intended speech. "I am sorry to find that your Grace seems to be anxious that the Bill for reviving temporary laws should have been kept back; but upon full consideration with the law officers of the Crown, it was judged to be

much the most advisable measure to return it, especially as the keeping it back could not prevent the elashing of the jurisdiction for the first year at least." I have written to you fully upon this subject by the messenger who carried the Bill. I wish you a speedy and happy close to your fatigues. Ours are going to begin. *Signed.*

[THE DUKE OF RUTLAND.]

[1784, May 14.]—Draft of his speech on the prorogation of Parliament. *Differing from the speech as reported in the Journals of the Irish House of Commons.*

LORD HOWE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, May 18. Admiralty.—It is impossible for me not to view the conduct of Admiral Gambier in the appointment of Mr. Browne with peculiar discontent. In disregard of express instructions respecting the purchase of vessels abroad, and without waiting for the authority *he solicited*, he has purchased two vessels into the king's service. He has put one of them on the establishment of a sloop of war in order to create his son, a youth not 18 years of age, a captain in the navy, and to the second Mr. Browne is nominated, with the rank of a lieutenant. Orders have been issued by the Board to recall the commissions and to sell the vessels, so that nothing will remain of this injudicious measure beside the inconvenience he will suffer in replacing things as they were before, and making satisfaction for the unnecessary expense to Government out of his appointments. I congratulate you upon the favourable turn which appears to promise in Irish affairs, as well as in this country.

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, May 24. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence, p. 14.*]

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, May 25. Whitehall.—The Definitive Treaty of Peace between Great Britain and the States General of the United Provinces was signed at Paris on the 20th inst. *Signed.*

THE SAME to the SAME.

1784, May 25. Whitehall.—The first opening of the House of Commons has been very favourable. Jack Lee having moved a censure upon the High Bailiff, the previous question was carried against that motion by 283 to 136. The amendment to the address rejected, 282 to 124. Mr. Pitt, I find, acquitted himself admirably. The High Bailiff is to attend to-day. The guns are now firing for the Dutch Peace. The Duchess will be pleased to hear poor Lady Chatham is in a mending way. I hope your new additional volunteers are returned to their quiet employments. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784, May 25,] Tuesday night, 10 o'clock.—“The address is voted without a division, our numbers being too formidable for any such desperate attempt as an amendment. I think I can collect, from a sort of buzzing in the House when the affair of the Westminster election was introduced, that some step must be taken to stop it in the ridiculous way it is now going on. Pitt spoke warmly for his Reform, but there is no sort of chance that it can be carried, let him exert, even in earnest, every power of Government. Your Grace's name and the attachments in Ireland were very injudiciously introduced by Fox and Burke, but the idea was reprobated immediately of discussing any Irish affairs here except such as were to be settled for the mutual conveniency of trade; and Pitt laughed at Burke very successfully for the awkward, irregular manner of introducing Irish attachments.

Postscript.—“Sutton says he hears your Grace is pledged to support the Reform here. It is therefore necessary for us to know how to vote, for God knows we are not pledged, and should hardly think of dividing in any manner opposite to the views of your Grace, who must, in the strictest sense, know so much more of this affair as a matter of Government, or as a measure which may respect your Grace as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.”

The SAME to the SAME.

[1784, May 26,] Wednesday night. House of Commons Coffee House.—“I have only a few minutes between 10 and 11 at night to acquaint your Grace that we are now for the second night on a most tedious debate respecting the Westminster scrutiny. The motion, which will be carried to-morrow morning, will be a direction to the High Bailiff to hasten his proceedings; but, upon the whole, I see a Bill must be brought in as a salvo to prevent such proceedings in future, and to save our credit. Many of our people will vote against us to-night, but though we shall lose no one except on this occasion, I very much wish it over for many reasons too long to trouble your Grace with. Nothing has passed respecting Ireland worth repeating to your Grace, your administration of that country and its present state being matter of great astonishment to all here, and of the greatest credit to your Grace.”

The SAME to the SAME.

[1784, May] 27, Thursday.—“Though I had the honor to receive your Grace's letter three days ago, I have deferred answering it till I could not only send the numbers—which your Grace has seen in the papers or heard from others—but likewise what I could, on very sure grounds, report to your Grace as the fixed opinion of the House. The numbers against Jack Lee's motion for interfering with the election scrutiny at Westminster, and ordering the bailiff to make a return, were 283 to 136. A strong address was then moved by Mr. Hamilton, who spoke long and very well, though rather too pompous for the House of Commons. The address went in spirit to a full indemnification of the Ministry for the dissolution, &c., and it was debated by Lord North, Fox, Lord Surrey, and Adam, against Kenyon, Macdonald, P. Arden, Rolle, Milnes—for York—Sir S. Gideon, and Lord Delaval, the last of whom astonished a great many by a very warm, explicit declaration that he had, in the last Parliament, opposed

Mr. Pitt as a supposed Minister of secret influence, but hearing now so unequivocally from the people themselves that he was *their* Minister, he should most heartily obey their voice, and give him all the support that he deserved. I can only add that Pitt closed the debate with by far the best speech I have heard him speak, as, in addition to his usual style, he kept the House in a continued laughter at Fox's inconsistencies, Kirkwall, Duchess of Devonshire, &c. On this division we had 282 to 114, so soon did the poor forlorn minority begin to desert each other. I have of course found a renewal of many old acquaintances in the House, such as Osbaldiston, Cecil, Thomas, &c., and the declarations, in private conversation, of every one I know, have been both warm and unanimous in Mr. Pitt's support. I hear Fox's friends are quite disgusted with him for having tried a division, and except Mr. Burke and Mr. Sheridan, and one or two more who were very grave, the rest seemed at last to join in the laugh at their ridiculous situation. A division being called for Tuesday by Fox on an election question, in which, from what I heard afterwards, the merits were rather equivocal, he could only muster 60 against 210, though so little pains had Steel taken about members that I suppose 100 of his friends were absent and did not know of any debate. Sutton and I were just in time to be locked out, as nobody had an idea there was any business so soon, and Pitt did not think it worth while to prolong the debate in order to encrease his numbers. I believe they will give us no more trouble this session, as in the next question on an election that came on, Lord Mulgrave made a motion against Fox's being allowed to petition, which, though Fox spoke very violently against, he thought fit to let pass, without venturing any more divisions. After having mentioned to your Grace the above state of facts, it would be needless to repeat to your Grace the opinion of all sorts of people, of all descriptions, that Mr. Pitt's Ministry is fixed beyond any possibility of danger from without, with a greater strength at the opening of the session than ever was before possessed by Lord North or any other modern Minister. Osbaldiston, who *seems* very zealous with us, asked me if I thought your Grace would take it ill if he wrote to you to thank you *for not having thrown him out at Scarborough*, which, as it was a subject I could not pretend to answer him upon, I don't know whether he means to do or not. He says he never was against Mr. Pitt, nor means to be, but that he could not sign the test they proposed to him, which gave rise to the idea of his being a Foxite, and that the blind old gentleman—Chamberlayne—was too violent and too warm against him without any reason. I cannot pretend to guess how sincere he is in all this, but he talked very openly against Fox before a dozen people in the coffee-room, and was in every division against him, which is the most unequivocal proof I think a man can well give. I have likewise been employed by Mortlocke to represent his case, which I have done, to Pitt, and to Lord Chatham more fully, and he acquaints me Pitt has granted his application. The argument I used to Lord Chatham was that he promised to be very attentive in the House, and that he had done your Grace great service at the Cambridge-shire election. I hope this has saved your Grace the trouble of applications from him, which was my inducement to put it to Lord Chatham in as favorable a way as I could, having literally no sort of obligation to him myself of any kind, which I fully explained to Lord Chatham. I am much obliged to your Grace for the orders to Mr. Hill, but as it could not have been done in time for the first division, when a vote is of most consequence, I got a qualification from Standly. I saw Sir Joshua Reynolds a week ago, and he says he never was in so much suspense in his life, as whether he shall wait on your Grace this summer. I endeavored

to assure him how quiet he would find Ireland, in spite of any accounts in the papers, and he said at last he thought he should venture over."

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to [LORD SYDNEY].

1784, May 29. Dublin Castle.— I take the opportunity of Mr. Orde's departure for England to thank you for the great attention you have given to my wishes, and to ask you to present to His Majesty my acknowledgment of the marks of his confidence and approbation.

The spirit of volunteering is much on its wane, in spite of the seditious attempts to inflame which have been practised by secret instruments in this metropolis and by the public prints. The reality of this information will soon be discovered by the volunteer reviews, which are now near at hand. "Of this truth, however, I am sure, that the circumstances of this country, its connexion with England, and the existence of any order and good government in it, will not admit of a body of troops independent of and unconnected with the State to be any longer tolerated." It will then be for your Government to decide, should the appearance and numbers of the volunteers prove formidable, whether some decisive step ought not to be taken with them. I am convinced no palliative or temporizing measure will ever be effectual. It is reported, though I do not credit it, that the Marquis de La Fayette is to visit Ireland during this summer and to be present at the volunteer reviews. Indeed, we have had strong suspicion that the late disturbances have been fomented by French influence, and that French money has been distributed; but we can come at no proofs.

Mr. Orde has acted during this session with the greatest diligence, and to my highest satisfaction, in moments very critical and when the greatest dexterity was requisite. I desire you will convey to the King the most favourable impression of him. *Press copy; also draft of same letter bearing date May 28th.*

The EARL OF MANSFIELD to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, May 29. Kenwood.—"I am much obliged to your Grace for your kind and affectionate letter. I cannot speak upon the subject. The shock has overset me, and though I hope I am able to bear up my mind, with God's assistance, to any calamity, a nervous disorder has seized my whole body and every part. I get no sleep. All our best wishes for the ease and happiness of the Duchess and your Grace."

The EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, May 31. New Bond Street.—"I took the liberty to trouble your Grace with an account of our first divisions, which I hoped might reach you very early, as it was put into the post office on the very night in which they took place. Not one word has passed in the House of Commons upon the subject of Ireland, though I am informed, from very good authority, that Fox has said that he expects *his harvest from Ireland*. This is a most diabolical expression; and I trust that the efforts of Government will defeat his expectations from that quarter. I have seen Mr. Pitt upon Irish affairs, and have found in him every disposition to give his attention to such points as remain unadjusted between the two countries, and may afford grounds of discontent to Ireland. I stated our situation to him as I have always done to your Grace, rather as a subject which called for attention than which could afford any just reason for

alarm, and I have no doubt that he will turn his mind seriously to a solid and final settlement of our difficulties. I need not trouble your Grace with any particular details of that which you must hear from all quarters—the complete victory of the administration. Fox is out of spirits to a degree scarcely credible, and Pitt's eloquence rises in proportion to his power; he has exerted himself most surprisingly since the meeting. Our whole time has been hitherto engrossed by the Westminster election. We had heard Fox's complaint against the High Bailiff, and to-day were proceeding to hear the High Bailiff's defence, when a fresh petition was presented from the electors of Westminster precisely upon the same ground as Fox's; this we mean to hear on Wednesday, and then to proceed to hear the High Bailiff. It is the general opinion that either the scrutiny will be approved, and ordered to be proceeded on, or the election declared void and a new writ issued. I understand that Flood cannot get into Parliament, though he has offered 5000*l.* for a seat, and that Mr. Morris is to come in for Seaford. If anything worthy of your Grace's notice should occur, I will not fail to give you the earliest accounts."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784, June 3,] Thursday morning.—You must excuse the manner in which I write this, at six in the morning, and under the probability of sitting again till midnight on the dulllest business that ever came before the House, I mean the Westminster election. They called for a division in the beginning of the day to try their strength, and could only muster 77 to 212. I saw all your friends very stout to a man, and in the field at six this morning, when we adjourned. Fox had plagued the House so much by cavilling on every point, that several members near me would have been ready to vote any censure or even expulsion against him. "Lord North was treated with more contempt even than Fox." It is a tedious business. "There never was a case of so much insignificant, low bustle and absurdities, that has given and will continue to give such general plague and disgust, to the infinite regret here of everyone except Lord Mahon. With troops less numerous and determined, it might even have been very disagreeable to a Minister; but at present no sort of ill-consequence can be apprehended."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, June 3. Whitehall.—Introducing Colonel Vallancey, and recommending a request of the colonel in favour of his son-in-law, Mr. Drury, for promotion in the Revenue in Ireland.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, June 3. London.—I saw Lord Sydney yesterday, and delivered your letter, and stated shortly the situation of affairs under your government. I found the strongest marks of the satisfaction with which His Majesty and the Ministers regard your conduct and system. I went to the Levee, and have the fullest ground for reporting to you the most ample confirmation of everything which Lord Sydney had announced. I am therefore forward to convey this consolation and encouragement for the plagues and difficulties you have had, and have still to encounter.

I have not had much time to enter upon a discussion of the points which are to engage the attention of the Ministers. I have only sought

to impress very strongly upon their minds the absolute necessity of deciding upon the several subjects. I would not seek to represent matters as in a more alarming state than they really are, but we must not run the risk of inattention to them, as if they were merely temporary and of no consequence.

“Your Grace, I know, is fully sensible of the effect which the single circumstances of apparent stability in the Administration here will always have upon the turn of Irish politics. I am therefore, at present, anxious in my enquiries upon that head, and have really, not only from Mr. Pitt himself, but from every other quarter, the clearest assurance of secure victory and establishment. The House of Commons having sat till six this morning, and having met again this day at twelve, I have consequently had no opportunities of conversing upon particular points or arrangements. The decision of the question respecting the scrutiny for Westminster precludes every other consideration for the present, and Mr. Pitt very rightly presses that forward to a conclusion, being well aware of the endeavours of motives of his opponents for delay, as well as the good effects of defeating them upon that ground. I have avoided taking my seat to-day as Sawbridge threatened a question upon Reform of Parliament, and I was afraid of misconstruction upon my conduct, in whatever way I might direct it, if it found its way into a Dublin newspaper. I take for granted, however, that some of Pitt’s friends will move the previous question, in order to reserve the subject for his own introduction in the mode and extent he may himself judge to be most proper and expedient. I heartily wish that it was finally settled, for if it be true that the favorable turn of Irish politics depends upon the steadiness and decision of those in England, I am sure that no one point can have so general and effectual an influence by a determination as this of a Reform of Parliament. I will not mention any uncertain reports about Ministerial arrangements, or the nature and order of the intended business. As soon as I can collect anything from authority, I will not fail to communicate it to your Grace.

“The conduct of the Prince of W—— is such as not only distresses the King, but also very much moves the discontent of the people, who do not suffer excesses of a certain magnitude to be acted even by the highest characters without some marks of indignation. The present complaint against H.R.H. is, that in the quadrille which he danced in honor of Mr. Fox’s pretended victory, he was so far overcome by the wine he had drank as to fall flat upon his face in the middle of the figure, and upon being raised from the floor to throw the load from his stomach into the midst of the circle. Upon the whole, it is certain that the cause will not be greatly honored or benefited by this royal countenance. Every exertion, however, of every sort is put in practise to delude or disturb the minds of the people, and it is seriously to be apprehended that the true junto, C. Fox, Fitz P——, Sheridan, &c., will be restrained by no consideration of the public safety in order to advance the mere possibility of their private and general success.

“The state of the Continent is very uncertain. The promise of the Stadholder to follow implicitly the directions of P[rince] Louis may have strange effects. In the meantime the Emperor proceeds calmly to his object, and the intrigues and cabals of the French Court do not decrease thereupon. The doubt is now, I understand, whether it shall be war and Monsieur de Vergennes, or peace and Monsieur de Breteuil.”

Postscript — June 4, Friday night.—“I can at present catch no moment of leisure for conversation with Mr. Pitt or Lord Sydney. I will in a few days send fresh letters of intelligence by express. The Court was this day uncommonly full and brilliant, and evident marks of contentment

and satisfaction appeared in certain countenances. The Queen asked most graciously and earnestly after your Grace and the Duchess, and expressed great satisfaction in hearing good accounts. The Prince of Wales was there, of course, but none of the Opposition shewed their faces. Lord Lonsdale seemed in high spirits." He is now more warm than ever with Pitt. I am sorry to hear very unpleasant accounts of Lord Shelburne's health, though he is now said to be better than he was. Lord Carmarthen, it seems, is to go to Paris. I cannot learn who are to be his successor or Privy Seal. Lord Shelburne is out of the question, but I wish that the remembrance of his merit and of his particular introduction to the present happy establishment of administration was marked by some distinguished proof of kindness and attention. Monsieur Simolin is recalled; I cannot learn why. I am informed that Sir James Harris is nominated to the Hague. In that case he must have made his peace with the present administration. They will not, I hope, place an enemy there.

The question of the Westminster scrutiny becomes rather delicate and distressing, and I wish it well over. It cannot be left in suspense; and yet there is danger either in concluding it by a strong resolution, or by giving the matter up for a committee of the House of Commons. There seems, however, to be no doubt of easy proof of all the tricks and manœuvres which were reported to have been practised, and a very great number of dead men, double men, non-existents, &c. will be made out.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] June 4. St. James's Square.—“ Though I cannot think it will give your Grace much entertainment, and hope you are much better amused in Ireland than in reading an account of such sorry debates, I have, however, sent the result of the last day's, when we were again kept till three in the morning by the Westminster election, and which will probably employ two days more, from the shameful tricks practised by Lord North and Fox to try to make it a popular subject and to tire out the independent members, who were literally sleeping at full length by dozens this morning under the galleries, though I was told by Neville, who had dined with some of the Coalition, they were never so surprised and mortified as to hear so loud a cry from so many enemies at such hours in the morning, as they thought none but interested members would have attended. Our party was certainly a little tired yesterday, for on some division at a late hour we only divided 180 to 81, but we shall probably divide three to one again Monday. I do not think, from what I at present have heard, that the Duchess of Rutland is in any danger of losing her bet on the Westminster election. One witness informed the House yesterday that he had employed twenty days in trying to discover all the inhabitants of one parish only, and he was convinced that he had found them all, and that in this parish alone Fox had polled a hundred and forty-three who had no existence. I suppose the turn this business will take must be to direct the High Bailiff to proceed in the scrutiny, which he will probably finish by the meeting of next Parliament; and if Fox does not take any part in the scrutiny, as he once declared he would not, Wray must be returned by several hundreds, and Fox will be left to petition, which petition can hardly be heard next year. There are already so many bad votes on the poll that two or three hundred, they say, on one side or the other signifies but little, and Fox will probably disqualify several hundred of his adversaries' list at the time they are reducing his. But their sole object, as they have nothing else to cavil at this session, is to make this an important and popular topic,

which, however, they have no chance of succeeding in, for except the poor members, who are half killed by such dull stuff and such late hours, people don't seem to interest themselves at all on the subject."

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, June 5. London.—I hope Lord Sydney will write on the subject of Mr. Ogle. It appears clear to me that his appointment must be completed. The engagement to him in the correspondence between Lord Sydney and Lord Northington is very strong. Sir Lucius O'Brien has certainly received acknowledgments of his claim upon different Governments, but I do not see what can be now done for him. He must see that his complaint should be directed against the late Government, and not against your Grace. I will let you know when I have settled matters with Lord Clermont.

The EARL OF CHATHAM to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, June 6. Berkeley Square.—I was glad to see it confirmed under your own hand that all was in a state of tranquillity in Ireland. I am not surprised that you feel the burdens of the troublesome and ungrateful task in which you are engaged. Most cordially do I wish for the prosperity of your administration, and that it may answer all the essential objects, both public and private, that led you to undertake it; but that done I am selfish enough to wish you back. I feel quite a blank in my life since your absence.

I think Lady Chatham is recovering, though slowly. I am afraid she will not be able to visit Ireland this year.

I cannot close this without congratulating you on all the events that have happened since you left us. We have got, fortunately, as decisive a majority in Parliament here as you have, and I trust the happiest consequences will result from both.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, June 6. Albemarle Street.—I have no doubt of Mr. Ogle's succeeding to Mr. Burton's place, but cannot send you the King's determination without at the same time writing to Sir Lucius O'Brien, and I must take time to *arrange* my answer to him. The action of your predecessor is embarrassing in this, as in many other matters.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, June 9. London.—You will have been informed by Lord Sydney that the question between Mr. Ogle and Sir Lucius O'Brien must be decided in favour of the former. This relieves you from any difficulty. "The constant succession of busy nights in the House has still prevented me from having any particular conversation with Mr. Pitt; and he is now after the decision of that point most unaccountably entrapped by a ballot for an election committee, which confines all the morning to try the merits of the Pontefract election. People of *almost* all descriptions are glad that the question respecting the conduct of the High Bailiff of Westminster is at last *decided*. It is, however, true that many good friends have doubts about the strict point of law, and feel uneasy about the consequences. The literality or looseness of Parliamentary law affords, however, some mitigation, and the necessity of a strong resolution, as the matter has been brought in such

a shape before the House, must be acknowledged. Nothing could be more respectable than the support given to Mr. Pitt upon this occasion, and nothing could exhibit a stronger picture of confusion and rage than the words and gestures of the Opposition. Sheridan very plainly declared in the House that Mr. Fox would not submit to the tribunal before which the House had directed the cause to be tried. I cannot readily believe this to be put in practice, because it would militate too strongly against Mr. Fox's principles of obedience. But I am in entire expectation of hearing some new proposition brought before the House, which may be a further attempt to entangle it with this question.

"Your Grace remembers the different insinuations about the Duke of Richmond's defection, which were then entirely groundless. Very confident reports of that sort now again prevail. I should suppose that the ground is not much surer than before, but yet I have reason to apprehend that his Grace has not been very quiet under Mr. Pitt's idea and wish of postponing the question of Reform to the next sessions, and I believe that he, with other eager friends, have been the means of effecting a change in Mr. Pitt's design. If the House shall sit to-day, Mr. Sawbridge will bring on his motion, and I understand that Mr. Pitt will either give way to Sawbridge's proposition or move something by way of amendment to introduce a scheme of his own. The probable event is the appointment of a committee to prepare a plan. I will not attempt to plague your Grace with my notions upon this subject, but I must express a serious alarm about the consequences which may even immediately ensue from it in Ireland, where your Grace's government may feel the effects.

"I must also very cordially lament another step, which is in a manner forced upon the King's Ministers by the fear of affording a subject of complaint to Opposition. I mean the reduction of three more regiments forthwith, and of two more in six months. It is a severe blow upon the administration in Ireland, and, indeed, thereby upon the whole strength of the King's Government. I never heard of the intention of putting in practise this arrangement, which, however, had certainly been in the contemplation of the preceding Administration, and upon that idea their estimates were proposed. It is the fear of exceeding those estimates which I suppose influences the minds of the present Ministers. The 65th, 66th, and 67th regiments are in Ireland, and I believe among the most complete corps in the kingdom. They are to be reduced, the first of them immediately, and although nothing affecting Great Britain only on the point of military establishment need reach in consequence to the reduction of the Irish force, yet the situation of the country is such that it cannot be avoided. Great Britain cannot spare any of the old regiments to supply the place of those which are to be reduced. I am afraid that it is now too late to hope for any respite to this sentence, and we must only seek comfort in the low state of volunteering, and the expectation—if we may encourage it—of a stop to the proceedings or designs of the Roman Catholics.

"I have experienced a great deal of trouble and delay about the Post Office arrangement. I find that it is impossible now to make any alterations in the mode prescribed for conveyance of newspapers, but we shall be allowed to introduce some liberal improvements in regard to official privilege between the two kingdoms. The Bill will be brought in on Monday, and will quickly run through both Houses.

"Ireland presents itself in a view of difficulty for the accomplishment of the plans designed to impose a check upon smuggling. Among other expedients the extension of the Hovering Acts was proposed, and I conclude will, notwithstanding the threats of Mr. Eden, be ventured

upon. He, *in candor*, suggests an alarm upon the idea of a claim to half the seas upon the part of Ireland. The claim never, I dare say, entered into the imagination of the most sanguine Irish patriot, but it will not need half the blood or enthusiasm to adopt such a hint so favorably thrown out." I yet hope that this will be only intimated in a whisper which may not be overheard.

I am to see Lord Clermont about his arrangement on Monday. Lord Sydney seems hurt that nothing can be sooner done for Lord Courtown, and tells me that I shall receive a repetition of the royal interference, when I shall have the honour of an audience. I stated all your difficulties, and particularly insisted upon Lord Mornington's situation and claims. This argument was only disputed upon the grounds of impolicy in Lord Mornington himself to prefer the formal line, which might *possibly* be opened to him in Ireland, to the more agreeable prospect of breaking his way in this country, although the first steps might not be equally magnificent. I expect to have some conversation with Lord Mornington upon these subjects to-morrow.

"Lord Mountmorres is to be the ministerial candidate for Seaford, and to be opposed by Sir Godfrey Webster, who stands upon the Pelham interest. The contest between the two will, it is supposed, be nearly equal, but a third competitor appears in the person of Mr. Flood, whose interest or expectation does not appear to be of easy explanation.

"As to official arrangements, I hear a variety of suggestions, but have no authority for any. There seems, however, to be something in agitation for *Lord Sackville*. Hints are thrown out about Lord Sydney's succession to your Grace's late office of Privy Seal. Lord Hillsborough's name is mentioned. Others, again, say that there is a doubt about an appointment to the office of Secretary of State between the Duke of Richmond and Mr. Dundas. It were, at all events, much to be wished that these great employments should be definitively fixed without delay. Lord Chesterfield, I understand, is to remain at Paris till September. Monsieur D'Almodovar comes to England from Madrid. The situation of the Dutch is critical, and the conduct of this country upon the occasion seems to be attended with some embarrassment."

I am glad to inform you that every assurance is given me of favourable attention to the support of your interest at Scarborough. Lord Mulgrave has, I find, given up all pretensions to a right of competition in any respect.

Postscript.—"I hope that some means may be taken to incorporate the men from the regiments to be reduced, into others less complete. I am this moment informed that the Prince of Wales has dismissed Lord Courtown from his service, which will of course bring an additional weight of solicitation upon your Grace for compensation, &c.

"I anxiously hope that something may be done to prevent the further reduction of regiments on the Irish establishment. Some representation of the necessity to keep up a very respectable force in Ireland may perhaps be necessary, but your Grace will of course talk about it with the Commander-in-Chief."

I have just left Lord Mornington. He has "stated grounds of uneasiness and complaint which I never heard before, and very decisively assured me that he considered the faith of Government as broken in regard to him, since the session had been suffered to close without a suitable provision for him. He says that Lord Temple had made use of your Grace's and Mr. Pitt's name, and desired him to go over and assist your Government upon the express promise of being the very first person to be taken care of in any arrangement whatever, and that he had at that time declared his resolution not to take an active part but

upon such assurance. He therefore considered the disposal of the Post Office and other things as breaches of faith to him, and desired it to be remembered that though he had the utmost personal regard for your Grace, he could not suffer himself to be led away from his object, and that he wished it to be understood as his intention not to appear any more as a declared supporter of your administration." It is to be understood, therefore, "that Lord Mornington will not take an active part in support unless he has office in possession or in immediate unavoidable prospect.

"Lord Sydney just now informs me that the King is extremely anxious about a compensation to Lord Courtown, and I rather suspect his Lordship's interference in his favor with your Grace. I have, however, warned him of the impossibility of success."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784, June 11,] Friday. St. James's Square.—"After so many divisions and attempts to embarrass Pitt by the Westminster petition, we have disposed of it, as your Grace was before acquainted, and, upon the whole, Pitt, by a very fine answer to an astonishing speech of Fox's, got very handsomely out of a business which would have been troublesome enough to a weak ministry. The division on the first question that night was 195 to 117, on the second 178 to 90, many of our best friends being a little *too* conscientious, who have, however, immediately joined us again on all general questions. For a reason too ridiculous to mention to your Grace, in short, for gaining one vote who promised to stay the division solely on condition I would speak, I rose and spoke ten minutes, not having gone down till ten o'clock, and not knowing what was the question before the House. I took care, however, to get into no scrape, for, as far as I recollect, there could not have been a more dull or unimportant first speech ever delivered, but I certainly felt no more embarrassment than in a private room, and will venture to assure your Grace that you cannot employ any of your members who will more readily speak on the Turnpike Bills of Leicestershire, Cambridgeshire, Grantham, Newark, Scarborough, or Bramber, whenever such business is before the House. Independent of this vote, I got half a vote from Baron Dimsdale; and Fox who followed me, and who condescended to answer some trifling argument I had used, has declared at Brooks's, he wondered only at my want of embarrassment and want of information, which I can only explain to your Grace from the motives above, that I had not an idea of speaking till I rose, and that I was promised a vote if I did, on a question when a vote was very serviceable. In short, I take the liberty of speaking so long on such a subject to your Grace merely to say that, having got over without failing what I conceived such material objections, want of voice or want of assurance, I am perfectly ready to execute all the minor business of a member that your Grace will direct me to do, and in the higher departments I shall not think I should much please your Grace by diminishing the effects of Pitt's speeches and speaking on great occasions, unless it is to call up Fox, or answer some subaltern purpose of debate which may accidentally arise in the House. I have the pleasure to acquaint your Grace that the present quiet state of Ireland arising from your Grace's government is attributed to your being no mean governor sent over to pillage the people; to your connection with the leaders of the volunteers; and to the conciliating effects which the Duchess of Rutland's manners were sure to introduce in Dublin."

LORD SYDNEY to SIR LUCIUS O'BRIEN.

1784, June 11. Whitehall.—Intimating that Mr. Ogle had been preferred to the appointment claimed by Sir Lucius; and stating the reasons why it has been deemed expedient to carry out a promise made during Lord Northington's tenure of office. *Copy.*

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, June 11. Whitehall.—The King accepts your recommendation of Mr. Ogle. That gentleman needed not to have transmitted to your Grace a copy of my letter to the Earl of Northington. I never intended to go back from my word, though the transaction was that of a man who had an equal regard to his own character and to the service of his master, who had been under such circumstances as to oblige him to appoint him to a situation for which God and nature never intended his Excellency.

I write by this messenger to Sir Lucius O'Brien, and enclose a copy of my letter. I hope you will think that I have not pledged Government on either side of the water further than was proper and necessary.

"An extraordinary event has just happened. It has seemed wise to those who have the honour of advising the Prince of Wales to counsel him to dismiss Lord Courtown from his service. His Royal Highness has made no scruple to assign his parliamentary conduct as the reason of his dismissal. The King feels this outrage most sensibly, and is determined to distinguish Lord Courtown in some manner or other. A place in Ireland, you know, has long been his object, as he does not mean to be an absentee from his house and property. Your Grace may imagine that I squint at the place" held by Mr. Foster since the death of Lord Harrington. "At the same time I am sensible of the difficulties under which you lie, but Lord Courtown is a man not without weight in Ireland, and I am persuaded that his well-known connexion with Court, as well as the striking necessity of his being immediately distinguished, must appear as strong reasons for a preference at present that will not be humiliating to competitors who may not otherwise be his inferiors in their pretensions."

I am quite sensible of the impropriety of proposing anything that may tend to embarrass your administration in Ireland at this critical time. I shall, therefore, only add that, if the thing can be done, I am sure that it will be extremely acceptable to the King.

You will receive His Majesty's consent to your proposal for the two baronetages. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to WILLIAM PITT.

1784, June 16. Dublin Castle.—*Marked* "Private." *Copy.* [*Correspondence*, p. 16.]

W. N. MILES to SIR EDWARD NEWENHAM.

[1784, June 16.]—Your letter awakened my apprehensions that Ireland was at that moment engaged in hostilities against Great Britain. I have been much disturbed by the idea. I have already written fully to you, but some important hints that were unintentionally dropt by an attainted Roman Catholic induce me to write a second letter. "It is a very easy matter to draw the sword. The great difficulty will be to

sheath it." The moment that measure is adopted, France and Spain will pour troops into your country under the pretence of supporting liberty against despotism. You are not unanimous among yourselves. You have not fully investigated your grievances. You are absolutely without a plan. If France engages in your quarrel it will be for her own ends, and not to obtain your independence, which cannot benefit her. You have already an independent right of commerce with France, which America had not. I know that it was in contemplation in the last war to land 120,000 in England and Ireland, of whom 40,000 were to have been in Ireland. A partition of the British Empire was agreed on, and you were to have been the share of Spain. This arrangement was even made before the Spanish Minister left our Court in 1778, and Paul Jones was despatched to your coast to reconnoitre for that purpose. Munster was the province to have been invaded. I will give you an instance of the duplicity of France. Almost seven years ago she arranged the separation of the Spanish and Portuguese colonies from their respective sovereignties, and that so secretly that neither of these kingdoms suspect the loss they are to sustain in the course of a few years. Even the French Ministers at the Court of Madrid and Lisbon were, and are at this instant, uninformed of the intentions of this Court. You must also expect dangers at home. The attainted families look to a restoration of their honours, and probably will look to that of their property. You invite the Roman Catholics to fight your battles. Do you imagine they will not fight their own? Even if their first object now is the gratification of your demands, do you think they will lay down their arms until they have obtained redress of their own grievances? A people emerging as you are from vassalage to share the blessings of freedom should be careful to establish a character for moderation. The London papers are just brought me, by which I find that Mr. Gardiner succeeds Mr. Foster, and that the Board of Revenue is changed, and that you make one. I hope this change has taken place, and shall conclude that peace is restored between the two kingdoms. "I am sorry to find by your letter that Mr. Fox is becoming popular in Ireland. You must indeed be very changeable if you can give your confidence to a man whom you so lately execrated, and whom you are convinced is not your friend." If you are reconciled to Great Britain, let the impression on the seal of your next letter be a dove, that I may anticipate the joyous contents of it. Let me know whether I shall endeavour to open a commerce for your woollens and printed linens in this empire. On looking again at your letter, I see you say that the measure to follow the non-importation agreements will be to refuse paying the paving tax and perhaps all taxes of the session. Let me entreat you to use your utmost endeavour to prevent so violent and unjust a resolution. The faith of the nation is pledged, and will you give yourself the lie? Keep within the pale of the constitution at all events. If you set such an example of disobedience, how can you expect obedience from the rabble you are arming, and who are already too refractory and too prone to violate the laws of their country? "I assure you that the very instant you commence hostilities you will be overwhelmed with French troops, and that the object of the war will very soon become a contest among yourselves for property."

Copy.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO LORD SYDNEY.

1784, June 17 [sc. 18.] Dublin Castle.—I have received yours with the King's approbation of Mr. Ogle's appointment. Sir Lucius O'Brien

bore his disappointment better than from his temper I had reason to expect. But I see he is a little offended. He desires the memorial which is with Mr. Orde to be laid before His Majesty, to which I have consented.

I am afflicted at the step which the Prince of Wales has taken in dismissing Lord Courtown from his service. "The great respect which I personally bear his Royal Highness, and being at the same time convinced that his natural principles are those of the sincerest duty and affection for the King, to proofs and declarations of which I have been a frequent witness, and in very unguarded moments, makes me grieved beyond measure to think that he has so linked himself with an abandoned and unprincipled faction as to adopt a measure which must so sensibly wound the feelings of a father, so destructive of his true interest, and repugnant to what I know were his original maxims." You may be assured I will take the earliest opportunity of meeting your wishes regarding him; but you must make allowance for my situation, and the number of powerful and eager claimants whom I have to provide for. The particular office to which you point is engaged to Lord Clermont, and was the consideration upon which he resigned the Post Office.

Ireland continues in appearance quiet, though the language of public print is still very insolent and replete with violence. Yesterday the Lord Mayor had anonymous letters stating that a mob from the Liberty was to destroy any English silk goods that might be found in the mercers' shops. We were prepared, but no riot took place. I cannot approve of the reduction of the army, and, so far as relates to this country, must protest against it. "The army is at this moment so extremely low in point of effective numbers, from the great hesitation there is to enter into the service and from the alarming disposition which universally obtains to desert from it, that to reduce any part of the establishment in the present House appears to me highly impolitick." It would dangerously encourage the volunteers, whose objects and claims, if uncontrolled, might become boundless. "If government is to be maintained respectable in this country, it must be powerfully backed, and armed against all contingencies; and if this material check on the spirit of intemperance, of discontent, and of sedition be removed, no man can answer for the consequences." I trust, therefore, that if this measure is irrevocably decided on, it will be carried out in such a way as least to endanger the interests of this Government, and so that troops may be replaced in proportion to those to be disbanded, or at least that the measure may be deferred till the corps on this establishment are better recruited and more complete. *Draft, marked* "Most private and confidential."

GENERAL W. A. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, June 17. Royal Hospital.—In consequence of your communication received this morning, I feel sincere regret in finding that His Majesty's Ministers meditate a reduction of any part of the military establishment of this kingdom, at a time when the army is so low in effective numbers, both from backwardness in recruiting and through desertion. I am not now to represent the inadequacy of the present distribution of the troops, but I humbly suggest to your Grace that if it should be judged expedient, from economy or any other reason, to lessen the establishment of the King's forces, it should be done in such a manner as least to risk the interests of this Government, either by deferring the measure until the corps were further recruited, or by replacing strength in proportion to that intended to be disbanded.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784 June 17. London.—The question of Reform is disposed of for this year, but, by Mr. Pitt's promise, to be introduced again in a more explicit shape early next session. You will see from the newspapers that a long debate took place, and you will hear of the particulars and division. I did not attend because I was anxious to avoid interpretation of my conduct in Ireland, where the circumstance of this business will certainly operate, I am afraid, not to the quiet and good of the country. It will at all events be difficult to avoid furnishing materials for faction and confusion. "Disturbers of the peace will very successfully shelter themselves in their persuasion to recruit the volunteer force, under the necessity of manifesting a resolution to be gratified in a favorite object. The Presbyterians will entice the Catholics, however certain their ultimate intention may be to exclude them from a participation in the more extensive privilege of voting, &c. The same conduct, however, of attention without interference will, I conclude, appear the most adviseable to your Grace, unless any open and alarming proceedings should require an absolute exertion of the power of Government. I hear Lord North made one of his very best speeches upon this question, and that Burke, after five fruitless efforts to gain the permission of the House to be heard, broke away in a violent passion, and did not return to vote at all. The House having made the day before a most uncommon shew of patience in his favor during his long speech introducing a *perpetual motion*, could not so soon again expose itself to the risk of another tedious harangue." I have conversed with Lord Clermont on the subject of his appointment to Mr. Foster's office instead of the Post Office. He wishes to see you before the final arrangement; but I am convinced that what I have offered him is fair and liberal. I have been assured by Mr. Pitt that he has talked to and, as he states, satisfied Lord Mornington. I am glad to find, from conversation with the Secretary at War, that it is resolved to keep up by immediate arrangements the effective force in Ireland. You will talk with General Pitt about the best means of retaining as many men as possible of the 67th for incorporation in other regiments. I trust things will go quietly, and that we are not to be terrified at the threat of a visit from Monsieur de La Fayette. "He should be told, if he comes, that we scorn his assistance."

"We meet with much obstruction about our short Post Office Bill to restore official privilege. Opposition is threatened, and of an unpleasant kind, for it will be attempted to extend the privilege to a general power of franking; and the merchants also will be forward to claim exemption for their bills of lading, &c."

The question about the commission for the judge of the Admiralty Court is very difficult. It is impossible to suppose that a concurrent jurisdiction will be allowed, and a Bill now brought into the English Parliament to ascertain the extent or limits of the Irish jurisdiction, &c. upon the high seas is a serious matter. I have laid the subject before the law officers in the first place for opinions.

I was at the Prince of Wales' levée on Saturday last. He enquired after you with sincere regard, and sent his best wishes.

The EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, June 17. New Bond Street.—In consequence of a conversation with Mr. Orde last Friday, I find myself obliged to explain my position. I have reason to complain of a breach of faith on the part

of Government. Mr. Orde has disclaimed all knowledge of a direct promise made to me by Mr. Pitt through Lord Temple, and since repeatedly confirmed by Mr. Pitt, that I should be brought into office as soon as the Government assumed a settled shape. Under these circumstances I felt bound, as well in justice to Mr. Pitt's honour as to my own, to submit the whole transaction to him, and I have received from his mouth a full acknowledgment and confirmation of his promise as stated in this letter, accompanied by those marks of friendship which I have always experienced at his hands. "In the course of my conversation with Mr. Pitt, I declared to him, as I have often declared to your Grace, that I did not treat with Government on a plan of barter and sale, nor did I mean to extort emolument by a menace of opposition. I assured him that my temper, my principles, my connections, must ever incline me to the support of his Government here, and of your Grace's in Ireland, in the station of a free, irresponsible individual; but I added, that I could not think of remaining any longer in that new and singular predicament, of apparent confidence, and of real and vexatious responsibility, with my character pledged, with my time and pleasure dedicated to the service of Government, but without those attendant advantages of office which alone can prevent such a situation from being ridiculous as well as irksome.

"Mr. Pitt seemed to feel the nature and justice of these distinctions, and to enter completely into my feelings upon the subject. I am persuaded that your Grace will do the same, and that you will neither be surprized nor offended when I offer to you, with every sentiment of respect due to your public situation and of esteem to your private character, this humble intimation of my determined resolution to renounce and disclaim all responsibility for public measures, and all exchange of public confidence between the Government of Ireland and me, from this time forth untill the King's Ministers shall find it convenient to keep their faith with me, and to place me in some station where I may be able to act for the service of the Crown with effect, and without drawing my character into ridicule." Having thus submitted to your Grace my resolution, made upon public grounds, I am anxious to acknowledge the kindness I have received from you, and to affirm my attachment and affection to you personally; while I lament that those generous dispositions which I privately admire have not more influence over the public system of Irish administration. "That those dispositions have not had their due influence I must conclude, when I see the very basis and foundation of your Government laid in the purchase of intriguing enemies and in the total renunciation of a most attached friend." It is with much concern that I find myself compelled to take such steps, but I owe something to my political character, and I feel a certain sense of pride which will not suffer me to acquiesce under the infidelity of those whom I serve, and which urges me rather to return to an independent station, where my ambition cannot be disappointed either by the intrigues of enemies or the neglect of friends.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] June 17. St. James's Square.—"Reform was last night put off, for this session at least, by 199 to 125 on the previous question. I had the mortification to vote against Mr. Pitt, who was in the minority with Fox, Sir F. Bassett, &c., &c., almost all the House dividing against their friends and with their enemies for some different reason. On coming out of the House, I stopped half an instant by Pitt to tell him

how sorry I was I could not vote with him, to which he replied, '*et tu Brute,*' or some such thing; and I think it possible the seeing me speak to him and then go out of the House may have influenced others, for I found J. Sutton, Lord Tyrconnel, Pochin, &c. in our majority. G. Sutton, whom I could not see, had paired off with Lord William Gordon, though, from what he tells me this morning, Steel had given him such broad hints as might have easily shown him how he could do most service. The question was brought on by Sawbridge and supported by Fox, and opposed by Lord North with the same view, namely, to do mischief. Pitt would gladly have put it off for the present, and so would Wilberforce, Duncombe, &c., but they dared not insist on putting it off, for fear of the construction which it was Fox's object to put upon such a conduct. When the debate was nearly over, I got next Lord Mulgrave on the Treasury Bench, and told him how improper it was to hurry us young members so abruptly into the business, and desired him to move the previous question. I suppose he might have intended to do this before, but he told me that if Burke or some one of the other side did not do it he certainly would, and at last he did so. I mention what follows to shew your Grace how difficult it is to get the House to vote against Pitt, for on Lord Mulgrave's motion there was at first a loud outcry from our people, and on Pitt's desiring Lord Mulgrave to withdraw the motion and considering it as a slur upon the main question, I really thought we were in danger of being entangled with this business all the summer. At last, however, by dint of Will Grenville supporting Lord Mulgrave, and convincing Pitt's friends there was no trap intended for him, we were induced to vote against him as above, though I believe as much was done by conversation after the question had been put as during the debate. Everything that is to come on now will pass so smoothly that I shall have very little indeed to acquaint your Grace with worthy your notice, for except voting ten to twenty millions for the payment of Lord North's arrears, there is nothing I know of at present before the House, though Dempster threatens some motion next week as long as Burke's."

Out of doors things are not going so well. I see no prospect for some of us but your making me a Nabob, which I think Pitt will be ready to do on your application. "For after all the world is not such a dupe at present as to think there is any sort of difference in the object for which all people go to India. Everyone I know expects I should get there, and some regard to past distresses which have been so felt in common will prevent Fox and his party from saying anything on such a subject." But I leave everything to your judgment, and shall not apply to Mr. Pitt until authorized by you. I hear, on good authority, that Lord Shelburne is discontented; but I know numbers of our friends who will be very much displeased if he is gratified: it is difficult to discover the reason of this prejudice, but the fact is certainly so.

We hear you are preparing for a summer tour through Ireland, which must be a country of infinite curiosity for a stranger, and which everyone envies you in. Your appeasing the Irish has appeared almost incredible; and your continuing in the Vice-royalty has given great satisfaction to people here.

LORD LEITRIM to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, June 19. Spa.—Applying for advancement in the peerage, on the ground of former promises and of having returned the late Lord Lieutenant's secretary for his borough.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] June 21, Monday.—Pitt has brought in some resolutions to take off the entire duty on tea and substitute a tax on windows, to which, as an instance, Belvoir Castle will contribute 20*l.* a year, in compensation for which you and all your household will drink tea at half its present price. The advantage will be that it will nearly put an end to smuggling. “It is rather singular that as every part of the House received a speech of Pitt’s of more than an hour with every mark of applause, there was no debate but ‘who was the real inventor of Pitt’s plan.’”

GENERAL R. SLOPER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, June 21.—Informing him that he had been appointed to the command at Madras, but stating his objections to accept the appointment unless he receives the King’s letter of service, which would prevent the possibility of his dismissal by the Governor of Madras.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, June 24. London.—I am glad you express satisfaction with my hasty scrawls. The disturbances, actual and apprehended, of which we have received accounts make me anxious to get back to Ireland. “I will not, however, suffer myself to be unreasonably alarmed, because, indeed, I really venture to think that in the midst of this scene of riot and disorder, I collect from the very excess and wildness of it some grounds for hope that it has no other instigation or guidance or object than what appears by the public act.”

Contempt will not answer for this kind of proceeding, though it is the only weapon “to use against Tholsol meetings and resolutions. By the account of the last, nothing could be so low and infamous.” The state of the magistracy and of the police must be subjects for very serious consideration.

I was glad to see that “so many respectable characters attended the Council, and that the Duke of Leinster, Conolly, and Gardener were there. The exertions of Government alone will not be sufficient upon this occasion. Mr. Gardener, for example, should shew himself true to his declaration that he would give up the interest he took in favor of the manufacturers if they should ever again be guilty of any indecencies or violence.”

“In these disturbances, as auxiliaries to the design upon the constitution and property of the country, the Roman Catholics seem notoriously to take a great share, and I fear very seriously the success of them upon the Presbyterians, or the Presbyterians upon them, by means of the encouragement given here to expect a favorable issue to the question of Parliamentary Reform. I have apprehensions of Dungannon meetings, &c.”

The enclosed are copies of letters “which Mr. Pitt has shewn me, and are very extraordinary. I have not yet learnt who Mr. Miles is, but I do not think his account to be despised. Sir Edward Newenham is a fool and a rogue, I fear, and it will be certainly right to keep an eye upon him. Yet I cannot conceive any serious intention of proceeding to hostilities except by the warfare in his unsettled brain. I am, however, very much inclined to give credit to parts of the information, or rather remarks, that the design may be, and the conclusion undoubtedly, if the matter once begins, would be, a war of *property.*”

Business seems entered on in earnest here, and I hope will be far advanced next week—the Smuggling Bill, the Budget, and some proposition respecting the East Indies, but I do not find that anything decisive is yet resolved upon.

I am concerned about poor Sir Lucius. I have mentioned your wish that his memorial should be laid before His Majesty. I hope Lord Mornington is, and I think he ought to be, satisfied. There has really been no office in the power of the Government to give him, since he was invited by Lord Temple to assist your Government; and his services have been only exerted for a very short time. He stands on the fair line as a very favourite candidate for employment. I think Lord Temple got you into a scrape by the height to which he raised Lord Mornington's pretensions; but, as the inducements were held out and confirmed, I think they ought to be carried out as strictly and liberally as possible consistently with the real necessities of His Majesty's Government. I cannot bear to be a witness of the distress you suffer on an occasion for which you are certainly not responsible.

I hear no more of Lord Hillsborough's call to office here; nor do I think that Lord Temple is destined to any great employment, and I perfectly enter into your feelings on the subject.

I have seen or heard nothing of Lord Bellamont, except from a vague report, probably groundless, of a quarrel between him and Flood.

Lord Shelburne is come to town and is better than I expected, though far from well. Pitt has expressed to me a very warm wish to show him some distinguished mark of attention, but he seemed to think the matter required a good deal of consideration. I hope your letter may have a good effect.

Lord Sydney has written for the immediate disbanding of the 67th, but I have suggested waiting for the arrival of the relieving regiment from Plymouth. The two regiments from Scotland are, I understand, on their passage. I hope some of the men of the 67th will re-enlist, though I assume they cannot be draughted. I am sure the force in Ireland ought not to be diminished.

I have found the Ministry here as well disposed as we can expect to coincide with us upon Irish business, but Mr. Pitt postpones our serious conversation upon the subject until next week, after opening the Budget.

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, June 24. Hillsborough.—I shall set out for London in a few days. I leave this part of the country in a much better state than it was in three months ago; and, notwithstanding the exertions of Mr. Waddell Cunningham, the Bishop of Derry, Mr. Sharman, and the dissenting parsons of the Independent faction, the numbers of their following are greatly diminished, and people's eyes in general begin to be opened, insomuch that I hope a short continuance of the wise measures you have adopted will dissipate the storm, which I really thought threatened us with great calamities. I trust, however, that till the non-sensical reviews are over you will not suffer the military force in this part of the kingdom to be diminished. Pardon my zeal.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, June 25. Whitehall.—I am concerned that it appears improbable that Lord Courtown's pretensions can immediately be considered; at the same time I am fully sensible of your difficulties. I trust, how-

ever, that you will consider his situation, "as it is certainly of moment to the King's service that he should be held up in a distinguished light after what he has suffered for his attachment to His Majesty. I lament the step taken, as an old adherent to the House of Brunswick more than as a friend and relation of Lord Courtown. Villains of the *blackest die* have the possession at present of the *young man's* confidence."

I am as much inclined as your Grace to protest against the reduction of the army, but we were precluded from judging upon that question by the votes of the last Parliament. However, I am authorized to give you what latitude you may judge necessary as to the time of reducing the 67th.

⁷¹Mr. Pitt is so occupied with the Budget that he cannot write to you by the messenger now going out.

I trust the symptoms of disturbance will pass away, and that your vigilance will prevent the extremities which are sometimes threatened. "You may depend upon my using every endeavour to discover any correspondence that may pass through England, but I am nearly convinced that the post is not their channel, if such communications are carried on. I say that from the pains I have taken to discover it." *Marked* "Most secret and confidential."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] June 26. London.—"I sincerely hope your Grace is much better amused than by reading any accounts I can send from hence during the present session. Fox has not been in the House except by accident, and Lord North not at all this last week or ten days, so that we vote millions upon millions, armies, navies, ordnance, &c. with no other debate than what arises from a conversation by Mr. Hussey or Eden. I was with Lord Chatham to day relative to a private Bill of Lord Milton's which he has promised me to support in the House of Lords, and the same company prevented my talking with him on politics. He told me enough to convince me they were never better pleased than at present. Orde stalks in and out of the House, sometimes like a ghost, but no debate having arisen respecting Ireland, we have not heard any accounts from him of your Grace's happy government." Let me ask you to urge upon Mr. Pitt to obtain for me an Indian appointment; I should then vacate Bramber for any other of your friends. "Mr. Pitt has given notice that the Budget is to be opened Wednesday, and all the election petitions are discharged after the end of next week, so that probably this session will be over about the middle or towards the close of July. I do not think any India Bill will pass this summer, and I have always avoided asking Lord Chatham any question on the subject. One of our friends, I suspect, has very tempting offers from the Bedford party in Cambridgeshire, and his conversation has been once or twice very silly and mutinous. I mean Mortlock; but I got Sutton to introduce him to Lucas for some favor he wanted in the Excise which seemed reasonable enough, and for which he has at last got a letter from Pitt to the Board. His language, however, is always highly respectfull to your Grace, for he only complains of your absence, and I really believe he will kill in your Grace's stead Mr. Yorke, and the Treasury clerks, with his importunities."

GENERAL W. A. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, June 27. Royal Hospital.—Mentioning a requisition from the Lord Mayor and magistrates of Dublin for additional guards; and

stating the necessity that the Corporation should provide accommodation for the troops required. Further, that the force called for was inadequate to the disorderly state of the city; and that, be the force what it might, it must ultimately be ineffectual, unless the magistrates were firmly determined upon being personally active in the exercise of their authority.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO GENERAL FAWCETT.

1784, June 28. Dublin Castle.—It would give me great pleasure to see you wear the vacant ribbon. I do not know how far Mr. Pitt may be engaged, but I hope he will be both disposed and able to forward your pretensions, which commend themselves to me. I have not time to write to Mr. Orde by this packet, but as the time of his stay in London may be limited, you had better see him and in my name desire him to speak to Mr. Pitt on the subject. *Press copy.*

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO THE REV. ———.

1784, June 28. Dublin Castle.—The claims for church preferment in Ireland are so numerous and pressing that, with the best inclination to serve you as far as it could be done with propriety, I cannot hope to have anything to offer you equal to the advantages of your present situation. *Press copy.*

JOHN MANNERS TO THE DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, June 28. Pall Mall.—Asking to be recommended for an Irish peerage.

THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN TO THE DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, June 29. Waverley Abbey, Surrey.—“Lord Cornwallis has been sometimes to see me, and he seems to think vastly well of the strength of the present administration, and the kingdom in general seems inclined towards it. And Ireland, in my opinion, should now become their chief object. I doubt that blood must be spilt in that country before it will submit to British government. Your business is to prevent it if possible. I think that, notwithstanding appearances, they will never give up their arms.”

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO LORD ———.

1784, June 30. Dublin Castle.—I return your Lordship my sincere thanks for your prompt consent to contribute your assistance to Government. The peace and good order which have of late been so much endangered in this metropolis has rendered the necessity of placing soldiers in the Liberty absolutely indispensable. The terror with which the sober part of the society has been impressed by the disorderly would have prevented this measure from taking effect. Had you not, with the spirit of a nobleman and the principles of a good citizen, stepped forward at this critical moment. I am proud of receiving this testimony of confidence from you, and I shall not fail of communicating to the King the zeal and readiness with which you have supported his Government. *Draft.*

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LORD SIDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, July 2. Whitehall.—As I am sending a messenger with the Proclamation for a Thanksgiving for Peace, I take this opportunity of acquainting you there is reason to suspect that several French gentlemen mean to visit Ireland. I hear the Marquis de La Fayette mentioned. These gentry should be watched.

Mr. Pitt distinguishes himself more and more every day, and his character in the City stands higher than ever. The Prince of Wales was extremely ill yesterday with a fever proceeding from an indigestion, but he is out of danger to-day. *Marked* “Secret and separate.”

SIR EDWARD NEWENHAM to W. [N.] MILES.

1784, July 3. Belcamp.—Yours of the 16th I have this moment received, but neither those of the 10th or 14th. I am not in the service, consequently not in the confidence of any Government; neither do I give my confidence to Mr. Fox. Mr. Pitt has some of my confidence, but I do not admire his ministerial connexions. “Though a warm advocate for a Parliamentary Reform, yet I think Sawbridge ought not to have made his motion after what the Minister said. My fears about the Minister are that his head will be turned with his unexampled fortune, power, and situation, and that he will listen to Tory advisers here. The dissipation of the present Ministry here is beyond comparison.

“The nation was never in such a ferment from one end to the other. The *Papists* are arming throughout the kingdom. Public advertisements of schools for [teaching] the use of arms to all lads of spirit from fourteen to eighteen years of age. Twenty-three pieces of volunteer new cannon have lately appeared. Non-consumption and non-impertation agreements are nearly general. Tarring and feathering have been executed upon four obnoxious persons. Several tradesmen have been quitted by their workmen, and some tradesmen have been obliged to shut up as they had lately imported such a quantity of English goods.

“This day 395 circular letters were sent off from the Aggregate Committee to the most public characters in several counties inclosing their petition and desiring an immediate junction of all parties and *descriptions* of men in order to unite with them; this meeting have declared in favor of an equal right of elective franchise to be invested in those people formerly called Papists but now Catholics: even the word Roman is left out. Thus they usurp every nomination of respect and originality.

“This moment, in half-an-hour after I received yours of the 16th, I received yours of the 14th, which appears extraordinary. The post-mark is not as usual—Liege. It is come free. In it—which I send the cover of—you say that you send me a letter which you wrote to a certain great personage, but that is not received, and I long to know if the inclosed cover is *original*.

“The reports of coming in, exchanging of some places, and a new officer in Mr. Foster’s old employment *may* in part be well founded, but, as to my part, I refused every offer of office these fourteen years, not from any *particle* of opposition, but because I love a domestic life, and I could not brook obedience except to the laws human and divine. Believe me, my

dear friend, you do not know my principles if you harbour the most distant thought that I ever was in opposition for the sake of opposition, hopes of *popularity*, desire of being particular, or in order to be rewarded with place, pension, or title, for on my most sacred honour I never was, or ever will be, such a slave or hypocrite.

“I will now answer your queries in a full and unequivocal manner. I am totally from my heart against the general franchise of elective powers. I am a determined friend to old England if her Ministry are friendly to our trade and liberties; I will support and defend her, I love her inhabitants though they are degenerated, for the very few *Miles* now among them proves the truth of their degeneracy. I am against this general arming of the people—your sentiments and mine are united in that respect; there is not a line of your two last letters my sentiments do not correspond with—our religious and political sentiments are the same. As to Mr. Fox, you must have misconstrued my words. I meant at least to say that he was becoming popular in this kingdom, not that I gave him my humble and immaterial confidence, for in that way I am very slow; you have had more of my confidence than any man breathing; next to you was the late Dr. Lucas. I personally knew his integrity and I am convinced of yours. If Ministry knew you as well as I do they would—or at least ought to—make you their friend and advocate when their intentions are *honest*, for then your support would be powerful. I like Pitt’s conduct as far as he has gone. I detest what Opposition has lately done, but I am clear of all attachments to any party. *Rutland* revived the old suit of the Commissioners against me, only to put me to trouble, and they have carried it on with a violence of spirit that would make another man publish them to the world.

“Upon examining the cover and letter I find it has been read since you sent it, for the cover is a London mark. I suppose you inclosed it to some friend in England, who, having satisfied his curiosity, sent it as directed.

“It is three months since I have been either with the volunteers or at any public meeting or even private meeting of popular men. As to your fear of any serious dispute between the two nations, I think it ill-grounded. Nothing could bring down such a misfortune on both countries but new oppression in taxes, places and pensions. A short time ago Lady — Hatton, wife of Mr. Hatton, a man of fortune, got a pension of 400*l.* a year. Other pensions equally infamous have been or are shortly to be added to the infamous list of prostitution. This is not the season for jobbing; it shews a want of sense to add fuel to the fire they have been the occasion of kindling.

“A wise Minister, a conciliating Viceroy, an affable Secretary, a candid behaviour towards the real independent country gentlemen, forsaking the system of setting the Protestants and Papists at variance, a stop to the overgrown insolence of men in office, part of the protecting duties, some reformation in the representation, characters notoriously infamous banished from the confidence of the Viceroy; these objects obtained, the volunteer army would disband and not a murmur heard; had it not been for Foster’s and Fitzgibbon’s insolent speeches, the acts they supported and the resolutions they carried would have passed more quietly, but it was owing to their absurd and audacious declarations that the flame of resentment spread so rapidly.

“I cannot seal my letter with either a dove or a Mars, as neither of them are properly emblematical at present, but I trust the dove is the only one I shall ever have occasion to send to an Englishman. Nature joined us, and if we separate we both must fall. While united we may recover under another Chatham, and put down the growing power of our

enemies, but should Ireland fall, England could not stand. Our harbours are so naturally strong, commodious, and well-situated, that fleets might be stationed there to the total ruin of British trade, for conquer Ireland she could not for want of troops. I shudder at the most distant idea of *ever having* such a question agitated.

“I send you the Dublin proceedings; they are copied by Cooke—at a most numerous meeting. It is doubtful whether they will become general on account of their violence. They were all drawn up by my estate agent, Mr. Tandy.”

Press copy. At the end is a note as follows:—“*The foregoing is a true copy of a letter put into this office on Saturday night the 3rd instant, directed ‘À Monsr. W. A. Miles, à Liege.’*”

THE EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH TO THE DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, July 4. Hillsborough.—Recommending Mr. John Reilly, the member for Blessington, to succeed to the collectorship of Newry on the death of Mr. Hamilton.

SIR EDWARD NEWENHAM TO THE MARQUIS DE LA FAYETTE.

1784, July 5. Belcamp, near Dublin.—“Permit me to invite you here, where attention and due respect will mark the conduct of this happy family, and perhaps the Marchioness might honour Lady Newenham with her company and like to visit this hitherto unknown island. Such a tour would be new and pleasing to her. I am confident of your being most honourably received by the principal nobility in the kingdom.”

From the papers I enclose “you will see our resolution to have equal trade and more *perfect* representation of the people. The city of Cork have followed the example of the city of Dublin, and it is expected it will be general.”

It appears an age since I had a letter from you. I was in hopes of getting your picture in London “to place with those of your brother soldiers and citizens of America. I have dedicated one room to those ever glorious worthies.”

“My corps have elected my son captain of the light infantry company; they have had four regular encampments within these few days, and sham battles; they sleep in their tents; they have provided a large magazine of ball for their fuzees and cannon; my agent for my landed estate, Mr. Samuel Napper Tandy, is captain of the 1st artillery company; in a few days they are all to encamp on the lawn before my house, and partake of a collation with plenty of Bourdeaux claret. There is not in Ireland a happier or more united corps.

“I again solicit the particular honour and *most sincerely desired* favour of seeing you here; be assured, my dear Marquis, you shall be the same as if at your palace. Respect, esteem, and attention shall not be wanting. Believe me, you have not a more sincere well-wisher in your own native land than I am.” My respects attend “that virtuous ornament of this age, His Excellency Dr. Franklin, and sincere affection to his worthy grandson.” *Copy.*

VISCOUNT LIFFORD, Lord Chancellor, to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, July 5.—Approving of his proposed answer to the sheriffs.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, July 5. London.—I have now little more to do here in public business, since the Ministry understand the necessity of a final adjustment and will seriously put forward the work. "I had a long conversation with Mr. Pitt on Saturday, and we agreed entirely upon the mode of proceeding, so as, without risking anything of the proper dignity of Government, to persuade those of the Irish nation who will admit of any persuasion that the discussion and settlement of the several points in question will be effectually entertained and carried through." I am concerned at the difficulties arising from the violence of faction, which cramps the generous disposition of Great Britain to concession and accommodation. There is danger of misinterpretation to liberality and of attempts to diminish the merit and the value of indulgences. This cannot, however, be allowed to impede just and prudent measures. It will be necessary for Government in the meantime to convince people of its firmness as well as of its fairness. I do not, therefore, wonder that you hesitate about transmitting the insolent petition from the Aggregate meeting; but should doubt of your refusing to transmit the petition, unless well advised of the illegality of their meetings. If you can get a good counter address, I think you would do well to transmit the petition for the sake of the contrast. But I must remark seriously that "when you discover symptoms of fear to assist Government because of the menaces of a mob, you must seek to conquer it only by holding forth of yourself some clear and indisputable signal of a sure and settled protection. This can never be better manifested than by a dignified exaction of everything that is due to the—in one word—sacredness of the laws and, immediately in connection with it, the mild majesty of Government. Let the well-disposed see that the hand has power to restrain, if the extension of its liberality be abused, and that there are certain bounds which even indulgent forbearance will *never* allow to be transgressed. Then will Government by degrees recover its tone, and feeble will be the attempts to annoy it. All this, after long relaxation, is to be done cautiously, and with management, but it must be discernible and not to be obscured. I am convinced that, notwithstanding all present outrages, your Grace's administration will, by the calm and steady measures you adopt, insensibly weaken their effect, and introduce good order into the place of tumult." I am glad Lord Meath has acted so very honourable a part, and I trust that it will have a good influence upon the conduct of others.

At the end of the week I am to have another meeting with Mr. Pitt. I shall preach with great energy against making any Irish peers on this side the water. The enclosed letter from Lord Leitrim is in a style of menace which must not be allowed to succeed. He was one of the last made barons. I am sorry Lord Mornington has written you a letter full of intemperate complaint, because he knows it is unjustifiable as addressed to you, and he can do himself no good. "I am very sure that while it will be incumbent upon your administration to withstand the urgent petitions of the people—though of the lowest condition—for reforms and regulations, and corrections of supposed abuses, it must be peculiarly necessary to preserve yourself from any well-founded attack on the score either of increased patronage or expence." I must again take the liberty of warning you against any increase of terms to Lord Clermont. Mr. Foster's office, which you may give him immediately with the disposal of 100*l.* *per annum*, is an arrangement highly advantageous to him.

I am glad you have written with such friendly earnestness to Mr. Pitt about Lord Shelburne. His health is much improved under Sir

Richard Jebb's care. He feels, I plainly perceive, the awkwardness of his situation, "while it can be thought, and indeed is said without contradiction, that he who laid the foundation nobly and honorably for the present ministerial establishment is made the only sacrifice for the security of its success, and that not only the Opposition but that His Majesty and the Administration seem to acquiesce in the justice of his fate, which can hardly be deemed other than general disgrace and desertion. An honorable testimony in disproof of this stigma, it appears to me to be absolutely incumbent upon Administration to offer him." I have opened my mind and information very freely to Mr. Pitt, who seems well disposed, but at the same time appears to have some "hesitations, as if there were obstructions somewhere. I do not believe there are any in the chief quarter."

"Mr. Pitt has, if possible, increased his credit and glory by the manner in which he opened and explained the great subject of finance." He will meet with many difficulties in carrying his taxes. Upon a point favourable to Ireland he is very hard pressed, I mean upon printed linens, cottens and calicoes.

To-day the great business of India is to be opened, and I tremble for the event. I have always wished that no bill would have been introduced this session, but that a change in men only had taken place, with some improvement in the instructions given them. As it is, I hope the measures may be well considered and upon a great scale. Atkinson will be a useful man in the House upon that and other subjects of commerce.

The French cabinet is certainly torn in pieces. De Vergennes will have difficulty to maintain his influence, which, if he loses, the Emperor will be suffered to carry all his measures.

There is as yet no advance in the commercial relations between Great Britain and any of the great foreign powers or America. I have entertained that real regard may be had to Ireland in these negotiations, and have reason to believe it will not be neglected. In my opinion, we cannot be too liberal to Ireland or contribute too much to her prosperity, while we take care that Great Britain shall not become absolutely dependent on her. I still indulge—perhaps romantic—ideas that the welfare of both may be strengthened and confirmed. The struggle of premature sedition will not operate against my expectations.

The Prince of Wales is recovered from his last attack of illness, but indeed they begin to come too thick upon him. *Marked* "Private."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] July 6. St. James's Square.—"Mr. Pitt prayed to-day for leave to bring in his India Bill on Friday next. The House was as crowded as could be expected at this late season, with the Duke of Portland and Co. under the gallery. Pitt's opening speech to explain the Bill went into three distinct points: 'the government of India by commission in England,' 'the internal government of India amongst themselves,' and 'the punishment of delinquents.' The speech was highly applauded from every side of the House, and Fox, who alone rose to answer him, said that he had little or no objection to the two last points; with regard to the first, it differed so essentially from his Bill, that self-defence and indeed every other consideration must make him oppose it throughout when the Bill was read in its second stage; and so the House broke up, with the prospect of a battle at the second reading of the Bill, which must be some day next week. I thought it my duty to acquaint your Grace with this, however immaterial, as it will

probably be a day earlier than the newspaper. Your Grace's friends are sometimes alarmed here by all sorts of falsehoods in the papers, and one of them to day declared the Duchess of Rutland's life in imminent danger. Lord Chatham, however, told me this morning there was no sort of truth in it, and I assure your Grace that upon his authority I gave great pleasure to several people in the House by denying it likewise.

"With regard to Mr. Pitt's India Bill, on which there will be a grand debate, I really feel great difficulty from want of your Grace's directions and presence in England, having so slight a connection with Pitt at present, as through Lord Chatham we have no sort of plan, or system, or discipline. We conquer at present by numbers, and shall run no sort of risque this year at least; but I foresee what *may* happen if Pitt's ministry is to be conducted on such a narrow system as public virtue, for the House of Commons must and will be what they have been this last century. With regard to speaking, I shall think it best to leave all to Pitt, though I have, partly from the merits of the case, and partly from a particular attention to your Grace's old obligations, spoke and voted so stoutly in a committee for Potter's election, that though we had only six to nine at first, we got nine to six at last, and have put him in the way of being next week a sitting member. I find it has offended Pepper Arden, Wilberforce, &c. very highly, as the person who was thrown out was Sir R. Smith, but Mortlock, who was Potter's nominee, had privately engaged to me that Potter should always vote for Pitt."

THOMAS CONOLLY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, July 8. Castletown.—I am gratified by your communicating to me your proposed answer to the address of the Aggregate Body to the King, and entirely approve of it. I hope it will convince those gentlemen, as well as all others that are disposed to trample upon ourselves and Parliament, of the firm resolution of Government.

W. N. M[ILES] to SIR EDWARD NEWENHAM.

1784, July 8.—The Continent, particularly this neighbourhood, will soon be the theatre of war on account of the dispute between the Emperor and the Dutch. This makes me wish to come to Ireland. Let me then entreat of you to exert yourself for a family devoted absolutely to you and your country. Can we live in any nook of your island—among Protestants—on 150*l.* a year? I propose to quit this in October and pass the winter in France for my daughter's education. Do your utmost for me. I have done with politics and Ministers of all descriptions. "I will eat bread and cheese in peace, love my country, and fight for liberty." *Copy, marked "Secret."*

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, July 9.—I am glad to find you are prepared to give so marked an answer to the petitioners who were to insult your chair. I shall still be glad to be informed of a counter address, well supported.

The meeting of Roman Catholics on Friday last seems to have ended favourably, but I feel uneasy from the idea that their forbearance is practice only of a plan to further other pretensions, including admission to the army, revenue, and law.

His Majesty much approves of your proposed answer. You must not have any ground for apprehension of want of support from Government,

when everything depends upon the encouragement to be given to the well-disposed.

Mr. Pitt has given up the Coal Tax. Burke, notwithstanding his *threat* of absenting himself for ever from the House of Commons, appeared again to-day, and, I take it, will give us a tremendous speech on the second reading of the India Bill. *Marked* "Most private."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, July 9. Whitehall.—I have received the copy of the address from the Aggregate Body with your intended answer. His Majesty entirely approves. Mr. Pitt has withdrawn his Coal Tax, and you may therefore counteract any attempt to make that a topic of discontent in Ireland. You will not be in a hurry to disband the 67th. *Marked* "Separate and secret."

THE EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, July 10. Hillsborough.—Concerning the Newry collectorship, and acknowledging and approving copy answer to the Aggregate Body. *Signed*.

JOHN FOSTER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784, July 12.]—Asking for the collectorship of Newry, or Cavan, for his relative, Mr. Ephraim.

[THE DUKE OF RUTLAND] to J. FOSTER.

1784, July 13. Dublin Castle.—I regret that the collectorship of Cavan was disposed of before I received your application, and my engagements relative to Newry are, and have been for some time past, incompatible with any hope of my being able to serve your friend. *Press copy*.

THE EARL OF SHANNON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, July 13. Castle Martyr.—I am obliged to you for sending me the copy of your answer to the disgraceful address. It has given great satisfaction to all who are interested in the stability of institutions and and it will encourage the well-disposed.

VISCOUNT LIFFORD, Lord Chancellor, to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, July 13. Stillorgan Park.—A complimentary letter.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, July 14. London.—I was prevented taking leave to day by a prolonged conversation with Mr. Pitt, which kept me too late for the levée. I shall now attend the battle on the East India Bill. I saw the King at Windsor on Sunday and he expressed the highest approbation of your conduct, especially in regard to the petition of the Aggregate. *Marked*, "Private."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, July 14. Whitehall.—I must repeat the King's approbation of your answer to the Sheriffs. We shall be glad to receive the counter address. We hope to see an end of our session in a month. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

The EARL OF TYRONE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, July 14. Curraghmore.—Acknowledging and approving of his answer to the Aggregate Body.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to [GENERAL PITT].

1784, July 15. Dublin Castle.—On the fullest consideration of what you observed to me in conversation yesterday, I am clearly of opinion, that under the present temper and situation of the City of Dublin, the strengthening of the garrison is a necessary measure. I should prefer that two regiments, rather than one, were called in, if they can be drawn from other quarters without materially affecting the indispensable service of Government. I should wish the 45th to be one of them. I agree with you that a guard extraordinary ought to be posted at the Arsenal, and you will issue orders accordingly. *Press copy.*

GENERAL W. A. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, July 15. Royal Hospital.—I am honoured by your letter confirming the necessity of strengthening the garrison of Dublin. “The spirit of sedition and tumult seeming to be greatly more prevalent here than in any other part of the kingdom, a timely suppression of it by the magistrates is become indispensable. The facility of doing this may be in proportion to the appearance of support from Government, and the maintenance of legal authority in the capital is an object so superior to other local considerations that I do not hesitate a moment upon the propriety of your Grace’s pleasure to have two regiments drawn hither.” Orders are already given for the marching of the 15th. Immediate accommodation cannot be made for more, but immediate preparation shall be made for the arrival of the 45th, which will march as soon as the 28th arrive in Scotland. I shall wait upon your Grace for your commands as to the security of the Arsenal.

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, July 15. Hillsborough.—“Being as yet at Hillsborough, your Grace may probably expect that I should give you a short account of our Belfast review. I was not at it, but I am well informed that the number of volunteers amounted to between sixteen and seventeen hundred. The appearance was much inferior to the former reviews, and I do not believe this dangerous folly is wearing fast away. I humbly think, however, that attention ought to be given to it, and as I had the honour to say to your Grace, the regular troops ought to be kept strong in these parts. The independent parsons attended the review from almost every parish in Down and Antrim, and they do preach up the principles of Republicanism and doctrines that lead only to sedition and rebellion, in the most open and barefaced manner. I saw three bodies of volunteers march through this town, each with an ill-looking fellow at their head carrying a large axe. This is said to be aimed at the King. The people, when asked what the volunteers are to get by this, their answer has been, shares of the forfeited estates. In short, the poor ignorant people are taught by their Ministers to believe they are slaves, and ruined, if they submit quietly to the law.”

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] July 15. London.—Though I have no particular information to send, I repeat my assurances that everything seems settled on a permanent system. Mr. Pitt's principal embarrassments arise from his friends, particularly with regard to some late regulations in the revenue. "Where Wilberforce, from some partial view of the subject, and the London merchants, from interest and design, throw obstacles on some of the best regulations, and as the Opposition would have taken care to throw their weight, however feeble in itself, into any scale against the minister, I really believe Pitt would have been outvoted yesterday in a division on a very proper and necessary clause, but the consideration of the affair is put off for the present. In a full House there is never any risque, but at this time of year it is almost impossible to bring down above sixty or seventy members; and I really think your Grace's members are the most usefull in the House, for I don't believe Pochin, Sutton, or myself have ever missed a single day, and Lord Tyrconnel is seldom or never absent at any expected business." We are to fight the old battle next Friday on the commitment of Mr. Pitt's East India Bill. Pitt was obliged to give up the tax on coals. This will be a good thing for you; and will prevent an occasion for new clamours in Ireland.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1784, July 16. Dublin Castle.—The accompanying account is an exact relation of the late tumults in this metropolis. I am persuaded that in the end they will produce the happiest effects by awakening those who wish for quiet and good government. I am under no apprehensions with respect to the perfect restoration of tranquillity. I have directed two additional regiments of infantry to march into Dublin; and have likewise directed two companies to be stationed as a permanent guard to the Arsenal. *Draft.*

W. PRESTON to the EARL OF ARRAN.

1784, July 17. Dublin Castle.—Conveying the Duke of Rutland's refusal of an application for Church preferment for Mr. Horan. *Press copy.*

[The DUKE OF RUTLAND] to O. WYNNE.

1784, July 17. Dublin Castle.—Refusing an application for a living for his son. *Press copy.*

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] July 17. St. James' Square.—Mr. Orde told me he was going to Ireland this morning, so that I need not mention the debate or the numbers. "I am to wish your Grace joy of the good effect which he says they will have in Ireland. It is sometimes reported here that your Grace has requested to return." If they are "discontented with their present Court, nobody will have the vanity to expect a better reception, and I solemnly believe Pitt would never find a successor unless he was to send one of the Princes to govern them, as Dempster *seriously* proposed doing with regard to India."

"Pitt has changed his plans so often lately relative to India in order to accommodate all parties, and the bill will probably undergo so many more alterations before it passes, that I will not trouble your Grace with

guesses about them. It is sufficient to say whatever he does must be *ex gratia*, for every sort of opposition is reduced to nothing, and, what is not often Fox's case, his skill lessens every day with his numbers." I have studied the India Bill, and could have spoken on it, but thought I should not do service to the cause by doing so, and, indeed, the debate was confined to four or five principals, amongst whom Dundas, I think, made the greatest figure.

The Duchess of Rutland having a bet on the Westminster election, I have to acquaint her that it will not probably be decided these two years according to its present progress, but I understand from Townshend it costs Fox and Co. 300*l.* a week, and he has been considering about throwing up his defence from the impossibility of going on with the expense. Will you tell the Duchess I had my pocket picked of a purse she presented to me. I had two men committed for it to Newgate a month or six weeks, but as Sir Sampson Wright told me I could only hang the men without recovering the purse, I did not appear to prosecute, and as I thought I could best please her Grace by such a step, they were, I suppose, discharged. I have now to request her Grace to put me on the list for another purse when her hands are disengaged of a sceptre; and if it does not happen these six years, I hope you will by that time send me to India or Africa, or somewhere else, to fill it.

[The DUKE OF RUTLAND] to the EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH.

[1784, July.]—I am sure you will do me the justice to believe I have been most anxious to devise some mode of overcoming the obstacles in the way of the entire gratification of your wishes for the vacant collectorship of Newry. But the impediments seem, upon reflection, insurmountable: and I fear I cannot venture to adopt the propositions which you suggest as a scheme of evasive compliance with the resolutions of the House of Commons.

I need not remind you of the circumstances* under which it was deemed expedient to accede to several of the motions made by Mr. Grattan, "and the successful resistance maintained against one of them, which would chiefly have entrenched upon the prerogative and privilege of the Crown. I am afraid that no favorable change in the situation of affairs has happened to justify the risk of incurring a serious complaint in the House of a departure from those very principles to which the consent and approbation of my Government was so unequivocally given." You are "well aware of the necessity under which I am placed of keeping well with the House of Commons, as the chief barrier at present to the inroads of sedition, and the great guardian of the mutual interests and connections of His Majesty's kingdoms.

"Forced as I am into a sort of warfare against the violence of popular attack, I must not throw away the best weapon I have," and I must think it "incumbent upon me to make at least the trial of secession according to the best arrangement I can form. The *direct breach* of the adopted resolution would not fail to be urged against us either by the mover or by his vigilant opponents. The defence would be difficult in either case, and might facilitate the success of a second endeavour to carry the most offensive proposition, which we before had influence to reject. *Any discernible attempt to evade* the real spirit of the resolution would subject us not only to a similar charge from our opponents, but to the imputation of weakness from our friends."

I had always destined the succession of Newry to your recommendation, and I still offer it to you if you can propose any practicable plan which is satisfactory to you. *Draft [by T. Orde].*

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to [the EARL OF MORNINGTON ?].

1784, July. Dublin Castle.—“I feel myself particularly anxious to rescue my Government from the imputation of having broken its faith with a man” like yourself, to whose interest I feel drawn by stronger motives than are derived from a mere political connexion.

In our last conversation I told you “that no none stood in competition with you for the support and favor of Government. Had I conceived the Post Office to have been an object, I should not have hesitated a moment about its disposal, and no view of extending and enlarging the foundation of my administration would have weighed a feather with me.”

It must certainly “be a point of consequence with Government to create offices which may increase its patronage and extend its powers, but I am sure your Lordship’s good sense and candor must confess that a congenial moment must be seized for the adoption of such a measure.”

Draft.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] July 21. St. James’ Square.—Every kind of opposition is now so entirely defeated, that it is useless to mention the numbers on any division. We had one indeed to day in a committee, where the tellers, in a joke, mistook twenty or thirty without any other comment than a laugh from the House.

Mr. McNamara, who is member for Leicester, entertained us with a curious description of one Handy Pemberton, who was mentioned as having begun a riot against your Grace at the Play House. It seems this Pemberton, a sort of buffoon and idiot, was of the same college with Mr. McNamara, who completely explained his character. But in fact, the affairs of Ireland are so misrepresented in the papers that nobody gives any sort of credit to any news under such a title.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, July 22. Whitehall.—“Our session is drawing towards a conclusion through every possible *chicane* and *petite guerre*. Mr. Pitt does incomparably. The enemy’s ranks are thin, but there is great virulence in those who remain. The great independent patriots, Eden, Sheridan, Beauchamp, and even old Wellbore Ellis, still continue to harass. Our House is perfectly quiet, though as we are to have an address upon the arrears of the Civil List to morrow, I do not despair of a debate. I wish your subjects would understand the advantages they have acquired and endeavour to turn them to profit, and not grasp after nonsense which will be their ruin if they attain it.” *Marked* “Secret and separate.”

W. N. M[ILES] to SIR EDWARD NEWENHAM.

1784, July 22. Seraing.—I wrote to you the 20th instant, inclosing two letters signed “Neptune.” I have now sent you the third “Neptune.” Do not delay giving me your full opinion on them. I feel hurt by the neglect of Ministers; the more so since I have been told that Lord Temple gave a place of 800*l.* a year to Mr. Doyle. This was told me last night by a Mr. Purcel, to whom my *excessive* love of Ireland led me to be very civil, and who has behaved with equal rudeness and ingratitude.

If I can contrive to take my daughter to Paris in the winter, you will much oblige by giving us a letter of introduction. “I am not a man

of gait, you know, neither do I love the unmeaning bustle of routs and card assemblies. Introduce me as the philosopher and hermit, and not as the man of *ton*." Write soon, and write to Mr. Pitt. *Copy, marked "Secret."*

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO WILLIAM PITT.

1784, July 24. Dublin Castle.—*Copy, marked "Secret and confidential."* [*Correspondence, p. 24.*]

DANIEL PULTENEY TO THE DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] July 27. St. James' Square.—The Indian Bill was received and read through with the amendments at 1 o'clock this morning in a very full House, where Fox did not think fit to attend. I did not, indeed, ever see thirty of the Opposition in their places. I should think neither Lord Cornwallis nor any great man will ever go out Commander-in-Chief, being subject to disclose on oath every part of their public and private fortune, which is likewise subject to restraint for three years after their return, or at least is so threatened as to make it impossible for any man who has been in India to conduct any sale or purchase of property without evasion. But as it is Sutton's business and mine to approve the Bill throughout, I fear it is mutinous to make any observations on this voluminous code.

Lord Chatham told me yesterday that there was no foundation for the report of your wishing to be re-called, and that this report was spread by the enemies of the Government in Ireland and here. We have *credible* accounts of French money being distributed in Ireland to foment disturbances there, but there is only one embarrassment apprehended here, namely, the admission or non-admission of Catholics to any pretensions they have been encouraged to form. Amongst the new substituted taxes is an additional tax on racehorses of one guinea per annum and *5l.* on every winner. According to what I read in a newspaper, it is the most ridiculous ever drawn up, and will not produce a shilling at Newmarket. Lord Chatham, however, says it is not so absurd as the papers describe, and that he will speak to his brother about it, which I wish he may do to avoid the ridicule and resentment of the "jockies."

Postscript.—Nothing passed to-day worth repeating. I left Panton and two or three other jockies at the House attacking Lord Chatham on the jockey tax. I find they sent a deputation yesterday to Pitt, consisting of Lord Egremont, the Duke of Queensberry, and Lord Grosvenor, who told him that if he meant to suppress racing they must acquiesce, but that this Bill would certainly effect that object, and none of them ever meant to have anything more to do with horses if it was not altered; that they did not mean to evade the tax, but to put it to him whether he did it through want of information or whether he really meant to suppress racing entirely. I hear from Panton that Pitt behaved very sensibly and properly on the occasion.

I know the Jockey Club is entirely in earnest to give up racing altogether if the present Act of ten per cent. is not amended.

LORD SYDNEY TO THE DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, July 28. Whitehall.—"I immediately communicated with Mr. Pitt on the receipt of your letter of the 23rd." We agreed "that its contents should be sent to the King, and likewise laid before the Cabinet."

It seemed to be "the general opinion that such steps should be taken by your Grace as might put it into your power to proceed against the Bishop of Derry, whenever the time comes that you can do it with effect. The paper is of the most flagitious kind," but as yet it is only the publication of a Belfast news-writer. By what you mention "of endeavours having been used in the time of your predecessor to fix publications of this kind upon the Bishop of Derry, and of their having proved ineffectual, it looks as if his Lordship chose to shelter himself and to put the printer between him and danger, though certainly, from the tenor of his general conduct," it would be "natural to suppose that he was ready to avow himself the author."

I understand that nothing can be done until next term; in the meantime you will consider fully the steps to be taken.

"No Government can long subsist upon which such attacks are made with impunity. Your Grace must be best able to judge of the temper of the people of Ireland and of the probable effect of the prosecution of this mischievous madman; whether the punishing of him is likely to deter others from following his example or to imitate them, and in what light the country in general will view such a proceeding. I am sorry to write in a style which seems to be balancing between two opinions and deciding upon neither, but the temper of Ireland seems to form the essence of the question, and of that it is hardly possible to judge at a distance. The British Parliament can have nothing to do with this business at present."

Mr. Pitt writes to you by this messenger, which is a great satisfaction to me, as he will fully explain the sentiments of the Cabinet as well as his own upon this very disagreeable subject. "I have not patience when I think of the advantages which these people are throwing away in the pursuit of what will weaken and distress them if they obtain their end." *Marked* "Secret and separate."

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, July 28, Wednesday. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence*, p. 28.]

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] July 31. St. James' Square.—I shall have now little to trouble you with before the end of the Session. The racehorse tax, which, by a meeting of the jockeys, was agreed to break up racing, is now quite altered. Pitt has, however, disgusted by a great want of politeness the people who waited on him about it. "In mentioning his conduct at a jockey meeting, Vernon told me the Duke of Grafton declared they could expect nothing otherwise from such a young man." I foresee things will not go so smoothly next year as at present, for in a division yesterday not forty of those who voted came in consequence of Treasury letters. Except Rose and Stevens, there is hardly one man of any service either in the Treasury or the Admiralty. By conversation with Jervis I find he is very slack, and I suspect that is the case with all Lord Shelburne's friends. There are likewise murmurs about the inordinate power and patronage of the Duke of Richmond. The abominable character of the coalition, however, is still our protection, though I find Lord J. Cavendish is coming in immediately to take the lead amongst them. "Walking to-day in the streets with a person of the Duke of Chartres' acquaintance, we met him and heard his account of his flight, which your Grace has read in the papers, and of which you probably doubted the truth. There is a large balloon made here, which,

however, is not to be sent off this month, and the man says one of the people who is to go up in it is a Mr. Biggen, who was of Trinity College, Cambridge."

JOHN MANNERS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, August 5. Pall Mall.—Reminding the Duke of his letter (of 28th June) which has not been answered.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] August 5, Thursday.—Let me remind you to answer the Archbishop of Dublin's invitation. "I have taken the liberty of remaining this bad day in the country, but I must entreat your Grace to consider and decide upon the conduct respecting the late unfortunate disturbance. Your Grace will particularly be aware of the bad consequence of delay, and of the risk of an application to you to do that which should only be done voluntarily. I dare not say more, for I feel as your Grace does about it, but I must not restrain my feeling and anxiety for the safety and success of your Grace's Government."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] August 5. St. James' Square.—Mortlock's Bank at Cambridge is broke. The affair of the Navy Bills comes on to-morrow; when, if any opportunity occurs, I must *conscientiously* oppose your interest in favour of Pitt's Regulation. On this I fancy I shall venture to speak, though I see the newspapers to-day have made me a speech, when I was not in the House for the first time this Parliament, without my having any trouble on the occasion. "I breakfasted this morning with Lord Chatham, who is I believe more in rebellion with Pitt than I am, for he declared his brother's ideas on the racehorses were only fit to humbug an old woman, and that he would have both spoken and voted against him" in the House of Lords. We are all much satisfied with the accounts from Ireland; and I hear you are to receive the gold snuff-box from Dublin, which is here thought well merited.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, August 6. Whitehall.—I have reliable information that "within these last three weeks ten officers belonging to the Irish Brigade have obtained leave of absence from the Court of France; that five of them are already gone over to Ireland with an intention to serve in the volunteer corps, and that two officers have already entered."

I hope the disturbances in Dublin have subsided. They have been very much magnified here.

Poor Du Roveray wishes a recommendation to you; his present object seems to be a professorship of Civil Law. "I think that a mixture of foreign and polite literature might be of great use to Ireland, and, between friends, Ireland is not the only country which might receive very considerable benefit from such an addition to the general plan of education." *Marked* "Secret and separate."

SIR J. BLAQUIERE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, August 7. Port Leman.—The governors of this county infirmary return thanks for your liberal donation. This, as well as the entertainment you gave at Swimming Island, has made the Lord Lieutenant very popular here. We were much honoured by your visit at this cabin.

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, August 9. Putney Heath.—[*Correspondence*, p. 32.]

C. DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, August 11. Blenheim.—Applying on behalf of M^{de}. de Laval in regard to a pension.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, August 12. Whitehall.—I am concerned at this foolish affray in Dublin owing to the imprudence of some young military men. You will doubtless mark your disapprobation in case any of your establishments were concerned.

It has been suggested that the ports of Waterford, Cork, and Kinsale, should be watched for foreign correspondence,—if you can find proper persons to whom you may with safety depute sufficient power to examine letters and packets. I am sensible it is a delicate subject, and am throwing out hints of which it may be difficult to take advantage.

The King consents to Lord Cliefden and Mr. Ponsonby being made Privy Councillors, likewise to Mr. Skeffington succeeding to Mr. Conway. "This latter business savours of purchase, and therefore is not quite relished, but it is agreed to."

Our parliamentary campaign is nearly over; it has been quiet in the Lords, though most fatiguing in the Commons. Pitt has gained the greatest possible credit, and, notwithstanding his extraordinary exertions, his health has not suffered. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1784,] August 13. St. James' Square.—The papers are so full of lies about Ireland that one does not know what to believe; but I see it stated that you are returned from the country to Dublin. Parliament will be prorogued some day next week. I am afraid from the hasty manner in which everything has passed there will be much to revise next year. On the Navy Bills Mr. Pitt was certainly overruled somewhere. I should guess it was the Chancellor's opinion Pitt should recede, which he did with a very ill grace, after proving in a very good speech that he ought to have adhered to his first plan, "and that he had given way to clamor and not to reason, and this was certainly the case. I happened to be sitting behind him in the House, and really think, from the disapprobation shewn by several near me, it would have been easy to beat both the Minister and the minority, for which purpose Sir J. Johnstone, a wrong-headed man, proposed to Jenkinson in my hearing to oppose *Mr. Pitt and his concessions*, and he would have been well supported, but Jenkinson declined it. It is the language very much at present among some of Pitt's country supporters in the House, that he is too full of *concession*, and there is a sort of jealousy against his East India friends, which I think may possibly break out next year."

"Another jealousy too may break out if Dundas is not a little checked relative to the Scotch, for whom everything is claimed and granted without debate."

"If jealousy is the surest sign of love, Pitt is certainly loved enough by his party, and it will require no great address to prevent any of its fatal effects. There is but one thing—except any accident should happen to

the King—that seems at present capable of endangering the Ministry, which is Lord S——’s being brought into any place where he can be credited to be prime minister, for if it was only to shew how injurious all reflections are that are cast on that *honorable* House, they certainly will always have the *real* minister a commoner, or be dissolved every year in attempting to keep such a *valuable* companion amongst them.”

“Some place might perhaps be obtained for [G.] Sutton in which I could act as his deputy, and not subject your Grace to the expense of a re-election.” The Duke of Richmond “carries all his most enormous ordnance jobs.”

The English balloons are attempting in vain to imitate their volatile neighbours, but they are confident the next will succeed.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO LORD [SYDNEY].

1784, August. Phoenix Park.—“I have directed every necessary precaution to counteract the effects which those facts contained in your letter [of 6th] might produce. I have made every enquiry concerning those officers belonging to the Irish Brigade whom you describe to have arrived in Ireland,” but as yet with little result. I shall give orders for persons to be procured and stationed at the ports of Cork, Kinsale, and Waterford, but you will see the extreme difficulty of finding fit persons for this duty. “Since I had written thus far, I have discovered a channel by which I hope to get to the bottom of all the plots and machinations which are contriving in this city. As I always suspected, the disturbances which have agitated this country have all originated their source from French influence. There is a meeting in which two men of the name of Napper Tandy, and another called John, together with others who are stiled free citizens, assemble. They drink the French King on their knees, and their declared purpose is a separation from England, and the establishment of the Roman Catholic religion. At these meetings an avowed French agent constantly attends, who is no other than the person in whose favor the F[rench] ambassador desired Lord C—— to give me a formal introduction. All that I have heard further of him is that he is the same person who, previous to the year 1745, was sent over to Scotland to try the disposition of the Scotch to rebellion. His name is at present out of my head, but Lord Carmarthen will probably recollect it. One of this meeting, alarmed at the dangerous extent of these schemes, has confessed, and has engaged to discover to me the whole intentions of this profligate, abandoned, unprincipled crew. In other respects I am glad to find a strong disposition among the respectable part of this metropolis to mark these seditious proceedings with the most decisive indignation. Two parishes have come to very strong resolutions that, in consequence of the tumultuous conduct of the manufacturers, they release themselves from their agreement not to wear English manufacture. The first signature to one of the resolutions is the Duke of Leinster.” *Draft, marked* “Most secret and confidential.”

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO WILLIAM PITT.

1784, August 15. Phoenix Park.—*Draft, marked* “Most private.” [*Correspondence, p. 36.*]

DANIEL PULTENEY TO THE DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1784,] August 20, Friday.—“His Majesty has this day dismissed us with the enclosed, which perhaps your Grace will receive in manuscript,

but which it can be no great impropriety to send as soon as I believe it can be received in print.

"I am sorry to say, that in talking with Pitt yesterday relative to his being shot at, he did not extend the conversation to some reciprocity of wishing joy. He told me the window through which the man fired was not wider than his body, and, of course, that the ball must have ascended in a very odd direction to miss him. They filled the House yesterday with all the minority in town, and brought the Duke of Portland, Lord Loughbro', &c., under the gallery, to hear a very dull debate indeed, *de laná Capriná*, and though they had intended to divide, they did not dare to do it. I can only venture to say respecting your Grace's situation in Ireland, that you are the only Minister in any sort of difficulty or inconvenience, for excepting playing at marbles, everything that shows ease and security passes every day on the Treasury bench; and, from what I have seen, the Chancellor is just as much at his ease in the House of Lords. With regard to your Grace's government, it is from Ireland alone the minority have any hopes of some new confusions. Lord G. Gordon has attacked your Grace's condition in some petition I have seen, but I believe there is nothing the minority would like so well as your Grace's return, and certainly no man in England is capable of satisfying the wish, if they are to be satisfied at all, with a mild English Government."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, August 20. Whitehall.—I hope the recess will afford us the opportunity of settling the essential points between Great Britain and Ireland. We shall on this side enter into the business with a spirit of fairness and equity. I hope there will be a corresponding disposition in Ireland. This unlucky affray has, I believe, been much exaggerated here.

I have seen Lord Hillsborough, who is returning to you. He seems in the best disposition to support English government in Ireland, but exercises his own judgment as to the manner of conducting public affairs in a style that does not denote perfect satisfaction. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

FREDERICK TRENCH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, August 21.—Concerning Mr. Browne's designs for Belvoir Castle.

The EARL OF SHELBURNE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, August 23. Seaford.—Recommending Monsieur Bombelles, formerly minister from the French Court to Ratisbon, who is going to Scotland and Ireland.

LORD HOOD to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, August 24. London.—"I am unable to express what I feel for the very great honor your Grace has done me, by the commands you so obligingly left with Mr. Hill, for sending me the portrait of your late most dearly and justly beloved brother. Your Grace could not have made me a more acceptable present, or one I could prize with such enthusiastic warmth of veneration and esteem, for I not only loved

and respected Lord Robert Manners; but must lament his loss as a very heavy public one, and honor and revere his memory as long as I live.

“I beg to avail myself of this opportunity of offering my most grateful acknowledgements for the honour your Grace has conferred upon the Rev. Mr. George, and I hope and trust you found him, and that he will invariably prove himself, a very respectable man, and worthy your Grace’s protection and favour.

“After having been confined here from the dissolution of Parliament to this day, in the most arduous and unpleasant business I ever took in hand, I am now about to retreat to my little farm at Catherington, near Petersfield, Hampshire.”

EARL TEMPLE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, August 25. Gorfield.—“I live too little in the political world to know the situation of Ireland, or to hazard a conjecture upon the varieties of opinions which are prevalent upon the apparent ferment in that kingdom; but with the most eager interest in the union of both countries, and with the particular and warm regard which I feel for the credit of your Government, there would be an affectation in a total silence upon that interesting subject. Your Grace has now seen enough of that kingdom to have taken your opinion upon your line of government. I do not doubt but that you have well weighed your line, and, whatever that may be, it is not sufficient for you to decide to persist in it, but it is indispensable to convince your friends, as well as enemies, that you mean to abide by it. The moment seems critical and requires great prudence, temper, and decision, and, above all, every exertion to secure the absolute confidence of those who are to fight the political battle under your standard. You will, my dear Lord, excuse this general outline, which is suggested to me, as a stander by, from the events such as I can collect them. As to the detail, even if you would admit the discussion of it, I have neither the materials, nor indeed the inclination upon so great a stake, to enter into it. Thus far I must observe that both Parliaments have risen, leaving undone much of what materially presses. Your Grace stands pledged to Ireland for a solid and systematick commercial arrangement; *that pledge must be redeemed*, or I need not say that *actum est*.”

The EARL OF TYRONE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, August 29. Curraghmore.—I regret that your promised visit has been prevented owing to the situation of affairs. I am glad to be able to assure you that everything is perfectly quiet in this county, and that in the neighbouring ones, notwithstanding the noise a few active people may make, the general sense of the country does not approve the present spirit of innovation.

LE MARQUIS DE BOMBELLES to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784, August or September.]—Complimentary letter of leave-taking. *French*.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1784, September 2. Phoenix Park.—I should suggest that those regiments on the Irish establishment which are ordered to serve abroad

might be recruited from Ireland, as Irish recruits are always found to make good troops on foreign service, which, from their propensity to desert at home, cannot be said of them in Ireland. Things look more tranquil here. The printer of the *Volunteers' Journal* has been seized for high treason. "I have but very little doubt of his conviction, which will give a more effectual check to the licentious spirit of the press than even that masterpiece of *despotism and tyranny* for which my administration has been so justly condemned, 'the Bill to secure the liberty of the press.'" *Draft.*

THE EARL OF SHANNON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, September 3. Castlemartyr.—I am much concerned at the disgrace of this country from the disturbers of the peace. I read with particular satisfaction in the public papers your answer to the seditious address of the county of Dublin. We much regret being disappointed of seeing you here.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, September 4. Whitehall.—I was not very much surprised at the accident which happened at the punishment of Dignam. "I have always understood that pelting the soldiers by the mob, and firing upon them in return, were events much more frequent in Dublin than in London." *Marked,* "Secret and separate."

THE EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, September 5. Merrion Square.—Concerning the signatures of the Meath address, arguing that they are sufficiently authenticated for the purpose of presenting the address to the King, and urging that time ought not to be lost in the discussion of the subject.

THE EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, September 7. Hillsborough.—Acknowledging the receipt of a letter.

THE EARL OF KENMARE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, September 9. Killarney.—I regret that, being detained in Dublin by these disgraceful riots, you are unable to visit this district, where I think your tour would convince you that this spirit of faction and insolence is confined to the walls of the metropolis.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to WILLIAM PITT.

1784, September 13. Phœnix Park.—I congratulate you on the very successful conclusion of your session, and I am glad to see that you are at Brighthelmstone. Lord Mornington is arrived here, but without having seen my letters to you in which I discussed his claims. The language he holds is, I am sorry to say, so intemperate, and his general discourse so hostile to Government, that should this continue, it must preclude him from any favours which it may be in my power and inclination to bestow. He states engagements to which I am a stranger, and which must have been made to him by Lord Temple; and at the

same time he claims merit for disinterestedness in coming forward to support Government without terms. "To purchase the office of Master of the Rolls and to render it an efficient one cannot be a negative measure, but the terms which alone would induce the Provost to quit the office of Secretary of State and Privy Seal are so exorbitant that the scheme is absolutely impracticable. If this measure was to be adopted in any shape, it should be done upon an extensive system, that is, to place responsible persons in the House of Peers, for which situations there are many candidates, such as the Duke of Leinster, Lord Hillsborough, etc., and therefore a President of the Council, etc., etc., should at the same time be created. I go into this detail that you may see the variety of my difficulties and embarrassments towards the accomplishment of Lord M[ornington]'s objects. He cannot wait for Parliament to oppose, but he even now insinuates in private conversation charges of negligence and inactivity against my government. . . . At the same time I still wish to serve him, and I think him upon the whole a young man of so much merit and worth, with fine parts, that he will still stand the forwardest of any for office, provided his intemperance in the meanwhile should not render the breach between him and Government irreparable. But I am in hopes he will return to reason." He is violent against Mr. Orde, but without a shadow of foundation.

"We have for some time past been in a state of apparent tranquillity. . . . But though the flame is at present smothered, I cannot consider it entirely extinguished. . . . I could have wished that the crisis had not been postponed, provided your strength in England could have given me a vigorous support. . . . I am convinced it can never be a difficult conjuncture to manage. The efficient strength of the country is so decided against this intemperate faction. The seeds of dissent by Lord Charlemont's address have been so completely sowed between the Catholics and Presbyterians, that the power of both those parties is much diminished. All which must of course tend to facilitate my situation and to frustrate the evil views of these unprincipled incendiaries. But, at the same time, I am still persuaded that without the operation of force disturbances will from time to time be reiterated, whenever a discontented demagogue may choose to work upon the rage of the mob, or a visionary politician shall think fit to *speculate on the constitution*. Much wicked pains have been taken to possess the misguided Papists with a notion that perseverance will obtain them the right of suffrage, and though the better part of their body are decidedly against the attempt and are perfectly satisfied with, and grateful for, the privileges which they enjoy under the present constitution, yet the lower and more numerous description of them still retain their wild and impracticable ideas. I hope during the course of this recess you will give your serious attention to all the unadjusted points of commercial regulation which require to be finally established between the two countries, and [] that you will not omit the consideration [] extend [] a system of pol[]ment of Ireland, that I may be delivered from the wretched and disgraceful task of governing from day to day by temporizing and expedients. Whatever may arise, I have not the smallest apprehension about consequences. Government here, well supported by Government in England, would be able to crush any disturbance or insurrection, call it what name you will, to atoms; and perhaps till some violent contingency shall have occurred, permanent tranquillity and useful connexion with Great Britain will never be fairly established in Ireland. We have been about and about the discovery of plots without being able wholly to unravel them, and to procure that direct and specifick proof which

would justify us in proceeding in a decisive manner with the authors. All our information agrees that Sir Edward Newenham is the centre of these machinations and that he holds foreign correspondence. *Your friend* the Bishop of Derry has had his baggage packed for these last three weeks, with a view of departing for the continent; but his mind is so vol[at]ile that it is impossible to say where he will go. He has turned his son, Lord Harvey, out of his house *for a Tory*; and a party of officers—among whom was my first *aid-de-camp*, Colonel Dundas—lately dined with him, when his whole language was such complete treason that they were reduced to the alternative of flinging a bottle at his head or of quitting his company, the latter of which they preferred. If he continues in this country to act as he has hitherto done, it will be impossible to avoid impeaching him next session. Tomorrow the city of Dublin will meet by a *summons* from the sheriffs for the purpose of *returning* delegates to the National Convention. But I am in great hopes that, even in this factious place, this meeting will afford a triumph to Government.” *Partly draft, partly press copy.*

THE EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, September 15. Hillsborough.—I ventured to propose two modes for your conduct on the “ill-judged resolution of the House of Commons” relating to the appointment of collectors. I now propose a third, which is to postpone the filling up of Lisburne and Newry until after the meeting of Parliament, when we shall see the course things will take. This I urge very strongly, otherwise my influence here will receive a severe blow, and I shall not be able to maintain the quiet which I have effected in this district at infinite pains and trouble. I beg your Grace to believe that my advice is founded upon the most impartial public principles.

R. TICKELL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, September 16. Stamp Office.—Thanking him for a favour.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, September 16. Whitehall.—I have to acknowledge yours of 26th. We trust the punishment of the printer will follow his commitment. Those coming from Ireland think better of the aspect of affairs. All agree in the necessity of watching the machinations of foreigners and Roman Catholics. My official letter informs you of the King’s approval of your appointment of the inspector of recruits. Mr. Orde will be informed of what we have learned upon some of the secret subjects, and of the train we have laid for learning more. *Marked* “Secret and separate.”

EARL TEMPLE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, September 18. Gosfield.—Let me remind you of my *protégé*, Dr. Butler, whom at my recommendation you put on your list of chaplains, and suggest that as Dr. Ekins does not take the Bishopric of Killala, you may make an appointment to that post which will open some Irish preferment suitable for my poor friend.

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, September 19. Hillsborough.—I am extremely mortified at the arrangement of Revenue promotions which you have sent me as in contemplation. But I still await your answer to my letter of 16th, asking that the disposal of the Lisburne and Newry collection may be postponed till after the meeting of the Parliament.

LORD THURLOW to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, September 20. Trentham.—Acknowledging a letter of recommendation, and congratulating the Duke on the prospect of restoring order.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1784, September 21. Dublin Castle.—My official despatch will give you a full account of the proceedings of the meeting called by the sheriffs of the city of Dublin for appointing delegates to the National Congress. I trust His Majesty will approve of the steps which I directed the Attorney-General to take in order to anticipate the seditious views for which that assembly was called. Affairs in this country look more tranquil, but I consider this rather as a suspension of the factious spirit of those who wish for confusion than as a total dereliction of mischievous principle. Whenever the storm arises I shall be prepared, and I am in no apprehension for the consequences. *Draft.*

The EARL OF BELVEDERE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, September 21. Swandlingbor.—I shall, immediately on my return to Westmeath, endeavour to obtain a public declaration in the sense you suggest, namely, of support to the King and his Government against unconstitutional agitation.

JOHN MANNERS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, September 21. The Grange.—Acknowledging a letter from the Duke, which intimated that had any Englishmen been promoted to Irish peerages, the writer would have been approved, and asking to be kept in mind if such an event should hereafter take place.

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, September 24. London.—“I beg leave to return my most sincere thanks for the kind letter which I had the honour of receiving yesterday, and particularly to thank your Grace for your good intention towards my nephew. I am very sensible that even in your high situation you cannot always serve those whom you most wish to serve, but I was so thoroughly persuaded of your Grace's good inclinations, that though I have solicited every Lord Lieutenant that has gone to Ireland, I have not said anything to your Grace, from a certain confidence that when an opportunity offered my nephew would not be forgot.

“Your Grace's picture is finished, and I will immediately make the alteration required in Lord Chatham's picture, and send them both to Belvoir Castle.

“I dined with Lady Lucan last Sunday, who told me of her intention of painting a picture for your Grace, but was undetermined what it should be. I shall call on her tomorrow to acquaint her with what your Grace wishes about the Protector Duke of Somerset’s picture, which I should think would be the best thing for her to do. I question her success in an historical picture.

In regard to the Nativity, the falling off of the colour must be occasioned by the shaking in the carriage, but as it now is in a state of rest, it will remain as it is for ever; what it wants, I will next year go on purpose to mend it, and from Belvoir I should be glad to proceed to Ireland, but I heard yesterday from Mrs. Siddons such a sad account of the Liberty Boys, that I have hardly courage to venture. She came away in a terrible fright, and has not yet recovered herself.

“The place which I have the honour of holding, of the King’s principal painter, is a place of not so much profit, and of near equal dignity with His Majesty’s rat catcher. The salary is 38*l.* per annum, and for every whole length I am to be paid 50*l.*, instead of 200*l.* which I have from everybody else. Your Grace sees that this new honour is not likely to elate me very much. I need not make any resolution to behave with the same familiarity as I used to with my old acquaintance.”

CAROLINE, DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH, to the DUKE
[OF RUTLAND].

1784, September 25. Blenheim.—Thanking him for compliance with her request in favour of Mrs. de Laval.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to the EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH.

1714, September 25. Phoenix Lodge.—I am sincerely concerned that the arrangement which I communicated to you, in the hope of meeting your wishes, should have proved so little satisfactory. I assure you that I had no object more at heart than the practicable accommodation of your friends. The blame of the unsuccess of this endeavour, which you seem disposed to impute to other suggestions, must be shared by myself and Mr. Orde, who drew up the propositions under my direction. You must be aware that I could not depart from the resolutions of the House of Commons, which were passed with the knowledge, and without the disapprobation, of Government. I much regret that I cannot comply with your desire that the disposal of the Lisburne and Newry collections may be postponed until after the meeting of Parliament. I cannot propose to rescind a measure which had the concurrence of Government, and has not since proved impracticable. Besides, in the address moved at the close of the session, the Commons expressed their satisfaction in this regulation, and in my speech from the throne I complimented the House on this very resolution. I appeal to your own judgment as to the course which I am obliged to follow, out of mere consistency, and I must of course at the same time acknowledge myself at your mercy, for the conduct which brought us into this difficulty. I cannot be insensible to the charge which you think imputable to my administration for allowing such a measure to succeed, and thereby exposing the King’s patronage in this kingdom to an improvident and dangerous abridgment. I acted from the idea of doing real service to the Revenue without any great diminution of the patronage of the Crown; and I am heartily sorry that its first operation should be to prevent the direct success of your nomination of Mr. Reilly and

Mr. Slade for these collectorships. I shall certainly—as you prefer this to the mode I had intended for indirectly benefiting Mr. Reilly—adopt your nomination of an unexceptionable gentleman to the collectorship of Newry; and I should be glad to hear from you upon this as soon as convenient, and also, by return, as to the scheme I had proposed for Lisburne and Larne. I should be not only very inattentive to your wishes, but careless of the interest of my Government, if I put into an avoidable risk the full strength of your credit and influence in your neighbourhood. *Draft.*

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, September 26. Froggnall.—I have no doubt of the King's approval of the steps you have taken for encountering the dangerous spirit of those who have promoted the meeting at Tholsel. Indeed, the tone of your Government has met with His Majesty's full approbation. I am glad to see the confidence with which you write of the probable end of the present critical situation. To have brought the affairs of Ireland to a happy settlement will be the most essential service that has been for many years rendered to the King and to his subjects. I am glad to see the spirit rising amongst the nobility and persons of property in Ireland. "Indeed, it behoves them to come forward, for it is extremely plain from the complexion of things that their ruin as individuals is aimed at as directly as that of the British Government and interest in Ireland."

I have lately had two conversations with the Primate upon the subject of Ireland. "He is clear that the Papists mean a separation of the two kingdoms and a Popish king. He is equally clear that the mad Presbyterians in the north will be the dupes of their own bad policy. He thinks that their madder leader, who is neither Papist nor Protestant, and therefore, on that score, the more fit to negotiate between them, ought not to pass unnoticed, and indeed that he cannot pass unnoticed, and *that the sooner he is dealt with according to law the better.*" His apprehension from the meeting of the delegates, a considerable time before the session of Parliament, arose from the same reason for which you prohibited the meeting at Dublin; "I mean the ideas which the common people might associate with the very title of the assembly, a *National Congress.*" The Primate mentioned a Popish committee, with Sir Patrick Bellew at their head, who disavowed Lord Kenmare's declaration, and asserted that they were the real heads of the Roman Catholics, "and declared that nothing less than a general participation of the rights of citizens would satisfy them. He likewise gave it as his own opinion that Sir Patrick spoke the sense of the bulk of the Roman Catholics of Ireland."

"The Primate mentioned O'Leary to me as a dangerous man. He may be a tolerably good spy, he says, but you may be certain that if he is an equal one between both partys it is as much as you are to expect. He thought he might be used, but with some other spy upon him perhaps."

I find I have omitted to mention one opinion of the Primate's, namely, that any giving way upon the subject of Parliamentary Reform would be ruinous to the country. It would irritate the Roman Catholics if they were not included, which irritation is as much to be avoided as improper concession. "I need not add that he looked upon giving them votes as the certain overthrow of the present constitution, civil and religious."

I ought not to finish without one word on the subject of the Attorney-General, who has done his part with a spirit and ability which do him credit. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

The DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784?] October 4. Chatsworth.—Asking for deputations for certain manors round Chatsworth in order to prevent trespasses by poachers.

JOHN FITZGIBBON, Attorney-General, to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, October 6. Cashel.—I am gratified at your having mentioned me in such a way as to attract the King's notice. I hope in a few days to make my acknowledgments in person.

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, October 7. Putney Heath.—[*Correspondence*, p. 41.]

* The SAME to the SAME.

[1784,] October 7. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence*, p. 46.]

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1784, October 7. Phoenix Park.—Thank you for your full and satisfactory letter of 26th ult. I am much gratified by the expression which you convey of His Majesty's approval. Affairs still look favourable. The metropolis is quiet; and the magistrates profess a determination of vigilance, zeal, and order. It must, however, be recollected that "the people are at rest *with arms in their hands*; and, until they are either *deprived* of those arms or hold them by a legal commission under the Crown, certain and permanent tranquillity will never be established."

Your conversation with the Primate has been very interesting. But I must apprise you that the Primate, with the utmost zeal for the good of the two kingdoms, is too apt to despond. His prejudices against the Roman Catholics increase his apprehensions, and though some of them may meditate the most dangerous designs, I can hardly persuade myself that the larger and better proportion of them do not abhor the dangerous plans meditated by some. My sentiments about the Bishop of Derry—who, I suppose, is alluded to under the title of the "madder leader who is neither Papist nor Protestant"—and the line to be pursued with him are well known to your Lordship. His conduct has indisputably rendered him a fit object to be dealt with by law. He is a sacrifice which none will regret, and might if necessary be made a striking example to the spirit and justice of Government, though little is to be apprehended from his endeavours at confusion. "His character is far even below contempt, and I am confident his influence would neither afford him the means, nor would his courage suffer him, to venture further than the talking treason over his claret.

"As for Sir Patrick Bellew, I believe he carries his ideas of mischief as far as any Catholick in Ireland. I have not as yet had occasion to name him to your Lordship, because as yet nothing specifick or direct against him has come to my knowledge. But you may be assured I have

not been inattentive to his motions. Should the Catholicks persevere in carrying their ideas to an improper extent, it might not be impolittick to suggest to them the possibility of repealing those Acts which were made in their favor." I am glad the Primate acquiesces in the propriety of postponing the meeting of Parliament to as late a day as is consistent with the common business of the country. This is, in every view, the best course. It will give time for the seditious spirit to subside; and it is absolutely necessary at the opening of the session to speak of the commercial regulations between the two countries as conclusively arranged. Should the negotiations on these points afterwards appear to be still open, nobody can answer for the consequences. You are, however, well aware how fatal it would be for the interests of the empire to have the Government of Ireland carried on any longer by *temporising expedients*, and *without a system*.

The Attorney-General has, indeed, merited the highest applause by his manly conduct. Much advantage is to be expected from his zeal, his ability, and his attachment to English Government.

"I have just heard that the new sheriffs of Dublin have this day in the most manly manner refused to convene a meeting of their bailiwick to elect delegates to the National Congress; and in consequence of this refusal, to-night's paper contains a request to the freemen and freeholders of the city of Dublin to meet for the above-mentioned purpose. This is signed by about fifteen names, with Sir Edward Newenham at their head." *Press copy*.

The EARL OF MANSFIELD to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, October 14. Kenwood.—As to that part of your letter "which relates to the present state of Ireland, every word you say is wise, honest, dignified, and every way worthy of you. I have had conversation upon the subject, not only with my old friend the Primate, but with several other persons well informed and well intentioned. It is feared that the danger is not foreseen by Government in its full extent, consequently sufficient care is not taken to provide against it. You have to steer between Scylla and Charibdis. If the old Irish Papists prevail, the country is lost and ruined in one way; if the new Modellers of Anarchy, miscalled Reform, should prevail, the country is equally lost in another way. Be assured the Papists have a serious scheme to avail themselves of the conjecture that they are now encouraged, and will hereafter be supported, by foreign powers. The cries of the popular frenzy—the self existence of Ireland, the usurpation of England for centurys—may in their mouths be colourable and specious, and naturally lead to the resumption of three-fourths of all the landed property of Ireland, though they sound ill from the English colonists who went from England to possess the estates of the vanquished. If Government takes either side, the contest is about the mode of losing the country, not the substance. He is a great statesman who can bring order out of confusion, and use jarring partys as the instruments of peace and good government. You cannot, upon principle, disband the Popish volunteers, without disbanding all; you cannot say seditious meetings of Papists to alter the constitution, are illegal, without extending the rules. If the terror of the Papists should bring people to their senses, the country may be yet saved a little longer. If the frenzy continues, the Papists, under the protection of France, will certainly seize the country, and they will be furnished with arguments to justify their taking all land forfeited for rebellion against England, a tyrant and an usurper. If the premises are true, their conclusion follows. You must

not ask either the English or Irish judges any question; they will not answer. There is no want of law to defend order and government against seditious combinations and open tendencies to violence, but unprincipled faction, and the vicissitude of administrations, hold an occasional language which confounds law and reason, and teaches the rabble to call bitter sweet and sweet bitter. If the jury is tainted and prejudiced, law or authority will be of little avail. There lies your tender part. Wise laws are not wanting to us, but we are wanting to ourselves in the execution."

"You are much in the right to despise being libelled for doing what is right. *Ego hoc animo semper fui*—but I have always listened to calumny so far as to examine whether it hits upon a sore place, and, if it does, to correct the thing immediately. The complaint the most general, and which hurts you the most, is drinking hard, and the irregularity of the hours of the Castle. Many are ready and able to advise you in great matters, but in such points as these two, which I think of the utmost importance to your conduct and fame, I am the only man who will venture to give you a hint. I beg you would ask Preston whether there is any foundation for this complaint, and how it is treated by impartial people, by your friends, and by your enemies. I beg my most respectful compliments to the Duchess upon everything except the irregularity of her hours."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[17]84, October 17. Moreton.—I wish you joy on having almost suppressed the delegates. This Lord Milton mentions on the best authority. He says that all the principal men of consequence are withdrawn from the associations; and that the *firmness* of your Government has given general encouragement to all the most respectable people of Ireland. On a late visit to Cambridge I found that there was no prospect of opposition to your views there.

"I really think if, on returning to town, I can't get any prospect of going to Calcutta, or some sort of employment at home, G. Sutton and myself shall be starved before the end of the winter, or sell ourselves to Fox for the sweepings of his faro table."

I fancy from the conversation of a person I met here that things are going quietly, "but he does not seem to believe that a certain person will act as at present longer than he is in fear. The first symptoms, however, I hope are at a great distance. It is easy, I think, to foresee what they will be—a preference of Lord T. to Pitt and a schism in the H[ouse] of C[ommons] headed by Jenkinson, Atkinson, Robinson, Johnstone perhaps, and the East India troops, which, however, I know would be as yet useless, and I should not even have ventured to write so much if I did not think I had heard some pretty good information."

"Your Grace is the principal supporter of the present Ministry."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, October 17. Froggnall.—As to commercial arrangements, we have been for some time past expecting the arrival of some of your leading men to discuss them. We are naturally anxious to hear the result of the business of the 25th, whether there will be a meeting, and where it will be held, if at all. I trust that all persons of property in Ireland of all ranks see their own interests are involved in this dispute as much as the cause of Government. *Marked* "Most secret and separate."

EARL TEMPLE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, October 18. Stowe.—Recommending Captain Fremantle for advancement.

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] October 20. London.—Your affectionate letter has given me cordial satisfaction. I have heard from my acquaintances in Ireland of your firmness and resolution when it has been necessary, and of your truly patriotic intentions to serve both countries. I trust you will not be too sanguine upon the present appearances of tranquillity, but be on your guard, for I fear Ireland is yet very unsettled.

I had yesterday, by accident, a long conversation with the King, who, I am confident, wishes you well. I told His Majesty that I might ask for a few weeks' absence to pay you a visit, to which he very kindly assented. So that, if my health permits, I hope to see you in Ireland. I had intentions of going over during the riots that happened in Dublin, but a delicacy about you prevailed with me not to go. Your situation has been a trying one, and I hope the worst is over. I had many acquaintances when in Ireland that I respect; amongst them are Lord Shannon, Bagenal, and Charlemont. The latter, I imagine, you do not hold much converse with. I think his answer to the address was of use to Government; and he is a very well-meaning man.

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, October 21. Hillsborough.—I have been so ill as not to be able to answer you letter. I think I may promise a letter by next post, in which I shall propose a plan for the promotion to the Down collections, which will give you the opportunity of supporting me without infringing the resolutions.

The SAME to the SAME.

1784, October 23. Hillsborough.—Enclosing the proposal alluded to in the preceding letter. *Copy of proposal enclosed, headed "Revenue arrangements," with Lord Hillsborough's observations.*

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, October 23. Whitehall.—I was glad to receive your dispatches conveying the vote of the Corporation of Dublin conferring the freedom upon your Grace. This is more honorable, after you have held government for a considerable time, than if it had been offered as a compliment of course, upon your arrival.

We hope the tide is turning, and that sensible persons in Ireland begin to see the necessity of co-operating with you for the attainment of a settled and permanent plan of government.

We have heard nothing further as to the disputes between the Emperor and the Dutch. The latter are in great alarm, and even the people of Amsterdam repent having trusted to the friendship and support of France. "Such will always be the fate of those who place their confidence in that perpetually intriguing and ambitious power; and I hope that those who have not yet exposed themselves to a state of dependence upon the French will reflect in time upon the

perspective which the present state of the United Provinces presents, I believe our late fellow subjects in America have as little to boast of the sincerity of the French as the Dutch have."

We are preparing to determine on a plan which may be offered as a final settlement of commercial points between Great Britain and Ireland. Marked "Secret and separate."

The SAME to the SAME.

1784, October 24. Whitehall.—In my last I omitted to say that Lord Westmeath has had an audience of the King, and has asked for a pension. He afterwards called on me. I acquainted him that the King's favours in Ireland must proceed through the channel of the Lord Lieutenant. I suppose you have heard from Lord Westmeath upon this subject by this time.

The DUKE [OF RUTLAND] to LORD SYDNEY.

1784, October 25.—Heads of secret dispatch. Account of the result of the meeting of Aggregate Body, in which they were defeated, given in last dispatch. The resolutions of the city in their last quarterly meeting, a contrast to the former, afford no bad specimen of the precipitancy and hasty transition of the people of Dublin from one extreme to the other, and justify the predictions of his Grace, and the firm and moderate principles displayed in the measures of his Government. Accounts of an armed association of Roman Catholics of fifty, each of which are to answer for five others. This, if real, is of the most dangerous tendency, and ought not only to be narrowly watched, but will be a reason for a more severe and rigorous animadversion of that sect in general. In regulating the commercial interests of Ireland and finally settling them, the liberal advantages afforded her by England ought to be compensated by wholesome regulations for the peace and good government of the kingdom, which can never be secured and established on a durable foundation while bodies of armed citizens set themselves above the laws of the realm. The best way of getting quit of these associations will be by a Militia Bill. The Congress, or rather a few unquiet spirits, undistinguished for the most part by their property, abilities, or character, have met in Dublin under the denomination of a congress. The result of their deliberations has not yet transpired, but they shall be narrowly watched, and when their object is more perfectly ascertained it shall be fully communicated. No notice has been taken of his Grace's application for their Majesties' pictures or of that in favour of General St. Leger. He wishes Lord Sydney would lay before Mr. Pitt Mrs. Moncton's case, who is in very narrow circumstances, and who had formerly applied for a pension. His Grace takes the opportunity of the present calm in order to amuse himself in hunting with Mr. Conolly.

CT. O'ROURKE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, November 1. Cary Street, Lincoln's Inn.—Thanking him for a letter, and stating his claims for the protection of the Ministry.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to WILLIAM PITT.

1784, November 4.—*Draft.* [*Correspondence, p. 47.*]

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, November 4, Thursday night. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence*, p. 48.]

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, November 4. Whitehall.—I mentioned your two requests to the King. As to that for the pictures of his Majesty and the Queen to be placed in the state apartments in Dublin, directions have been given accordingly. As to a regiment for General St. Leger, His Majesty will certainly provide for him when a proper opportunity offers. But he naturally wishes to support seniority against favour.

His Majesty has determined to give the 5th regiment to General Stopford, who has been disappointed on previous occasions. His being a Major-General on the staff in Ireland has strengthened his claim; but it is not to be inferred that vacancies of regiments in Ireland are to be constantly filled from the Irish staff.

We are impatient to hear further of "the transactions of the assembly stiling themselves the National Congress." As their numbers are so small, and the known names among them so few, it is hoped their weight is in proportion. Your vigilance and firmness give the Ministry confidence that you will watch this assembly, and counteract any measures they may design detrimental to public welfare.

The Emperor's minister has left the Hague, and troops are marching into the Low Countries from the rest of the Austrian dominions. It is supposed that France has declined to assist the Dutch, *openly* at least. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, November 7.—I have had a letter from Lord Cornwallis which has given me infinite concern. I must insist on your not divulging the contents till you are more amply informed what reasons could induce the Cabinet to act so ungratefully and impolitickly.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter from Lord Cornwallis.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, November 10.—I transmit two applications which I have had in consequence of Major-General Stopford's promotion. I mentioned the subject to the King, who allowed me to mention them to you, but his orders are to recommend you to adhere to army rules, and the fair encouragement of old officers. General Stopford's obtaining the 5th regiment has occasioned some jealousy in the army, on the supposition that all vacancies of regiments in Ireland are to be filled up by the Lord Lieutenant. I have already mentioned the King's intention as to this.

"The Dutch minister was presented to-day. Lord George Gordon thought proper to attend him to the bottom of the stairs at St. James's, with another madman who styles himself Count Nassau. Lord George wore a blue and orange cockade and a Highland belt and broadsword, which he drew on Monsieur de Lynden's return from Court and saluted him with it. I am ashamed to mention this madman's nonsense." *Marked* "Secret and separate."

SIR GEORGE ROSE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, November 12. Duke Street, Westminster.—Concerning an appointment in the Excise.

[The DUKE OF RUTLAND] to the EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH.

[1784, c. November 12.]—Replying to his letter of October 23 concerning the vacant collectorships. *Draft.*

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to WILLIAM PITT..

1784, November 14. Phoenix Park.—“I sit down at length to consider your letter of the 7th of last month, which you may be assured I have not delayed answering from any inattention to the important objects which it discussed, but from an earnest desire of forming as complete a body of information, and of revolving the contents in my own mind as attentively as possible before I ventured to return you a conclusive opinion.

“I do not pretend to speak with precision to the commercial points in question. But the two gentlemen from this country—Mr. Foster and Mr. Beresford—with whom you have conversed, are fully competent to enter into the most copious detail, and I am persuaded will do it with the utmost fairness, liberality, and candour. Your idea of obtaining a revenue from Ireland in return for the concession of a full equality of commerce I must confess to be, in my opinion, impracticable, inconsistent with the principles of true policy, and, I fear, would completely defeat the main object of your munificence, that of quieting faction and of constituting the foundations of a permanent good understanding between the two kingdoms. We *do* contribute by keeping you an army of 15,000 men, would be the immediate answer which Ireland would return to such a proposition; and at the same time, when you consider that the contribution would be immediate, and the advantages to be derived from the most extensive commercial participation could be but general and contingent, I think you will perceive the objections in the way of your idea to be insurmountable. The notion of a paltry revenue lost America to Great Britain, and if this bounty be accompanied by any stipulations in the light of traffic and a bargain, the seeds of unalterable animosity and discontent will be engendered, and Great Britain will be exclaimed against as a miserable usurer and an oppressive and rapacious tyrant. When you are therefore decided on the utmost extent you will be able to give in your compliances with the commercial views of Ireland, let them be conceded to her without reserve. She can never be an object of real jealousy. The natural habits of indolence and dissipation which are rooted in the breasts of all her people are ill calculated to improve advantages, and will ever restrain her from becoming a rival to Great Britain. But if she should by any possible means rise to be a rich and powerful nation, her prosperity and her wealth would ultimately prove an addition of strength to the Empire at large. Depend upon it, there is more magnanimity, wisdom, and even frugality in rendering Ireland opulent for the sake of England, as well as for her own happiness, than by any other mode of governing her; and Great Britain is more interested to fatten the Irish into voluptuousness and tranquillity than to starve them into exertion and rebellion. For while they have a pretence to murmur they will never become quiet. The question of a Parliamentary Reform, about which you appear more solicitous than I could have expected, is

indeed of a very delicate nature. Every point of view in which it presents itself only opens new scenes of difficulty and danger, and, in short, only leaves me but one opinion, that Government cannot embark in the measure without the risk of absolute ruin. To enquire of the advocates for reform what may be the extent of their wishes, or with what particular mode they will be contented, would be a fruitless investigation, for I am satisfied they will make up their minds to nothing. On my first arrival, I accidentally, indeed, discovered from Lord Charlemont that the specific plan which you brought forward as your scheme in the last Parliament would answer no beneficial end in this country, and to explore his opinion further would probably be ineffectual, and perhaps even be attended with some risk. But, in general, the extension of the elective franchise seems to be the favorite plan. But how can you, upon principle, increase the right of voting to some without extending the rule? If you admit the Catholics to vote, your next Parliament will be composed of Papists; and should your reform only go to increase the number of Protestant voters to the exclusion of the Catholics, I am convinced the latter would run into rebellion. Your character, your credit, your consistency cannot be impeached by avoiding to make an option of these difficulties, for the idea of a Parliamentary Reformation had not entered the breast of any Irishman at the time when you stated your plan to the last House of Commons, and indeed the local circumstances of the two countries place them on such different premises that you cannot put them together in an argument. In short, it would, in my opinion, be little less than lunacy for Government here to involve itself with a question of so dangerous a tendency. Leave it to be combated by its proper champions, by those who are on both sides interested in its fate. Let Government look quietly on, and by poizing the balance gain strength by the dispute; and let us not, from a principle of extravagant knight-errantry, volunteer ourselves into a dilemma where the choice can only be as to the mode of producing confusion, and not the substance. These are my unalterable sentiments on this subject as far as it relates to Ireland.

“Among other opinions, I applied more particularly to that of Lord Earlsfort, whom I have on all occasions found most zealously and personally attached to me, and consequently anxious for the success of your administration. He is totally independent, connected with no aristocracy, the proprietor of no borough, and interested alone in the welfare of English Government. I enclose you his letter, which, as it contains sentiments very freely stated, you will be so good as to keep among your most private papers, and return it to me when you shall have no further occasion for it. I communicate it for your use alone.

“I come now to the idea which I suggested in my last letter to Lord Sydney, of establishing a Protestant militia, accompanied by some vigorous and coercive step in relation to the volunteers. My notion is, that at the same time as you communicate participation of commercial advantages as a part of a great and conclusive system for the *final* settlement of this country, a militia should be constituted and an Act of Parliament passed rendering it high treason for bodies of men to assemble as volunteers, with arms, uniforms, accoutrements, &c., without a legal commission from Government. This is a loose sketch of my general idea. I need not press on your mind the impossibility of establishing any certain and permanent system of policy calculated to produce effective and vigorous measures, and to lay the foundation of necessary control and order, whilst an armed force unconnected with or independent of the State, and existing for the avowed purpose of intimidating the Legislature, is permitted to endure. It may be fairly

stated by England when concessions of commerce are made, We are willing to grant you the plenitude of your demands; but with whom are we to contract? With the Parliament of Ireland? Can the Parliament of Ireland ultimately decide? Or must the volunteer army become a party to confirm or negative the agreement? When final adjustments are therefore made, it becomes indispensable no longer to temporize with, but to be decisive in the suppression of these lawless combinations. A Protestant militia, accompanied by some acts of coercion such as I have alluded to above, appears to be the most direct and least obnoxious mode of accomplishing this essential purpose. At the same time I do not absolutely pledge myself to the success of the measure, nor can I answer for the flame which it may kindle. But if you are not deterred by the possible consequences, I will, at least, undertake to be prepared for them. No crisis can appear more favourable than the present. The moment is mature, and if now lost, will probably never be recovered. The terror of the Papists begins to operate, the Dissenters have caught the alarm, and these jarring partys may perhaps from jealousy become the instruments of peace and good government. Constituted as things therefore are, I trust the attempt will not be attended with any essential bad consequences. But whatever they may be, my opinion is that everything should be ventured, rather than this illegal and seditious combination should be permitted any longer to control and coerce the Legislature.

"I propose in a few days to send Mr. Orde to England to convey to you my further ideas which may occur, and to receive your final communication previous to the meeting of Parliament." *Marked "Secret and confidential."* *Press copy; also draft and fair copy draft of some parts of the letter.*

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO LORD [SYDNEY].

1784, November 15.—Public tranquillity seems thoroughly established. I have written by this post a long letter to Mr. Pitt as to the points which must be adjusted previously to the meeting of Parliament. I will ask you to acknowledge the King's gracious compliance with my request for the pictures for Dublin Castle.

I am so accustomed to be under obligations to you that when I wish to express emotions of *chagrin* I am at a loss for language; but I am so interested in the success of General St. Leger's pretensions to a regiment, and your last letter places them in such a distant point of view, that I am much mortified by the little influence which seems to be connected with my application.

I propose, in about ten days, to send Orde to England to have a full communication with the Cabinet previous to the ensuing session. *Press copy; also draft, incomplete. Marked "Private."*

THE EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH TO THE DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, November 17. Hillsborough.—Concerning the vacant collectorships.

LORD SYDNEY TO THE DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, November 21. Whitehall.—It gave me real concern to find in your letter of 15th the word *chagrin*. No one can be more desirous

than I to second a request of yours; but on looking at the numbers of general officers on colonels' half-pay, I must admit the King's resolution of not hastily engaging for the next vacancy to be founded on a sense of justice to long and faithful service. Though I speak so explicitly, you may depend on my endeavours to support the interest of my friend General St. Leger when I see a favourable opportunity.

The King approves of Mr. Orde's coming over. I find from Mr. Pitt that he has been daily expected. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO LORD SYDNEY.

1784, November 22. Phoenix Park.—"His Majesty may be assured I shall pay every attention to his commands in promoting officers according to seniority and with a view to the economy of the half-pay list, except when particular circumstances may occur to induce me to take a latitude, and in that case I trust that those circumstances and the merits of the officers whom I shall venture to recommend will justify my deviation from His Majesty's directions.

"I am to the last degree concerned that a jealousy should have arisen respecting the appointments to the command of the last vacant regiments on this establishment, and being anxious to extricate Government from any embarrassments which might result from an idea so very invidious as that to which they are ascribed, I think it my duty to assure your Lordship that the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has had no concern whatever in those military dispositions alluded to above. I deemed it incumbent on me to be as early as possible in transmitting to your Lordship this testimony, and I hope you will give me credit for my zeal and activity to clear up an opinion so very erroneously and improperly founded.

"Your Lordship has probably considered my letter of the 14th instant to Mr. Pitt, which, I hope, contains sentiments and observations consonant with your view of the subjects it discusses. I have stated my opinions in the best manner a very limited capacity will enable me to do, but at the same time with the most anxious solicitude for the glory of the King, and for the success and prosperity of his Government. I will not trouble your Lordship with a reiteration of all my reasonings contained in that letter, but I will just say that I am more and more sanguine as to the success of my favourite project, *the establishment of a national Protestant militia, &c., &c.*, from conversations which both Mr. Orde and myself have held with different persons of confidence here; and I am persuaded all the property, the solidity, and the wisdom in the kingdom will embrace it as a system, not only of utility, but of essential necessity to the conservation of the country. Mr. Orde, who will have the honour to present this letter to your Lordship—and who is, indeed, indefatigable and a most able and valuable servant to His Majesty—will explain my whole idea at large, and will mention the names of those gentlemen who have been consulted on the measure, and who have expressed their approbation of it in the warmest terms of eulogium. It is, indeed, highly requisite to be as cautious as possible in our communications on this important business. Much will depend on the secrecy and circumspection with which it is observed, that faction may not have time to exert her strength and make head against a system whose success will be established on the utter subversion of all her dangerous and desperate combinations." *Marked* "Secret and separate." *Press copy.*

HENRY DUNDAS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] November 26. Edinburgh.—As I suppose Mr. Orde is in England, I write to you directly. At the request of Lady Frances Douglas, I am applying to you on behalf of her sister, Mrs. Wilson, who married an Irishman, and disoblged all her friends. It is wished that something could be done by the Irish Government for him. Since I came to Scotland, I have seen your friend Mr. Blair, and, in addition to your wishes, I believe his own merit is a strong inducement to the object he has in view.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to [THOMAS ORDE].

[1784, c. November 28.]—I hope the reception of your communication to His Majesty's Ministers will compensate you for the unpleasant hurry of your departure from Ireland, and the tedious passage you must have had across the channel. "In stating the situation of this country, and in endeavouring to remove the objections which may still subsist in the breasts of His Majesty's Ministers, you will please to enlarge on the difficulty of my situation, but as far as explanations may be necessary—though I trust the Bill has already cleared up every doubt and obscurity—I will use my utmost influence with the Parliament of Ireland to render the resolutions as distinct and unequivocal as possible; but to modify the spirit and cancel the principle of the 10th and 11th resolutions, or to separate the conditions from the compact and place them on distinct foundations, I could not with honour and consistency engage to attempt it; such an endeavour would render me an useless servant of the Crown, and preclude me in future from conducting His Majesty's affairs with any prospect of success.

"I could wish you would press Mr. Pitt on the subject of the marquisates and the vice-treasurers; and let me know how far I may be enabled specifically and definitively to hold out those honors and offices to such friends as we have designed for them. At all events, whatever may be my fate, it will be leaving a lasting impression on the minds of those powerful persons whose views are to be gratified, if I can serve them so effectually in such important objects. Pray press these points with much anxiety, as I feel solicitous to know what language to hold, and not to go on feeding hopes, which ultimately I may not have it in my power to gratify. That, you know, is not my principle, and persons who embarque their characters with me on such important measures which we intend to bring forward, should know what ground they have to stand upon. General Cunningham thinks his name and his claims are not known to Mr. Pitt, you will therefore mention them to him. Say everything that is kind from me to Lord Shelburne. I hope he approves our propositions. I hear he wished they had been without any contribution. You may tell him my mind and opinion went entirely with his as to the fairness. But humours and prejudices are to be complied with." *Draft.*

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, November 29. Whitehall.—Acknowledging his letter of 23rd inst., which proposed the further prorogation of the Irish Parliament to January 20, 1785.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR WILLIAM DRAPER to the DUKE
[OF RUTLAND].

1784. November 29. Brompton Row.—After a long course of service, I find myself consigned to half-pay and oblivion. May I presume to request your recommendation for a pension on the Irish establishment, on the ground of public service in planning and executing the expedition against the Philippine Islands.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, November 30. London.—“I had no sooner reached this place than I was hurried into the country to meet Beresford and Foster at Mr. Pitt’s and to begin real business. We passed some hours in conversation upon the general subject, and I was truly happy to find that everything promised as favourable a conclusion as we could wish. Some little jealousies had prevailed between our two Irish friends, but I am in hopes that every remaining symptom is now passing away, and that we shall finish our negotiation with the utmost personal good understanding as well as public harmony. They are both of them entirely satisfied with the liberal disposition of the Ministers here, from the real earnestness they shew to draw the several questions to some general principle upon which the decision may be speedy and effectual. We have not yet advanced far enough to enable me to inform your Grace of any formed plan upon which this great business may be regulated, but as far as I can now venture to predict, we shall be armed with an authority for concession sufficiently great to satisfy every reasonable man, and of course to serve as an encouraging foundation for those measures of vigor and resolution which you have recommended as the only cement and security of the whole. I have yet talked with no other of the Ministers but Lord Sydney and Mr. Pitt. They, however, hold a language which persuades me of the support we look for, and without which, indeed, I entirely agree with your Grace, we are not to hope for success, or indeed to make the attempt. I mean particularly to allude to the great object of a national militia upon the principle which engaged our attention just before my departure from Dublin. Beresford and Foster are both warmly anxious for this happy summing up of the whole business, and I shall not fail to lead [the] matter forward as regularly as possible to this favorite issue.

“I must therefore necessarily suppose that your Grace will be impatient to learn what is the probable state of the ministerial force and unanimity upon which you are to rely for the security of your requisite support. I have not yet had proper opportunities to dive into the bottom of this enquiry, but I have very satisfactory assurances of it from Mr. Pitt, who, in speaking particularly of the exchanges made in the two great offices of President and Privy Seal, desired me to remark them as incontestible proofs of the good humor and spirit of accommodation which prevailed among them. I had also no less reason given me to suppose that the Chancellor was perfectly complaisant as well as steady. This report is certainly kept up by every mark of public appearance, yet I have certain private accounts by which I am induced, in fact, to doubt of the entire accordance of every spirit concerned in this body. I gather further confirmation of this suspicion from hints of jealousy respecting Dundas, who is said to take possession of the Minister and to conduct him as he pleases. He has, however, at present given up the custody and is retired into Scotland.”

The two new marquises kiss hands to-morrow. I am certain that Lord Shelburne has received no overture of that kind; but he seems pleased with the attention shown him in some respects, particularly with the proofs of your friendship.

Upon the whole, I do not apprehend any material disunion, and as there is general satisfaction with the management of affairs in Ireland, I reckon upon ample power and disposition to second your Government and enforce your measures. I am glad to know that your character is not one to be deterred by doubts in the prosecution of a great object which you have deliberately and cautiously projected.

"I have yet had no pointed conversation upon the subject of Parliamentary Reform, upon which, however, Mr. Pitt promises to discourse fully and explicitly with me. I am assured from indisputable authority that the Duke of Richmond is the cause of the still lingering reluctance to abandon the views of reformation in Ireland. Very many circumstances, however, conspire, I think, to persuade Mr. Pitt of the impracticability of such a measure, and of the impolicy it would be in Government to be volunteers in it."

The East Indian arrangements have caused some discontent. Dundas is disappointed in his views for General Campbell.

I have just seen yours of the 25th. I feel much your expressions of good opinion and esteem. I entreat you to take more care of your own safety. "Recollect the escapes you have had, and the consequences which would ensue from any material accident, both in a public and private view." I rejoice in the prospect of a successful progress, "if not immaturely checked by such very awkward means as I venture to complain of." The unanimous judgment of the Court upon the case of attachment will, I trust, have the good effects which you expect, especially as I just now learn that the sheriff has thrown himself upon the mercy of the Court, which I hope will not be withheld. All here acquiesce in the validity of your reasons for proceeding by attachment, but it is thought important to be cautious in pressing the question to fresh discussion and trial.

I have partly laughed and partly talked gravely with Lord Sydney upon the military question, and pressed your views in favour of General St. Leger.

I kissed hands and met with a most gracious reception, the King expressing no less wonder than satisfaction that you had been able so quickly to allay the disturbances in the country.

More favourable accounts are received of the disposition of the Court of Portugal towards the Irish trade; but we must be cautious of boasting of any of these points. It would be very disadvantageous that ideas of great and general concession should be encouraged or acquiesced in.

I must not omit to mention "Mr. Ogle's earnest wishes that you could be prevailed upon to recommend Mrs. Ogle *at present* for a pension of 800*l. per annum*, which, he says, would completely gratify him. I apprehend that this point will require much more consideration before you give way to it, however desirable and satisfactory it might be on many accounts to make him easy and contented." *Marked* "Most private."

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO WILLIAM PITT.

[1784, November.]—"I shall make one more effort before I finally quit the subject to induce you, if possible, to abandon your idea of a compensation, which, I protest to you, I think will render all advantages which you expect to derive from your liberal compliances abortive, and

prove fatal to the great schemes which are proposed to be brought forward for the ultimate settlement of Ireland. What is your object, by your munificence and compliance, but conciliation; to quiet the tumult, and subdue the factions that have disturbed our tranquillity; to establish a lasting commercial union, and to lay the foundations of eternal amity between the two countries? If these are your views, my solemn opinion is that they will all be defeated at the first mention of a compensation. If the compensation be adequate and an equivalent, Ireland can never agree to it, but if it should, it would be without thanks, and probably with execrations; and should your idea be nominal, and as a palliative to the Parliament of England, the deception may easily be discovered and exposed to the attacks and ridicule of our enemies, while Ireland would receive the bounty without gratitude."

The measures "proposed to be brought forward in co-operation with your commercial concessions are certainly in their nature the most decisive, and in their consequences the most extensive and important to Great Britain." But consider the difficulties "we have to encounter. To strike at the existence of a body of men with arms in their hands, who have for a length of time been an object of terror both to Great Britain and Ireland, who have rendered themselves of consideration even in Europe—to declare men constituted in such circumstances to be guilty of high treason should they ever venture to reassemble, is a measure which you will allow me to say requires palliatives the strongest and without any abridgments to render its success secure. I think you need never fear the rivalry of Ireland. A free trade was to be granted Bristol, and Liverpool clamoured and made an outcry like a shorn hog. And have they felt any diminution from the concessions then granted?"
Draft, much altered. Incomplete.

THE MARQUESS OF LANSDOWN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, December 1. London.—"I am just come from kissing the King's hand for a promotion in the peerage, which I have infinite satisfaction in feeling that I owe to your Grace. I esteem it a singular piece of good fortune to owe this where I have already so many hereditary obligations, and where I shall always feel both pride and satisfaction to acknowledge it. The circumstances attending the peace make this distinction coming from the King, neither directly nor indirectly solicited on my part, undoubtedly a desirable object to me, and I am perfectly aware how unworthy it is to undervalue anything that is; but at the same time I should not write with the sincerity I always hope to do, particularly to your Grace, if I did not add that I never had a transaction so revolting in the *manner* of it to all my feelings, and I never hope to have again. However, after unburthening my mind, where I can alone do it with propriety, your Grace may rest perfectly assured that nothing will be remembered of it except what ought to be.

"Mr. Orde will write to your Grace what concerns home affairs. Everything abroad is in a state of great uncertainty. Monsieur de Vergennes was upon the point of retiring; however, the storm for the present has passed him, and the Queen of France has yielded. On the other hand, the French minister has shewn more vigour than was expected from his age. He has recalled, with circumstances of severity, Monsieur D'Audelan, the French minister at Brussels, for not executing his instructions with sufficient exactness, though he is protected by the Queen, and the French council is now unanimous in support of the Dutch, whose state is deplorable. They have no capacity within themselves, and no resolution to accept it from without. They are become

so cursedly free that every man in the States General is become a Stat-holder, and, like the Jews of old, are pulling one another's eyes out within their walls while the Emperor is at their gates.

"Thanks to your Grace, Ireland promises now a different scene, and I shall be happy, after acknowledging that I owe my honors to you, to owe my property likewise, as well as to see the British Empire indebted at the same time to your Grace's courage and perseverance for the preservation of one third of our whole."

C. T. GREVILLE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, December 3. King's Mews.—"It gives me real pleasure to hear that public affairs wear a prosperous aspect in Ireland. I never doubted your zeal or good intentions. I dreaded the facility of your temper, and your indolence. The one might make you the property of interested friends, and the other might lead you to indulge in luxury and disipation in a degree which might not be compatible with the dignity of your station. As I know the foundation of sense and manliness and honor on which your character is formed in a private station, I have spoken to you freely on this subject, and I can assure you that nothing has given me more pleasure than the accounts I have heard of you since the affairs of the country roused your attention. The generosity you shewed to the distressed did not immediately gain you the praise you deserved, and your desire to gain popularity by the conviviality of your table, by your enemies was misrepresented. The alteration which you have made shews the world that you are not a slave to indolence or disipation, and your steady adherence to the measures of decision will, I hope, save the country and establish your name and reputation as a firm and able statesman. I confess I have not the prospect before me which I wish, relative to Ireland, and if I feel satisfaction in the last accounts, it arises from my knowing that you have, by your firmness, averted the evil which was imminent, and awakened the landed intrest of Ireland to its danger. I wish you could awaken them also to their true intrest, as connected with Great Britain. Ireland is too great to be unconnected with us, and too near us to be dependant on a foreign state, and too little to be independant. The seperation which has been made will require more than human wisdom to reconcile it with amity and generous emulation. The unsettled state of the country will deter men of property speculating and embarking their capitals in Ireland. Local advantages may on the map engage others as they did the Genevese, but on a view of Ireland, its government and component parts, those advantages appear counterballanced; nothing but a union with Great Britain will give a permanent security to the landed property, life to manufactures, or draw into the country those advantages, which nature has granted to Ireland from its situation, favorable to commerce, to fisheries, and manufactures. This, you will agree, is not the present prospect, and the alarm of the landed intrest may at this time give a favorable turn, and the law of the land and Parliament may be supported; but as long as an armed force exists, independant of the law, and unknown to the constitution, can keep arms in their hand in defiance of the law, that armed force is the Government and the law. I have heard alarms at the Catholics creeping into uniforms and associating in arms; if it does give alarm, Government should not listen to the cry partialy, neither should be permitted to retain their military system, unless the law, and the Government established by law, is too weak for the conflict; and if Government is strong enough, its strength will induce it to avoid all irritation that is unnecessary, and by a steady and firm hand in support-

ing the constitution in its rights, gradually reduce self-constituted authority to the bound of constitutional subordination without the horror of warfare. So far I write to you my view of your politicks, and as I know you wish to make Ireland happy, and blessed with a free but defined Government, I sincerely wish you every success."

"I have been able to execute only one commission about the statue; as to the miniature, I believe you never paid for it. When Saunders comes to town I will enquire and let you know, and pay it if you please. Mr. Lock informs me that he cannot treat about his marbles. He offered them, and an intaglio, to the Empress of Russia for 2,000 guineas, through the medium of a princess who is in the Emperess's confidence, and who undertook to make the Emperess take them at the request and recommendation of the Prince S—, who was in England and admired them. So far as to the Russians I give you initials, as they are all which Mr. Lock sent to me. He also informs me that, failing the Emperess, he is engaged to give the refusal of them to the Duke of Richmond, who had, through Sir James Wright, desired to have the refusal. I did not mention your name. From this report you see you are doomed to let the money you destined for *virtu* burn in your pocket. I will, however, give myself a chance of a lump by offering for the same sum the collection which has taken me twelve years to make, and during which time I have had the picking of several collections which were sold in Italy, through the assistance of Mr. Hamilton at Rome, and Sir William Hamilton at Naples, and two statues which I know to be antique and uncommon and fit for any collection. You may remember them. One of them, a Baccante or Ariadne, was found near Rome when I was in Italy; the other came from a collection at Naples and is a Pudicitia. The amount of marbles is two statues and one bust; ditto of pictures, sixty. There are about eight or ten pictures which would encrease the number, but as I do not think them worthy your collection I shall throw them in, but do not mention. As to the pictures, if I had less experience, or had seen fewer collections, it might be little for me to express a reluctance in parting with them. I collected them chiefly in Italy, and out of known collections, to refresh my memory of the works of great painters and of the different schools. They have had the effect, and prevented me from throwing away my money at auctions. If I had not employed judicious friends to purchase for me, or had bid excessive prices instead of waiting patiently for favorable opportunity, I should not be able to offer the whole at that price. I only wish to bring myself nearly home and to give up my pictures and statues to pay a ballance which I owe to the builder who was employed in Pertman Square, and who was not of course bound to share my loss on its sale. If you will have them, I will send them to Belvoir, and you shall pay my builder by giving your security, payable as your man of business and the builder shall agree. I should think it might be settled for two or three payments, a year intervening. This being the first dealing or money transaction between us, I should not have introduced it if you had not desired me to negotiate for the purchase of *virtu*."

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, December 4. Putney Heath.—[*Correspondence*, p. 50.]

The EARL OF CLANRICARDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, December 5. Belmont, near Warnford, Hampshire.—I hear rumours of promotion in the Irish peerage. In the event of such taking

place, I trust I shall be honoured with your protection, so not to be injured in my precedency. I may observe that my family has already been possessed of higher titles in the kingdom of Ireland than that which I now enjoy, and that the titles which I actually possess are senior by a long period to all those of equal rank.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, December 6. London.—I have been much afflicted to hear of your illness, and proportionately glad to hear of your promising recovery. Let me entreat you to be cautious for the sake of your family and country.

“Our conferences on the subject of commercial arrangement have been hitherto pleasant, as seeming likely to draw the business to a favorable issue. I do not, indeed, now foresee any difficulty, except on the point of stipulated returns, which, your Grace is aware, would never be acceded to with any degree of complacency in Ireland, although every profession of acknowledgment and of consequential contributions to the necessities of the State would be largely tendered. I still am inclined to think that we must not only be content with this pledge of engagement, but that it may be dangerous to the success of our arrangements, and to the value of the very recompence we seek, to insist too strongly at present on a precise equivalent according to a fair estimation of all circumstances. In short, I would not have Ireland pushed or picqued to examine too strictly into the real state of the case, and the importance to them of the objects which they seek, and which we are about to give them. ✓

“I had a long conversation with Mr. Pitt on the subject of Parliamentary Reform, and have met with nothing unexpected in his partial adherence to his original ideas, and his delicacy on the point of consistency. I find him exceedingly distressed in regard to Ireland in that respect, but at the same time very fair and open, and full of handsome acknowledgments of your Grace’s kindness and consideration in writing to him so explicitly your decisive sentiments. I hope, however, that all will be well. I am to have another conference with Mr. Pitt upon the same subject in order that we may come to some decision upon a plan of *system*, which he agrees entirely with you, ought to be established in such a manner as to form a direction for every object of Government. The view of introducing a national militia appears still to be of the most desirable consequence, but the mode of leading the proposition to a successful accomplishment remains to be thoroughly investigated, discussed, and settled. Upon the whole, I have warm hopes of a pleasing gratification to your Grace’s generous endeavours to make your Government advantageous and honorable to both countries.” *Marked* “Private.”

The DUKE OF BEAUFORT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, December 8. Blandford Park.—I am sorry that my absence from Badminton prevents my paying the attention which I should wish to the Marquis de Bombelles, recommended by your letter, which has been sent me by the Duchess of Rutland.

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, December 8. Hillsborough.—I have just learned that you have given the most minute attention to the recommendations I laid

before you, and return you my humble thanks. I am vexed that Reilly was so silly as to refuse your offer, and I suppose he is, by this time, vexed at it himself.

EARL NUGENT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, December 11. Bath.—I congratulate you on your escape from a very perilous accident. Let me, as an ancient peer of Ireland, zealous for the honour of its nobility, and also as having on public grounds declined an office of emolument for myself, advocate the claim of the Earl of Westmeath to a pension.

Endorsed on the above is the rough draft of a reply in the Duke of Rutland's hand, as follows:—“My illness still obliges me to use another hand. No one can feel more for Lord Westmeath's situation than myself. His antient family, his own merits, and a real personal esteem, are circumstances which operate strongly in my mind in his favour, but the delicacy of increasing the pension list, from the captious spirit of faction and clamour which is still unsubdued in this country, renders it a circumstance of unspeakable difficulty, and which cannot be engaged to without a congenial moment and the maturest consideration. *That consideration Lord Westmeath's situation certainly entitles him to.*”

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1784, December 14. Putney Heath.—[*Correspondence, p. 53.*]

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, December 14. London.—I think you ought not yet to be subjected to fatigue, and I shall not trouble you upon business, as to which I have written fully to Mr. Hamilton, who will, at a fit time, communicate to you the state of our commercial negotiation. I shall only observe at present that we have the fairest prospect of a happy conclusion.

Mr. Pitt mentions his design of writing to you, and will doubtless give you a like account of our progress. Several great points remain for further discussion, particularly a Militia Bill.

I am glad to hear of the continuance of tranquillity, and of the justice done to the munificence with which the manufactures of Ireland have been patronised.

“You will be entertained hereafter, when I shall relate to you all the ridiculous stories which were fabricated here to put an end to your Grace's government. I must now mention one, which was told to me by your old friend Betty, who took a very serious share of concern at your illness. Some of the opposition, however, it seems, had thought it right to put you to death, and in consequence came into her shop with lamentations and regrets, which she ridiculed and scouted as *having better intelligence* than they had, and more *interested by regard in it*. She laughed at the absurd policy of killing prematurely a Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and recommended to them rather to destroy the First Lord of the Treasury, the Secretary of State, the Chancellor, &c., &c., because it might be followed by the malicious indulgence of seeing the avidity with which it would be swallowed from hopes of being concerned in the succession, but that, as nobody wished in such times to be Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, the great effort of invention and imposition was wholly thrown away. ‘No, no,’ concludes she, ‘it will not do; it is a very bad stroke indeed. Get you back—addressing

herself to Lord Foley—to *your committee* and bring the Duke to life again as fast as you killed him.' She told this story to me in the presence of many of the persons concerned in the report."

The chief news seems to be "that which regards the Queen of France, for which people will continue to insist there is great foundation. It is certain that such reports are brought from Paris, and such notions entertained there." She "seems to have lost much of her political influence at all events, and it is generally thought that the Emperor is in a scrape by too great a reliance on it."

The Cabinet "meet tomorrow upon the subject of Ireland. I hope that there can be no doubt of their unanimous concurrence in those opinions which Mr. Pitt will propose for a plan of arrangement. I have talked much with the Chancellor, and think him quite rightly disposed. He is certainly not pleased with Dundas, and chiefly about the restoration of the Scotch estates and the payment of the Nabob's debts. The Duke of Richmond torments Mr. P[itt] about this unfortunate point of Reform, which will, I see, be a serious matter here. But, at all events, the extension should not be thought of to Ireland till the question shall be decided here. Mr. P[itt] argues fairly about it, as he does about everything; but he is sadly involved and embarrassed. The Opposition, I know, found their hopes on no other ground." *Marked* "Private."

The EARL OF MANSFIELD to LORD ———.

1784, December 14. London.—"I am infinitely obliged to the Duke of Rutland and your Lordship for the kind information I received from you last night. I have been cruelly agitated by the different accounts which have been circulated here. I flatter myself now he is in a hopeful way of recovery; the loss of him at this time would not only have been a severe blow to his friends and family, but fatal to his King and country. I am satisfied he will be able, by a firm and wise conduct and a contempt of false popularity, to preserve Ireland from being ruined by herself. I beg my most affectionate wishes to him and the Duchess."

The EARL OF TYRONE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, December 23. Curraghmore.—Accept my sincere acknowledgments of your letter. I shall be in Dublin at least ten days before the meeting of Parliament, and hope to find your health perfectly recovered.

ANNE MANNERS SUTTON to her brother, the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1784,] December 25. Lincoln.—"I have long been uneasy on your account, as it is universally thought that the life your Grace leads is far too irregular for it to be possible for you to live long, much less in the chance of continuing in health. Suffer me to look back some years, when *you* used to tell me that the faculty was of opinion that your constitution was far from strong, and that it had been represented to you the necessity of being abstemious both in eating as well as *drinking*. Would to heaven that I could say any thing to influence you to take care of yourself! Health takes a sudden flight, and death happens as unexpectedly. You have recovered one violent illness; is it not incumbent for you to guard against a second attack by avoiding extremes of every kind, not forgetting to mention exercise as of the number?" My nerves are much shaken, and I am hardly equal to writing. Have you any thoughts of returning to England? I fear not.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1784, December 26, Sunday. London.—I am trying to get away so as to deliver to you in person the full contents of my budget, which will, I hope, be satisfactory. My first anxiety is for the re-establishment of your health. I have seen the Duchess, who is perfectly well, and, I am happy to find, talks of her return to Dublin when the weather makes it practicable. I hope you can put off the celebration of the Queen's birthday until the Duchess shall fix a time to be present.

Mr. Foster has probably already waited upon you with all necessary information. Mr. Pitt will himself write to Lord Mornington as to the subject of your application. I shall, however, on my return impart to you some circumstances bearing on this.

I have seen Lord Lothian frequently. He always makes the warmest sentiments of regard for you, and assures me of his fixed intention to visit you in Ireland. The Attorney is not arrived here, though I have heard of his landing at Holyhead. I expect to get away on Thursday, and shall lose no time on the way; but I have a heavy weight of business to get through first.

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E. COOKE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, January 5. Dublin Castle.—Gratefully acknowledging the promise of an appointment as Clerk to the Irish House of Commons.

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, January 6. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence*, p. 55.]

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, January 6. Whitehall.—I am glad to hear you are now well enough to receive letters. I hope the plan described in my official letter—which expresses the views of the Ministry here—will meet your approbation, as well as that of our friends in Ireland who have hitherto so firmly and wisely supported your administration. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, January 10. Albemarle Street.—You will receive an application from Lord Conyngham to be made a Viscount. He has mentioned his wish to me, and I have referred him, as I always do on such occasions, to you. My intimacy with his brother certainly inclines me to wish well to any request from the family.

"We are preparing to instruct you. How heartily I wish your mad scheme of Reform at the devil! But I am but one." *Marked* "Secret and separate."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, January 11. Whitehall.—The King's confidential servants having taken into full consideration two subjects of the greatest importance to Ireland, I mean the probability of a motion for Reform of the House of Commons in that country, and the establishment of a national militia, have humbly submitted their opinion to His Majesty; and I am commanded to acquaint your Grace that it is thought desirable in the present situation of affairs, in case of a proposal for reform being made at the beginning of the session, that the Government should endeavour to postpone it until after the decision of a similar question in the Parliament of Great Britain. Your Grace will doubtless concur in the propriety of this. Delay will enable you to see more clearly what plan of reform—if such a measure is to be adopted—would be agreeable to the greatest number and attended with the least objection from those who have hitherto supported your Government. But you will avoid everything which would tend prematurely to commit the opinion of Government, or to give offence to your supporters.

I am likewise commanded to recommend to your Grace's attention the consideration of a plan of a national militia. There can be no doubt of the expediency and necessity of putting the armed force of Ireland into a legal form. It is as little to be doubted that a considerable degree of address will be necessary to bring about that desirable event without giving cause of jealousy to those now in arms. But the idea of a militia is so consonant to the principles and spirit of a free government, and the present system so expensive to those engaged in it, that it is hoped men's minds may be disposed both in and out of Parliament to this salutary measure. It seems equally clear that, in the present situation of Ireland, the militia should consist of Protestants only. You are therefore desired to concert with those whose advice you may deem it proper to require, such a scheme of a militia as may be fit to be offered to the Irish Parliament and to transmit this scheme for the previous consideration of His Majesty. *Marked* "Secret and confidential."

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, January 11. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence, p. 75.*]

* The SAME to the SAME.

Same date.—[*Correspondence, p. 83.*]

* The SAME to the SAME.

1785, January 12. Putney Heath.—[*Correspondence, p. 84.*]

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, January 12. Waverley.—Enquiring as to his health.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1785, January 13. Dublin Castle.—I have received yours of 6th, marked most secret and confidential, enclosing a copy of "certain resolu-

tions which have been submitted to the King by His Majesty's confidential Ministers as the basis of a mutual and final adjustment of trade and commerce between Great Britain and Ireland, upon which it is expected that a contribution on the part of Ireland shall be made to the general expenses of the Empire by applying to the service of the navy any surplus that may hereafter arise from the increase of the hereditary revenue of Ireland."

I have considered the resolutions, and am glad to observe the wise and liberal principles upon which they are founded. I presume that the last resolutions of those which were before privately communicated to me—giving a preference to each of the two kingdoms to the commodities of the other over those of foreign nations—is to constitute part of the general plan.

The expected contribution is in itself just, and proposed in the most unexceptionable mode. But I cannot let His Majesty's confidential Ministers imagine that the measure is free from objections and serious difficulties here. These I shall submit without reserve, and, having done so, shall allow no idea of difficulty to interfere with my performance of my duty in accomplishing the wise and generous purposes of my sovereign for the general prosperity and happiness of the kingdoms.

My apprehension is that the people will be swayed by inflammatory declamation, to which the system will afford an opening, and that the propositions of compensation will be strongly opposed in Parliament, as well as by the body of the nation at large, notwithstanding the support of the ablest individuals. It will be said that the proposed system of commercial intercourse precludes this country from any future improvement in manufacture in competition with England, whose highly developed industry, supported by large capital, already enables England to undersell Ireland in the Irish markets; that the reduction of duties in England is therefore a nugatory concession, which, though it appears to put the two countries upon an equal footing, does still in effect sufficiently preserve to England her superiority; that the alteration in the navigation laws will operate only accidentally in the instance of foreign goods and hardly ever in goods from the plantations, the proprietors of which are resident in Great Britain; that all hope of encouraging Irish manufactures, either by duties or bounties, is cut off for ever; and that if a fortunate improvement in commerce should grow out of the rising industry of the people, it will be instantly checked by the drain of the contribution.

This is the partial light in which the system will be represented to the people by ignorant or designing men, and their discontent propagated through the country, will not easily be allayed at a time when other powerful though necessary measures are to be brought forward against strong prejudice. His Majesty's Ministers may rely upon my doing all I can to set every part of the system in its true point of view, and fully to explain the advantages secured to Ireland by the compact.

"The disappointment by Parliament of the popular expectations respecting a reform in the representation, and their not granting protecting duties, which the manufacturers in this city more particularly demanded, drove the people from their accustomed deference to the decisions of Parliament, and led them to look to other methods of accomplishing their ends by means of a congress, and by non-importation agreements. The county candidates in general found themselves under the necessity of giving in to the popular cry for a Parliamentary Reform, and the unsuccessful candidates joined in it, and continue to press for it, that it may open to them a prospect of getting into Parliament. The failure of this object has been cast upon Parliament with all the varied abuse

that the genius of the public prints could invent. Permit me as I go to mention to your Lordship that the object of Reform is by no means confined to a correction of alledged abuses in the representation, but extends to a substantial change of Parliamentary influence; that nothing short of that will satisfy the clamorous, and that any such change will completely dissatisfy the friends of Government and the established Constitution. And I have reason to know that if a moderate Reform were consented to, it would be accepted only as a more elevated and stronger ground from whence the party might annoy their opponents and force the main point at last." You will see that Parliamentary Reform is so connected with the subject of this letter that I could not avoid saying something upon it; but I am glad to think that Government need not take a forward part in that question.

"It has always been a continual object of my administration to raise the estimation of Parliament in the minds of the people, and to bring back that deference which is due to the legislature of the country," and I think my efforts have not been without success. I hope, with the aid of Parliament, to see the executive authority restored to free action, without the delicate management which is required in the face of an irresponsible armed force.

"It is easy to foresee that the invidious turn to be given to the proposed compensation, if carried in the House of Commons, will be this, that the Parliament is at the devotion of the British Government, and has sacrificed the interests of Ireland, not only—as has been already objected to it—by supplying the demands of establishments framed with a view to lighten the burthens of Great Britain, but has laid upon Ireland unusual and additional burthens, calculated to defeat the ostensible advantages held out, while she is debarred of any future possibility of remedying the evils which may flow from this compact.

"One consequence—excellent as it is—of the propositions, will afford a present strong excitement to factious men to unite at once and raise the most desperate opposition to them. I mean their conclusive effect to remove objects of future cavil and dispute. Your Lordship knows that the parties in this country consist of three descriptions of men:—the Dissenters, who seek for such an alteration of the constitution as will throw more power into their hands by bringing the Government nearer to that of a republic; the Roman Catholics, whose superior numbers would speedily give them the upper hand if they were admitted to a participation in the Legislature; and those who oppose the Government upon personal considerations. The two first classes are naturally jealous of each other from principle, and the third class is not upon any principle a friend to either. Without some band of union, different parties will keep each other from encroaching upon the Government; but once united, they will become formidable. Such an union may, I fear, occur on the present occasion. The contribution to England will be a motive of common interest in which all can draw together without apprehension of forwarding the separate interests of the other, and of which each will take advantage to press their particular objects upon Government. If by a fatal conjunction they should be strong enough to succeed in defeating the present measures, the country will be in a more unsettled condition than ever.

"Quiet is now pretty well restored; but I am satisfied that neither the Dissenters or the Roman Catholics have abandoned their favorite wishes. If they entertain hopes of success, a time of war will be the season chosen to urge their designs, and such a time of embarrassment will be laid hold of by a watchful enemy to harrass the country and increase the distractions of Great Britain. The settlement of this kingdom

is therefore a most interesting and important concern. Divested of that sole article of contribution, I am sanguine enough to hope that the other great measures might be carried with sufficient contentment of the nation, though not without opposition and clamour. Combined with it, I will not conceal my apprehensions that the settlement of the country, notwithstanding the adoption of the measure by Parliament, may be precarious, and that the effects, if not immediate, may be felt at the next general election, or upon the breaking out of war.

"Having thus submitted my opinion upon the contribution proposed, let me not be understood as raising objections to a measure" which I think reasonable, but "which, connected with the critical state of the country, becomes of such important consideration that it is an indispensable part of duty in me to submit my sentiments to His Majesty's ministers." I shall rejoice if my apprehensions are dispelled by the event; and in any event His Majesty may be assured of my unabated zeal, and of my best efforts to carry out his commands. *Copy, marked "Secret."*

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, January 14.—"Hints and precautions to be made use of.

"To be very accurate about the state of Parliament.

"Minutely to enquire from the leading and intelligent gentlemen in each county who are friends to Government, the *numbers* of the volunteers, their *present temper* and *disposition*, how they are likely to be *affected* and to *feel* from an attack so direct and personal to their existence. The neighbourhood of Dublin, Kilkenny, and the north, most to be apprehended.

"An enquiry into the state of the charter schools and the administration of them in a moment of tranquillity would be a useful measure. I believe they are full of abuses. If two large and *efficient* seminaries were established in their room—similar to Eton and Westminster—it would greatly tend to civilise this barbarous country. But here everything is a job and abused, with a *few exceptions*, from the highest to the lowest; the whole people are an interested, selfish, savage race of harpies and plunderers.

"*N.B.*—Parliament ought, without loss of time, to declare convention, congress, and all such meetings, illegal." *In the handwriting of the Duke.*

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to [THOMAS ORDE].

1785, January 15. Phoenix Park.—The injudicious letter which Mr. Ogle has written to the Attorney-General is likely to stand in his way. My illness has been the real reason of the delay in answering his application. I have never been averse to his interests; but no Government can allow itself to be thought to be operated on by fear. My idea is to state to Mr. Ogle the real reason which prevented my immediate attention to his views, and also the circumstance which now becomes an obstacle. If, however, any promise has been made to Mr. Ogle, it must be kept.

Postscript.—His private character and public merit rendered him a person I wished to cultivate. *Draft.*

LUKE GARDINER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, January 16. Henrietta Street.—Applying for a peerage; being heir-at-law to the first Lord Mountjoy, and proprietor of the family estates which were granted to that ancestor for service to the Crown.

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, January 16. Hillsborough.—Enquiring as to the Duke's health, and urging the claims of Mr. Annesley to a seat at the Board of Revenue.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, January 16, Sunday morning.—I have experienced great distress and perplexity about Mr. Ogle's affair since the decision has been left to me. I was, however, persuaded that the awkward part of the business had been done away by what ensued, and that we are to determine on the simple point of expediency to seek to make such a man as Mr. Ogle our friend by a sense of real obligation, though at considerable expense. Mr. Hamilton, who has a calm, penetrating, and honourable mind, has encouraged, nay in a manner impelled me, to the ultimate resolution of gratifying Mr. Ogle. I have done the deed, and hope you will approve. I believe it is right, and have acted on that principle.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785, January 16,] Sunday night. Dublin Castle.—Concerning his speech on opening Parliament.

[THOMAS ORDE] to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785, January 16,] Sunday night.—On the same subject.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, January 19. Whitehall.—I was much pleased to receive a letter in your own hand. I regret to see the difficulties with which you may have to contend. We may have our own difficulties here, "as there will be a disposition to make objections of two very different sorts—that we have done too little and too much for Ireland; and endeavours will probably be used to raise discontents in the manufacturing towns of this country." We must in these times meet our adversaries with firmness and stem the torrent as we can.

As your speech must have been made before the King's approbation of the heads of it can reach you, it is too late to criticize it. But I conceive nothing could have been more proper. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, January 19, Wednesday night. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence*; p. 90.]

LORD CLONMORE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, January 22.—Thanking him for recommendation for advancement in the peerage to the rank of Viscount.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to [LORD SYDNEY].

1785, January 23. Castle.—I shall trouble you with but few words in addition to my official letter. The general opinion of all the con-

Confidential friends of Government goes distinctly against the policy of annexing any compensation to the liberal concessions made on the part of Great Britain. In the present difficult moment, when all persons are to be conciliated—though I acknowledge the justice of the proposition—I cannot but concur in the opinion of its being an impolitic and ill-timed measure. The objects which may be endangered by a perseverance on this point are far too important and necessary to be risked on this occasion. We have the fairest expectations of success in our system to be pursued with the volunteers, provided this idea of contribution does not interfere to cloud the prospect. As to Reform in England, I am pledged and say nothing. As relating to Ireland, it is neither more nor less than lunacy. *Draft.*

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO WILLIAM PITT.

1785, January 23. Dublin Castle.—“I am sorry to find it necessary to resume a subject which I had hoped to have finally quitted. But the general opinion which prevails among all our most *confidential* friends on the subject of contribution, and the *universal discontent* they all conceive it will create, renders it indispensably incumbent on me once more to represent and to deprecate the effects which are likely to flow from a perseverance in this resolution. I do not pretend to arraign the truth and fairness of your proposition nor the arguments you adduce in its support. On the contrary, I acknowledge its *justice*—though even *that* is contested by *some*. But I must concur in the sentiments held *by all* on the *impolicy* of this idea in the difficulty of the present crisis. We have the fairest prospect of carrying all our measures decisively in relation to a militia, and the complete *abolition* of the volunteers, provided this unfortunate clog to be annexed to the generous and liberal concessions granted by England, does not cause a convulsion which may endanger all the *more material and necessary* branches of our system. Mr. Daly and Mr. Grattan, in speeches perhaps the finest and most decisive ever delivered within the walls of the Irish Parliament, have paved the way to the adoption of those measures which I have proposed to you in respect to the volunteer army. Their opinions went strongly to its suppression, and, by the manner their sentiments were received by the House; I am persuaded Parliament would support this *part* of the system with their bodies and swords, provided the *compensation* does not kindle a flame in their minds against the English Government and—I might almost say—against the English connexion.

“In short, you are to decide between the possible advantages to be derived from an uncertain and equivocal revenue at some distant period, and the fair and reasonable expectation we now have of finally crushing this licentious and seditious army, as well as of annihilating the *principles* and *spirit* which originally engendered it. The consummation of this point, as well as the establishment of a militia composed of *Protestants alone*, will be the strongest cement to the bonds of connexion between the two countries, and, by encreasing the weight and influence of the Protestant interest, will effectually defeat the dangerous designs of those who have wished and endeavoured to overturn our happy establishment. I have directed an official letter to be written to Lord Sydney containing a detail at large of all the objections which have been raised against the contribution, and the opinions of those who have been particularly consulted. I most sincerely pray they may operate on your mind. I have no time to

answer your letter on the subject of Reform. Your commands, as far as they relate to England, shall be obeyed. You shall hear from me again soon."

Postscript. — "The appropriation of the contribution being vested in the English Parliament will be a point particularly obnoxious." *Press copy, marked* "Secret and confidential."

THE MARQUESS OF BUCKINGHAM to [LUKE GARDINER].

1785, January 23.—Offering to state, if invited to do so by the Duke of Rutland, the conversations which took place during his own Lord-Lieutenancy upon Mr. Gardiner's application for a peage.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1785, January 24. Dublin Castle.—"I cannot now have any doubt of the cordial support of a majority in Parliament, a support given from the heart and established upon a clear conviction of the necessity of those measures for preserving the authority of the legislature, the legal and steady execution of government, and the perfect confirmation of tranquillity."

I cannot speak with the same confidence concerning "the proposition of a contribution from the country in consequence of the adjustment of commercial intercourse between Great Britain and Ireland. Independent of that condition, I retain the highest opinion of the plan of adjustment, and am confident it must be received and applauded in both countries."

Let me advert to what may be the ill-effects in Ireland of a requisition for such a contribution. "The clamour against the plan, independent of that proposition, would probably be the same here from persons of the same description and upon the same grounds as in England. In addition thereto, it will be said that the system professes reciprocal equality, but that equality is afterwards destroyed, Ireland being obliged to pay, while England is to receive, a valuable consideration; that under former ministers the grant and extension of the Irish trade to the colonies was made without any such demand." This additional ground of complaint may be suggested against the Parliament when all their authority will be requisite to carry the necessary measures for the settlement of the country; "and these very measures will be attended with a considerable additional charge at a time when the receipt of the public revenues is at least 150,000*l.* a year below the charge of the expenses of Government." If Parliament should reject the propositions in the whole, all the business of government will be embarrassed. "The disappointment of the people in the long expected plan of commercial intercourse will raise a fresh clamour for what they call protecting duties and will give fresh encouragement to non-importation agreements."

"The plan has been confidentially communicated to a good many gentlemen, whose knowledge of this country and whose influence in Parliament make their opinion of the most weight. Individually they admit the justice of Ireland's contributing to the expenses of the Empire," but several, "whose first opinions acceded to the measure, have, upon fuller consideration, expressed much suspicion of the practicability of it at this critical time."

...The extremities "to which Government here may be reduced if this measure should not succeed with the full sanction of Parliament and

the sufficient good will of the people, make me exceedingly solicitous that this condition may be dispensed with, especially as the consequences in England of omitting it bear no comparison with the magnitude of the consequences in Ireland which may attend the insisting upon it." I confess "that my apprehensions have been much influenced, not only by the opinions of gentlemen who openly disapprove of the measure, but by my observation of the reluctant acquiescence which others seem hardly induced to give from their particular sense of attachment to the king's government." *Copy, marked "Secret."*

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO LORD SYDNEY.

1785, January 25. Dublin Castle.—Since yesterday "I have had further opportunities of knowing the sentiments of the friends of Government respecting the contribution to the general expenses of the Empire, and have but little reason to expect success in any form, but much less if any specific application of it in England be expected. I have some faint hopes that if the surplus of the hereditary revenue may be appropriated in general terms for a naval supply to be disposed of in this kingdom, it may possibly pass in that form; the appropriation to take place immediately, and the specific application to be divided by Parliament here;" but "if the surplus is in any way whatsoever to be remitted into England, either in money or in goods, the resolution will never be carried." I hope that on consideration of the reasons given in my letter of the 13th and yesterday, the King's Ministers will recommend the proposition to be totally abandoned. If not, I hope it may be proposed in the modified form I have suggested, if I find any probability of the House of Commons adopting it with cheerfulness.

In my opinion it is of little importance how the grant be made "provided the surplus be set apart to be applied hereafter to the uses of the navy," which might be done "by applying it to the building, maintaining, manning, and victualling ships of war stationed upon this coast. The power of the fleet is, as that of the army, at the King's disposal, and the application of the surplus of Irish duties by Parliament to naval expenses will no more affect the royal authority in one case than in the other." Let me repeat that the great object is the settlement of the country, and intreat that no measure may be insisted on which will put this in hazard. *Copy, marked "Most secret."*

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, January 26. Whitehall.—We opened our session agreeably. You will see there was a desultory debate in the House of Commons, in which our friend kept his superiority as much as ever, and that is allowed by the enemy. "Lord Derby said 'Damn the fellow, he speaks so well, I wish his throat was cut.' It is thought the opposition could not have divided five-and-twenty at any time of the day." *Marked "Secret and separate."*

THE SAME to the SAME.

1785, January 27. Whitehall.—I have received yours enclosing the speech and addresses of both Houses of Parliament, as well as your letter relating to the compensation proposed to be annexed to the liberal concessions to be made to Ireland. A Cabinet is summoned to meet to-

morrow on the subject. "I will not disguise to your Grace that the opinions of the King's servants seem very averse to giving up this point, as there appears justice in the proposals, and likewise a good deal of probable difficulty of carrying the other points in the House of Commons in England if some compensation is not annexed to them. The whole, therefore, may possibly be suspended here for want of that measure." *Marked* "Secret and separate."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] January 27, Thursday. Fludyer Street.—I have received from Mr. Hill an account of your sentiments respecting Pitt's Reform, and found at his *levée* Lord Tyrconnel had received the same. I do not know whether Mr. Hill's instructions reach to Pochin, but he has told me he is against it. There is no great probability of its being carried, Lord Graham and others on the Treasury Bench being very unreserved in their declarations against it, and two-thirds at least of the independent part of the House. But if it should ever pass the House of Commons, and be only thrown out in the Lords, there are some consequences which everyone foresees, and which Lord North and Fox will not be such fools as not to improve. I shall certainly vote for it, even if it goes to destroy the rotten boroughs, though my vote would be like the conduct of the drunken man in Hogarth who is sawing down the sign-post he sits on. Mr. Hill tells me his application for me to the Duchess, and General Sloper, and even Steele, has produced nothing. "It surely would require very little application from your Grace to Pitt to provide for one member, besides that the footing I am upon with him ought to forward such an event, though from the little I have seen of these affairs, I believe an acquaintance has always the least interest. I told him to-day I had instructions from my *constituent* to support his Reform, and he condescended in return to shew me a letter from India, in which the writer describes his own death; but I am sorry to repeat I do not think there is a worse symptom than familiarity."

The EARL OF CHATHAM to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, January 28. Berkeley Square.—I was very glad you were well enough to meet the Parliament. "I flatter myself you have every prospect of a happy conclusion to the sessions, and that you may reap in peace the fruits, and all the honour of the arduous situation you have hitherto had to struggle with. The settled appearance of things on this side the water will, I hope, have a favourable influence on yours. The business of the *Reform*, including every consideration, is, however, certainly an anxious circumstance."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, February 1. Whitehall.—The King's servants have very maturely considered your letters, and I am to acquaint you that "they remain firmly and unalterably of opinion that it is impossible to carry into execution any part of the proposed commercial arrangement, without some fixed mode being at the same time established by which Ireland may contribute in time of peace, according to the increase of her wealth, to the protection of those general interests, in all which she will henceforth fully participate with Great Britain. The internal

settlement of Ireland is unquestionably an object of the greatest importance; but the settlement on some fixed principle of her connexion with this country is certainly not less essential, and indeed, the *one* can hardly be established without the *other*.

“It will be impossible to contend that anything like such a fixed principle is secured unless this object of contribution is now provided for; and therefore, whatever advantages Ireland expects either from the immediate effect of the intended propositions, or from the confirmation of what she has before obtained, and from putting an end to future jealousies, must all be suspended if the difficulties on this point are not surmounted. The idea of her contributing *only* to the support of the services, *for her own immediate and separate* benefit, is the direct reverse of the principle which ought to govern the present settlement, and is utterly inadmissible. The essential object is, that she should bear her proportion in maintaining the force which may be employed under the executive power of the Empire for the protection of the commercial interests which are common to both kingdoms. The navy, on which depends the security of trade, and of the advantages which we shall receive in common from the British Colonies, is in this view the most natural object of attention. But then, whatever is given towards the support of the naval force of the Empire, the direction of it must remain with the executive power, to be employed most for the general welfare, without being confined to particular stations, or put partially under separate controul.

“Ireland will always be secure that her coast and her trade will be sufficiently protected, if there were other motive than this, that the very revenue we hope for depends upon this protection. From these considerations it appears to His Majesty’s Ministers most natural that the supply given should be sent to this country to be employed for the purposes of the general defence. The original appropriation being left to the Parliament of Ireland, there can be no doubt that the faithful application of it would be enforced here, because it would be so much saved to ourselves. And the Parliament of Ireland having by this arrangement a certain check upon the executive Government, from the necessity of their applying annually for additional supplies, there appears no probability that the constitutional rights and the importance of Parliament would be endangered by a perpetual appropriation of the fund. But as it appears, notwithstanding, that the idea of the money thus arising being carried out of the country, to be applied without the possibility of the superintendence of the Irish Parliament, may occasion jealousy and alarm, His Majesty’s Ministers, with a view to conciliate as much as possible and to remove the difficulties which have been started, have considered how far it is possible to modify this proposition without defeating the fundamental object. They conceive that, for a great while at least, there will be no difficulty in applying the whole of the surplus which may arise in purchasing goods, the produce or manufacture of Ireland, for the use of the navy, such as stores or provisions. As far as this goes, there is no objection to its being either declared by a resolution, or by a general clause in the Act of Appropriation which will be necessary, that the fund shall be employed in this manner to as great an extent as the nature of the service will admit, and your Grace will find in the annexed propositions some words proposed for this purpose. With regard to the application of the money from time to time, His Majesty’s Ministers conceive that if the issue of it is made by warrant from your Grace in such a manner as to render the persons receiving it accountable in Ireland, according to the forms of your Exchequer, and if a list of all the specific issues

is kept to be laid before Parliament annually, or whenever it is called for, that the principal objections which have been started will vanish, and after consenting to this modification, His Majesty's Ministers cannot but trust—especially considering what is stated to them of the strength of Government in both Houses—that by perseverance and address, the main object will be secured without further difficulty. On this supposition the mode of contribution would stand thus:—

“The surplus of the hereditary revenue would be set aside by the authority of the Irish Parliament to be applied from time to time by the warrants of the Lord Lieutenant to naval services. Of these, the purchase of provisions and stores would be selected as long as the fund does not exceed the amount of the supply that can be furnished. These warrants might be issued in consequence of a King's letter or such communication from hence as might be found most proper to persons who contract to furnish the navy with articles, the produce of Ireland. These contractors would be accountable to Ireland for the money so received, and would discharge themselves by proving the delivery of the stores to a naval commissary, or any proper officer. The stores themselves would then be under the direction of our Admiralty, to be applied to the general service of the Empire. The list of these warrants annually produced would give Parliament the opportunity of seeing that the money has been applied to the general objects for which it will have been appropriated by their authority, and will also shew whether it has been employed as far as possible in articles of their own manufacture and produce. Whenever the fund should produce more than the amount of what could be thus supplied, it might be employed in raising seamen, in paying wages due to seamen resident in Ireland, or in any other way which would secure its being expended in that country. If ever any of it came to be remitted hither it would only be after performing these services, and would then be but a small part of a fund, the whole of which results from the augmentation of the national wealth; consequently there would be but little to be apprehended on any possible supposition from the money being carried out of the country. And in all cases alike, the person to whom the money is immediately issued would become accountable in Ireland, and every issue would be brought under the notice of the Irish Parliament.

“The result then is, that if this plan be adopted the future increase of the hereditary revenue—a fund now perpetual, and entrusted to the general discretion of the crown—would be appropriated once for all by the authority of the Irish Parliament, for the security of those very objects on which such an increase, and with it the general prosperity of Ireland, must depend. It would become the means of furnishing that contribution to the common cause which Ireland owes on every principle of justice. It would be applied not only for the general good, but as far as objects could be found for it, in the manner most beneficial to Ireland, and this under the constant inspection of the Parliament of that kingdom, and bringing the issues to be legally accounted for in their Exchequer; and further, it would have the effect of making the supplies for the expences of the Government more certainly dependant on Parliament, by preventing the increase of the hereditary revenue being applied, as it otherwise might in that country, without their intervention.

“It seems impossible if the readiness expressed by Ireland to contribute is anything more than empty profession, that such a mode as this should not appear satisfactory.

“As it is, however, of the utmost importance that the final resolution of the King's servants should be now communicated, to prevent the delay of further reference, there is still one additional modification,

which they are willing to entrust to your Grace's discretion, in the fullest reliance that you will not avail yourself of it, but at the last extremity, and when you are persuaded of the impracticability of making any other proposal without hazarding great permanent mischiefs.

“This is contained in the resolution and clauses No. 2, which in truth reduces the proposition with the difference only of words and of some explanatory resolutions to that last transmitted by Mr. Orde. If it should unfortunately be absolutely necessary to accede to this, it is indispensable to accompany it with the declaration that it will be expedient that the application by Parliament should in the first instance be for the purchase of stores and provisions, these being articles which may be applied to the general service of the navy. I mention this particularly, because your Grace suggests the probability of Parliament applying the money specifically to ships built in Ireland, or cutters stationed on the coast. This ought to be most carefully guarded against for reasons I have alluded to in a former part of my letter. It would in truth have the effect of separating in a marked manner the interest of Ireland from that of Great Britain, and would do away [with] the very idea of contributing to services intended for the general benefit. Indeed even with this explanation, this latter arrangement is one which His Majesty's Ministers can only accede to on the supposition that your Grace's difficulties are otherwise unsurmountable; and from the absolute necessity we feel of securing the contribution in some shape or other, before an idea can be entertained here of bringing forward the commercial arrangements.

“There is another idea, which has been suggested, and which appears more unexceptionable, and would give more compleat satisfaction than perhaps any which can now be devised. His Majesty's servants would prefer it infinitely, not only to the latter, but to the former, of the expedients I have mentioned, and even to the original proposition. I am inclined to believe, that if it is rightly understood, and not at once rejected from the prejudices which I know are entertained on the subject, and which have hitherto prevented its being considered, it would furnish the best solution to all the difficulties which have been stated. The growing surplus of the hereditary revenue, instead of being entrusted to the Lord Lieutenant, or reserved—under all the embarrassments of such a plan—for the occasional application by Parliament, might, at once, by the authority of an Irish Act be appropriated to make a part of a sinking fund for reducing the national debt of this country. It would carry with it the greatest recommendation of the whole scheme, as it would tend certainly, though gradually, to reduce those burthens, the weight of which is a great and just objection on our part to the system, in other respects so desirable, of perfect equality in trade. I am aware that the Irish object to being called upon to pay off any part of our present debt, yet surely the consideration I have mentioned make the idea itself reasonable, and at all events whatever they contribute must tend either directly or indirectly to enable us to discharge it. The only question therefore ought to be whether it is simpler and easier to do this by a direct appropriation to the object, or by producing the same effect from any other mode of contribution. There seems no doubt that this direct appropriation is the simplest. It will also be so much the more popular in this country, as to make the effect of the contribution tell for double or treble its amount, which ought not to be an indifferent object to Ireland. It seems also compleatly to steer clear of any constitutional jealousy. The appropriation would be permanent and final under the authority of the Irish Parliament. The utmost length of the interference

of England would be in regulating how and in what order it should be applied to the purchase of stock, in which it should naturally follow the same course as any fund that may be created for the same purpose in this country. There would be no difficulty in establishing by agreement some form of certificate—for instance, from the Bank of England—to be annually laid before the Irish Parliament stating the actual application of it, and its effect in the reduction of the debt. The very nature of such compact would, more than any other possible plan, render a sinking fund sacred and inviolable. The effect this would have on our credit would be at once the most substantial security to the Empire at large, and the progress in operation of such a fund in the course of no great number of years, would render this country capable of sustaining a far greater proportion of future burthens, and consequently, in case of emergency, make it less necessary to call upon Ireland for extraordinary assistance. With all these advantages in favor of this scheme, and considering the safety and facility of its execution, I will not despair that your Grace may find it possible to carry it into effect, the only difficulty I see in the way of it is from the circumstance of the money being carried out of Ireland; but then it will be carried, as I have before urged, for a specific purpose, approved of by the Irish Parliament, and not to be applied at the discretion of this country, which I take to be a much more forcible consideration in Ireland than the other. It is also to be remembered in this view, as well as in every part of the plan, that the money to be thus carried out would only be a part of the augmented treasure of Ireland, and that their national wealth must encrease at the same time in a proportion so infinitely greater that this can never be considered as a grievance, and it must particularly be added that this very augmentation of wealth will flow from a system of perfect equality in commerce. That the contribution thus sent would be nothing like a proportional equality in burthens; and that without some such contribution, the whole system considered together would be gross inequality and partiality in favor of Ireland, and against England. Neither will it be true that the effect of this scheme will be to drain Ireland of so much money, which, according to any other mode of contribution, would be kept in it. Because, even supposing the plan stated in the papers No. 2 to be adopted, the effect will be that, the money raised in Ireland being expended in provisions, the money will not be sent for that purpose which would otherwise be sent from hence; and the money remitted thither this war, will for a considerable time at least be more than the money carried out to be applied to the sinking fund. A draught of resolutions No. 3 is transmitted, which is formed on the idea I have now explained. Upon the whole, your Grace must judge of its practicability if it can by any possible means be carried, it will be the most fortunate completion of this great and important business.

“There is another subject, which applies equally to any of the alternatives which may be adopted. It is stated that though the original grant of the hereditary revenue, and the regulations then made for its collection are perpetual, yet its actual collection at present depend on many additional laws, which have been passed since, and are from time to time renewed by Parliament. It seems impossible to suppose, when the fund is thus appropriated, that there can be any objection to make those laws perpetual, as the appropriation would otherwise be in a great measure illusory. It is therefore recommended to your Grace to consider it as indispensable that this point should be immediately settled.

“Your Grace will perceive that of the three projects, the substance of which is herewith transmitted, the last is that which is by far the

most desirable. If that is unattainable, you are to use your utmost exertions to procure the adoption of that marked No. 1, and it is only in case of unavoidable necessity that you are to have recourse to that marked No. 2, which His Majesty's servants cannot accede to but as a last resource.

"It is not intended to press the particular form of words in any of these resolutions, provided the substance is fully preserved, but your Grace will undoubtedly be sensible that these expressions, which mark that the contribution is intended for the general benefit and not merely for local purposes—or some equivalent to them—are held to be of substantial importance." *Signed. Marked* "Most secret and confidential."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, February 1. Whitehall.—"I hope that among the propositions one at least will be received without reluctance. To be sure the third is the most desirable one, the simplest and by far the most advantageous to both countrys. But I am not so blind to the disposition of the present times as to suppose that those qualitys are likely to preponderate, if speculation, caprice, or prejudice, or the interest or ambition of individuals should be placed in the opposite scale. Therefore I shall not be surprised if this, which is clearly the best for both kingdoms, collectively and individually, is the least palatable of the three propositions.

"From the same mode of reasoning I apprehend the second to be the most so. But if Your Grace is at last reduced by necessity to come down to that, precautions must be taken against so forming the resolutions for the services to which the surplus is to be applied, that they may end in what I should call an Irish Naval Militia; for under that description I should rank frigates, cutters, etc., whose service would be confined to the coasts of Ireland only, and which could not be at any time called off that station to the general naval service of the Empire."

We are not without our difficulties on this subject, "and serious ones too. It may not be difficult to raise a cry among our manufacturers against the bargain — if the times furnish them factions enough to attempt it, and when that cry is raised, there is no knowing how far the discontent may spread." We flatter ourselves from your letters that you will succeed with one of these propositions; we hope we shall find the people of this country contented with it. The third, by the real advantage which it would afford by its support to the public credit would certainly be the most acceptable; but without some one of these propositions being received, I really think that the whole will be suspended—an event much to be dreaded.

I have seen the Primate within these few days. "He is eager, as usual, to disarm the Roman Catholics, without which measure he thinks the country cannot be safe. He mentioned with particular jealousy likewise, an attempt made last year to introduce the Roman Catholics into the College of Dublin by the Provost. I mean the clause in a bill to enable persons of any country or *any religion* to hold the lay professorships. I ventured to say to him that I did not believe any such measure was at present intended." *Marked* "Secret and separate."

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, February 1. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence*, p. 90.]

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, February 4. Whitehall.—Concerning a petition of Lord Germanstone, which has been referred to the Lord Lieutenant, and expressing anxiety to hear from him on the great point.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to WILLIAM PITT.

1785, February 6, Monday. Dublin Castle.—“Mr. Gardiner is satisfied as to his peerage, as he will stand the first of those to be recommended as my nominations to that honour. I am sorry there has been a confusion and mistake which give Lord Buckingham concern. But Lord Northington put into my hands four names *only*, to which I understood the faith of Government was *alone* pledged, and, constituted in my present circumstances, I cannot without embarrassment exceed that number.

“Now I am on the subject of peerages, I must represent how essential it will be for the interest of the King’s Government for me to have the power of engaging *distinctly and with precision* a promotion of marquisses limited to those persons whose names have already been intimated to His Majesty. The creation of that order would become a link to connect the chain which is at present as it were broken.

“The Duke of Leinster has leagued himself to faction beyond redemption. I scarcely know the possible pressure of events which could induce me to apply to him again; it therefore leaves Lord Mornington without a competitor, and he seems determined to dip himself deep in all our measures, and pledge himself to an honorable and unqualified support of Government. I hope the accession of the two vice-treasurerships to Ireland will soon take place, that his services and claims may not remain unattended to, and that other essential arrangements may be produced to afford facility to our affairs.

“Mr. Orde has had a *lucky* cold, which obliged him to postpone his resolutions till this day, when they will come on with[out] fail. I confess I dread the consequences. There is scarcely a man in the country who does not embark with fear and with a heavy heart. *Avvertant omnia!* If this system succeeds, and if the clamours and their mischievous effects should be confined to *faction, hypocrisy, and sedition*, and be easily overpowered, I will acknowledge in this instance, as I do in all others, the truth and correctness of your almost infallible judgement. But on the contrary, should the spirit of dissatisfaction be extended to the judicious and moderate, should the singular combination of circumstances produce discontent in both countries, so that your administration may be *shaken* and my Government *undone*, you will do me the justice at least to allow that in all the stages of this difficult and important business, I have stated to you in the most express terms the consequences probable to ensue. I have admonished, forewarned, and deprecated.” *Press copy.*

Postscript. “The House is up, and the consideration of the business is adjourned to Friday. Mr. Orde explained his propositions in a most correct and masterly manner, much to his credit. Mr. Brownlow, on the statement of the proposition relating to the surplus, rose, and with an unjustifiable heat and passion, arraigned it in terms the most inflammatory and violent that could be imagined. He went so far as to say, that it would be a proof of the humanity of the country if the mover of such an injurious proposition should be suffered to return alive to his employer. With the impression of these words, Mr. Flood wished to adjourn the House, but he was overruled. On the whole, I confess my

opinion grows on this delicate business, and I hope it will be carried decisively. Mr. Brownlow explained, and acknowledged he had been involved in an error. The House expressed much indignation at his language. A full account of to-night's debate I shall send by this post to Lord Sydney. Once more adieu." *Draft, on separate paper, marked "Private."*

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO LORD SYDNEY.

1785, February 7. Dublin Castle.—On Saturday I received your despatch of the 1st. As I could receive no further instructions, I resolved not to trouble you on the subject until I could inform you how the propositions have been received in the House of Commons.

Mr. Orde to day stated the resolutions, of which I send you a copy, to the committee. They are to be printed, and the consideration of them is fixed for Friday next. You will see they do not differ essentially from those I received from you. The last resolution is framed in such a manner as gives an opportunity to understand the temper of the House, and to frame the Bill upon the resolution in such manner as shall be found most practicable and advantageous.

"Mr. Orde gave a general idea of the principles upon which the adjustment is to be formed, and adverted to that part of my speech which spoke of the common interest of the two kingdoms in foreign treaties as holding out to the world the determined union of these kingdoms in affection and interest. As he stated each resolution separately, he enlarged upon the special benefits which Ireland would receive from these concessions on the part of Great Britain. He then stated the condition of England, oppressed with taxes and a heavy debt, the protection that she afforded to the trade of Ireland, and the propriety of giving some portion of the revenues which will arise from the extension of the Irish trade to the support of that navy, whose protection was necessary to secure to her the full enjoyment of it. He then brought forward the last resolution.

"Mr. Brownlow rose with much heat, and declared he could hardly repress his indignation to the end of Mr. Orde's speech, and was astonished at his hardness in proposing a resolution tending to make this a tributary nation to Great Britain. He said that such terms had been held out to America, and that Ireland had equal spirit to reject them. He went so far as to say that it was happy for Mr. Orde that he was now in a country remarkable for humanity, and that if he had proposed such a measure in a Polish Diet, he could not have escaped with his life. He said that these words from Virgil, *Timeo Danaos et dona ferentes*, were often quoted, but that he did not fear, and that if the gifts of Britain were to be accompanied with such a mark of the slavery of Ireland, he would hurl the gifts back to those who offered them. He admitted, however, the advantages of all the other propositions, and was ready to accept them with due acknowledgement.

"Mr. Orde expressed his astonishment at such a perversion of the meaning of the proposition. He observed that the grant was to be appropriated as the Parliament of this kingdom should direct; that it was to go towards the support of the navy, for the protection of this kingdom in common with the rest of the Empire, and asked him whether he expected that Ireland should participate with Great Britain in every advantage and not in expense."

Mr. Gardiner, Mr. Conyngham, and Mr. Foster also spoke. The debate "will shew you with what sudden warmth the idea was resisted

of subjecting part of the revenues of this kingdom to any authority but that of the Parliament of Ireland, and will prove to you how impossible it would have been to have adopted the resolution No. 3, inclosed in your Lordship's letter.

"I have now time to discover how the surplus of hereditary revenue may be appropriated with the best advantage; but I apprehend it will be necessary to make it subject to the controul of Parliament."

I have rather favourable hopes of the success of the whole measure as it is now stated, but I cannot yet speak positively. In conversation I have used your argument, that the contribution would only have effect in the event of actual improvement in the trade of Ireland in consequence of the British grants. "It will therefore be indispensably necessary to take the nearest period to the present time for making that standard of hereditary revenue, from which the future surplus is to be estimated." *Copy.*

COMMERCIAL RESOLUTIONS.

1785, February 7.—The original resolutions laid before the Irish House of Commons. *Printed.*

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, February 8. London.—A friendly letter.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1785, February 9.—Recommending General Cunningham for promotion in the place of General Preston on the ground of the support which he has rendered to Government. *Draft, marked "Private."*

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] February 10, Thursday. Fludyer Street.—"In continuation of the letter I had the honor to send your Grace last night, I shall add a few words on the subject, which your Grace would not perhaps collect from the papers. Your Grace will see that, contrary to the wish of all his real friends, and only supported by Dundas, Lord Mulgrave, and Bearcroft, Pitt persevered in this cursed business, to the disgust of twenty or thirty of his most independent supporters, and the numbers against us were 135 to 174, a very different division from what we have hitherto experienced, and which furnished them with so much triumph that they naturally followed it up this morning with an air of insult, and gave intimation at 6 o'clock that this business should come on in some shape or other every week, and congratulating themselves that everyone foresaw it could not last through the sessions.

"The consequence of this will be trifling if Pitt will *now* recede, and agree to order the return; but I clearly foresee, and, indeed, have almost heard as much from several, that many will form a very different idea of the Administration if such an odious business is forced down by a small majority; and no one can pretend—when this affair is tacked to the Reform Bill—to say what real strength the coalition may possess towards the end of the session. I hope, however, Pitt will be better advised. I don't possess intimacy enough with Lord Chatham to tell him what I know it is Pitt's interest to do, from my acquaintance with

most of our deserters on this question ; and I very much fear, from the astonishing zeal and abilities which Pitt shewed in the debate, that he, Dundas, and Lord Mulgrave, are resolved to carry their point. I do not pretend to guess what this can arise from, whether out of gratitude to Sir Cecil Wray or out of respect to the Dukes of Northumberland and Newcastle ; I must, of course, suspect the latter, from the lead Lord Mulgrave takes in it, and from the most marked indifference which Jenkinson shewed by falling, or affecting to fall, asleep whilst Lord Mulgrave and Dundas were speaking ; besides an intimation I heard from one of his friends that he had not scrupled to call it a very silly business. I never before heard a debate so ably conducted, being entirely confined to the principals. Fox and Pitt, however, had the chief merit, for though Dundas, Lord North, and Lord Mulgrave spoke an hour and half each, I think they were very moderate indeed.

“ Mr. Yorke told me some circumstances of the Cambridge Committee, having quoted their past resolutions to Sir H. Peyton respecting a reform ; he treated it, however, very lightly himself, and there is no sort of chance that we shall not be beat between three to two and two to one, according to my calculation from the Red Book ; but still this is mischievous to Pitt, who ought to know the *real public* opinion better, and who should not pretend to offer such resolutions to the present *virtuous* house as Dundas and Mulgrave were used to propose to Lord North’s majorities of Whitworth, &c. The argument that would have weighed most with me in the debate of this morning, if I had not long ago been convinced upon it, and which, because not a long one, I venture to mention to your Grace, was, ‘ If a returning officer is justified in delaying his return, because the majority for either candidate at the poll is less than he in his conscience believes the bad votes there given would amount to, a partial or even a scrupulous returning officer might have kept London, where the election was decided by seven, Bedfordshire, where decided by one, Southwark, where by eleven only, &c., not only unrepresented for a year or two, but might inevitably ruin all the candidates,’ and, as Fox added, according to this new reform, at the meeting of Parliament half the populous places might be unrepresented, and the returns completed only at such places as Old Sarum and Midhurst ; he did not presume to say Bramber. I beg your Grace’s pardon for this long letter, wrote without having been in bed, and the inaccuracies, &c., of which your Grace will excuse from my wish to give your Grace an early intimation of this debate, in which, for the first time, I think I have discovered any symptoms of much importance, which, however, are only in their infancy, and which, if Pitt does not irritate, will subside again without much mischief.”

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO LORD SYDNEY.

1785, February 12. Dublin Castle.—The Committee of the House entered yesterday on the consideration of the plan of commercial arrangement, and sat until near four this morning. The resolutions which they adopted are ordered to be reported, and will be transmitted with an address to His Majesty. I send you a copy of the resolutions with the alterations as made in the last resolution, and an additional resolution to precede the last. I trust His Majesty will approve of my admitting these alterations, when I state my reasons for having done so.

“ Mr. Grattan having expressed his disapprobation of the last resolution, Mr. Orde had a long conversation with him, in which, though he admitted the fairness of the other propositions, no argument could move him to consent to the appropriation of the surplus for the purposes of the Empire, until Ireland should be free from all burthen of debt.

Your Lordship is not unacquainted with Mr. Grattan's character, and experience has shewn to what effect he can exercise his abilities when a strong ground of popularity is given him to stand upon. Mr. Foster was therefore requested to talk with him upon the subject, and use his best endeavors to convince him of the impolicy of his opposition at such a critical time. Their conversations produced nothing but a very strong letter from Mr. Grattan, written from his country villa, full of the most pointed objections to the measure," and of his resolution to oppose it.

Mr. Orde saw him again on Thursday, and urged the matter with the utmost earnestness, but "Mr. Grattan remained obstinate in his opinion, unless the expenses of government should be made equal to its revenues. He said he knew this to be the opinion of every intelligent and knowing man with whom he had communicated upon the subject, that he had talked it over with many, and that without some condition of that nature, he foresaw the defeat of the measure in Parliament and the violent resentment of an exasperated people, to whom Government would by this step become to the last degree obnoxious; that, for his part, he was decided that the conduct he should follow was due from him to the nation, and that he should state his opinion to Parliament with such arguments as, he was convinced, would render it impossible for any honest man who pretended to the slightest regard of his country to support the measure. He warned Mr. Orde that the gentlemen highest in office and confidence . . . were cordially indisposed to it. He thought the present system of carrying on Government by accumulated loans was highly ruinous, and though Mr. Orde might hope for their support in Parliament, yet he knew they thought it not defensible by any argument. He conjured Mr. Orde not to deceive himself, but to see the chief friends of Government and know explicitly their opinions."

Mr. Orde was already well aware that several of the most zealous friends of Government thought ill of the policy of the measure, and thought it best not to call them together for such a purpose, but he mentioned to the law officers of the Crown, while engaged upon other matters, that Mr. Grattan continued his objections, when they all burst out with entreaties that that proposition might be revised, and that some time should be given to it to avoid the strong objection against bringing it in while the present income of the nation fell so much short of the expense of Government. They offered to raise the revenues by additional taxes to equalize the charges of Government, and avowed, while individually they allowed the propriety of giving the assistance required by Great Britain, that if it were not done in some such mode as they recommended, they could not combat Mr. Grattan's arguments in the face of the country; and if the measure were carried by the influence of Government, a foundation would be laid for such a strength of opposition in Parliament and for such dissatisfaction as might end in the subversion of peace and harmony, in disappointment of all the good effects to be expected from the measure, and in universal disinclination to the Government. Mr. Orde declared the impossibility of yielding, "but they charged him to consider that the settlement of this country and the permanency of her attachment to Great Britain was now in the hands of Government, upon whom must fall the responsibility if they neglected to attend to the decided counsels of the strongest and best friends to British government in this kingdom; that they desired to pledge themselves for the success of what they had proposed, and Government must stand responsible for the failure if they neglected the advice now given them by their most cordial and attached friends; and

having given their idea in writing, by drawing up the resolutions in the form in which they thought they ought to be proposed, they left the paper with him, declaring that it should be followed with a statement of their advice upon paper."

The House of Commons was to meet within an hour—no time was to be lost; and having regard to the spirit of your secret letter of the 1st inst., and how fully the present proposition goes to "the establishment of a fixed mode by which Ireland may contribute in time of peace, according to the increase of her wealth, to the protection of the general interest," I did not hesitate to adopt the mode proposed. You will observe "that the idea of Ireland contributing *only* to the support of the services *for her own immediate and separate benefit* is positively and explicitly excluded, and that the object of contribution is distinctly provided for in the surplus of the gross produce of the hereditary revenue, after deducting drawbacks, repayments, or bounties granted in the nature of drawbacks." You will observe, also, "that as the surplus is granted in time of peace upon a principle which insures the equalization of the revenues with the expenses, and as such a principle of equality is professedly not to be regarded in time of war, a clear consequence follows that the grant of the surplus will not interfere with the present assistances which may be necessary for Ireland to afford to the common cause in time of war." The security of the surplus towards the support of the navy will be in the hands of His Majesty's Government, whose care it must be that no unwarrantable excess of expense shall intrench upon that equality. *Copy, marked* "Most secret."

COMMERCIAL RESOLUTIONS.

1785, February 11.—The Resolutions as amended by the Committee of the House of Commons. *The amendments are in manuscript.*

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, February 14. Fludyer Street.—On some conversation arising today in the House of Commons relating to a petition from the Westminster electors, Fox took an opportunity, in giving up his intended day to Pitt, of saying that he was happy to yield up anything to an object so important as the regulation of commerce with Ireland. "It has for some time appeared to me that, for every purpose except entertaining the galleries, Jenkinson, Atkinson, the Contractor, and Dundas possess almost all the good sense in the House." "Though the coalition is still so unpopular here that we have no enemy, we have no friend who will walk across the street to support the necessary business; and the public affairs have been stopped three days, notwithstanding all the exertions of the Treasury, and the town full of members, because they could not bring down enough for a ballot." I need not say your Grace's friends are in constant attendance, and, from many circumstances in my observation, I may add that "the present Ministry could no more exist without your Grace than it could without Mr. Pitt."

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1785, February 15. Dublin Castle.—Since receiving your secret letter of 11th January, I have given all possible attention to the subject of the establishment of a national militia. I have consulted the Commander-in-Chief and some military and other friends, and shall,

without delay, send you a sketch of the plan and a general idea of the Bill to be brought into Parliament for the purpose. If approved, you will return me His Majesty's commands with all possible expedition, as, from the turn of last night's debate, it is become necessary to introduce it without delay.

The measure has been approved by the friends of Government, to whom I have opened it; and the present time is deemed the most opportune.

It became necessary in the Committee of Supply to bring forward financial proposals for the purpose of the militia. In order to render it effectual, it was necessary to provide a supply for the expense, and as the Committee of Supply sat yesterday, the moving it immediately in the Committee became indispensable. As soon, therefore, as the numbers of the army were voted, Mr. Gardiner observed to the Committee that the Militia Bill was expired, and having declared his intention of bringing in a new bill, he proposed a resolution for a grant of 20,000*l.* for raising and clothing a militia in such manner as Parliament shall direct. The motion was supported by Mr. Hayes, Mr. Ogle, Sir Lucius O'Brien, and Mr. Warburton. A debate ensued, in which the commendation of the volunteers grew so strong, and the charge upon Government of an intention to suppress them was made so directly, that it was in vain to attempt keeping them out of the debate. The speeches on the part of the Opposition were animated and inflammatory. "The conduct of the volunteers was painted in the most brilliant colours, their numbers, power, and spirit described with great strength of expression. The impossibility of suppressing them by the power of Government was insisted upon, and the establishment of the intended militia declared to be dangerous to the constitution and to the liberties of the people." The measure was defended on our side with spirit. Due compliments were paid to the original volunteers, but it was observed how much they had degenerated; that they had joined in insulting Parliament and endeavouring to subvert the constitution; that many of the corps consisted of Papists or of the lowest of the people, who ought not to be trusted with arms and the liberty of embodying themselves; that they had ruined the credit of the country; and that they had disturbed the peace and industry of the people; and that should they be permitted to proceed, they would become the State and the Parliament would be the subjects. Mr. Grattan, who closed the debate, "rejoiced that there was now a Parliament and a Government who could stand upon their character and command tranquillity."

The impression made by the open and spirited declaration of gentlemen of the first consequence in the kingdom is highly satisfactory. The country has long been subjected to bodies of men "whose power in each neighbourhood was supreme, whose humour was at all times to be soothed, whose enmity was dangerous, and whose friendship was burthensome. I have therefore no doubt that however some few may be exasperated at the fall of this foundation of their popularity, the country in general will be delighted at finding themselves again under the protection of the laws in the hands of a legal Government responsible for the propriety of its conduct." I do not see any prospect of disturbances from what has happened. *Copy, marked "Secret."*

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, February 16. Albemarle Street.—Your letter of the 9th gave me reason to believe that your business went on prosperously. I think the men of property and consequence seem to have taken the part which every interest ought to excite them to. I hope they will persevere

till Ireland reaps the benefit. You will receive with this an official letter acquainting you with the promotions in consequence of General Preston's death. I hope General Cunningham will see this in its true light. "The promotion is made with the view of accommodating Lord Lincoln. These things cannot be avoided." If the vacancy had been in Ireland, I believe it would have been otherwise. The King has him in remembrance, and is satisfied with his behaviour in the present crisis. I think General St. Leger's turn is not far off, though not so near as could be wished.

[The DUKE OF RUTLAND] to LORD SYDNEY.

1785, February 20. Dublin Castle.—My official letter tells you of our triumph on the militia question. I am now sanguine, in a short time, of completing the abolition of the volunteer army and the restoration of the sword to the executive. The weight of property and ability which came forward in support of Government will tend to secure this measure being carried out with very little, if any, disturbance. I have no doubt "that the real and effective influence of the country will unite their exertions with mine to suppress every tendency to sedition.

"Mr. Flood, with unparall[el]ed effrontery, dispersed a seditious handbill requesting a corps which he commands to meet as this day at the Exchange, when he marched out at the head of near two hundred men. I confess myself to be rather pleased with this insolence, which, I trust, will have a useful effect, and will greatly facilitate the objects of Government, as many even of the abettors of these illegal combinations seem to deprecate each circumstance which bears the semblance of violence. In short, my good Lord, we have the fairest prospect of success. We are going full before a propitious gale, and if we do not carry too much sail, but are moderate and cautious in the management of the vessel, I have no doubt but we shall conduct it safe into port. When all the essential objects of this session are accomplished, I trust that Ireland will be rendered of perpetual and increasing advantage to Great Britain, and will become a useful member of the Empire." *Draft.*

LORD RODNEY to LORD SYDNEY.

1785, February 20. Hertford Street.—Complaining of the retention of part of his Irish pension on account of his residing out of Ireland.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, February 21. Whitehall.—I shall to-morrow or next day write fully as to the views of the Ministry on the last resolution. Meantime, I must tell you that the alteration which has been made seems to render the application of the surplus entirely precarious. We are persuaded that it cannot be the intention of the Parliament of Ireland to render that part of the system less secure than the commercial arrangement. But it will be impossible to expect the Parliament of this country to give their final approbation to the commercial arrangement merely in confidence that Ireland will provide effectually for the application from year to year of the surplus.

"I conceive, therefore, that some more explicit and satisfactory declaration will be necessary from the Parliament of Ireland before any step can be conclusively taken here on the subject. All, therefore, that we shall probably propose at present will be to declare in general

our readiness to give Ireland a full participation of commercial advantages, and to open the substance of the propositions which have been agreed to in your Parliament, and which are considered as a sufficient basis of the final adjustment between the two countries. I do not apprehend that the Parliament of this country will proceed further till the important point of contribution is more distinctly ascertained. We mean, however, that the question shall be opened in the most conciliatory manner." "I am very sorry to add that every possible endeavour is used by Mr. Fox, Lord North, Lord Stormont, and their adherents to render this measure unpopular, and when you consider how easy it is to alarm many different bodies of people for their own immediate interests, you will not be surprised to find that they have some success." *Marked* "Secret and separate."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, February 21. Whitehall.—Forwarding recommendations of Mr. Hardinge.

The MARQUESS OF CARMARTHEN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, February 22. St. James's.—Recommending Lieutenant-Colonel Yorke for promotion.

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, February 24. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence*, p. 95.]

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE OF [RUTLAND].

1785, February 24.—I congratulate you on carrying your [Militia] Bill. I hope you will be supported, both here and in Ireland, in the rest of your measures. I have by no means laid aside my intention of seeing you in Ireland.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1785, February 25. Dublin Castle.—The messenger has just delivered to me your secret and separate letter of the 21st, and I must not delay to rectify the misconception that the contribution of the surplus of the hereditary revenues to be appropriated towards the support of the naval force of the Empire by the last of the resolutions, stands upon a precarious footing.

The resolutions, taken altogether, form one general system, of which any one part being broken, the whole is destroyed. They are accompanied with an address from both Houses, declaring that they contain the principles upon which the commercial interests of the two nations are to be finally established. I appeal to you whether it is possible to doubt that the contribution is one indispensable principle of this compact. As to the opposition which must be expected to this or any other adjustment between the two kingdoms, what description of men in England can complain? Not the manufacturers, for the ports of Ireland must be for ever open to them. The East India Company will not complain. The West India merchants cannot justly complain, for the West India trade was granted to Ireland in a former administration; and as to the alteration of the Navigation Act, that trade cannot be much

affected by it while the property of the island is in the hands of the British merchant.

“I can very inadequately describe to your Lordship the many anxieties which oppress me upon the least idea that the strength of opposition should be sufficient to overturn or even stop the adjustment hitherto so happily brought forward. Should any ill-fate attend it, there is an end to the settlement of this country, of which yesterday I had so clear and fair a prospect. The conciliation of many friends to Government; the silencing dissatisfaction among merchants and traders; the stopping idle pursuits upon constitutional subjects; the restoring the country to peace and industry, and the removing that perpetual source of disquiet which could never be stopped while bodies of armed men exist in the kingdom, not subject to any authority or control—all this I hoped to see effected, and if England can be mad enough to sacrifice all these great objects, and withdraw from a compact, fair in its principles, and from which she must receive instant advantages, I desire your Lordship will not suffer the failure to be placed to the account of a suspicion for which there is no foundation in fact, and which implies no less than the injurious opinion of an entire want of public faith and of the utmost imbecility in administration.” *Copy, marked “Secret.”*

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO LORD SYDNEY.

1785, February 25.—“The receipt of your letter of the 21st has affected me extremely. Should any embarrassment arise from the latitude which, from necessity, I was obliged to take, or should any doubt be formed of the sincerity of the Irish nation, it might be attended with the most fatal consequences. I hope if the business fails it cannot be attributed to either of these principles. I am satisfied, in my own breast, that the concession which I made to procure a quiet admission of the propositions cannot be detrimental to England. The engagement to equalise the revenues to the expences is part of a compact, and if that part is broken, the whole compact would naturally fall to the ground. No tax can in future be laid which in any shape can injure the hereditary revenue.” I hope, upon the whole, therefore, the concession will not be considered as unwise, nor the objects which it was intended to obtain—an indissoluble amity and an unequivocal union of interest—be deemed as unimportant. Taxes, in consequence, to the amount of 140,000*l.*, have already been voted without a murmur. It would be therefore unfair and impolitic to put the failure of the business on a doubt of the honour and correctness of Ireland. Your difficulties, I trust, you will not find so great as you apprehend; but whatever they may be, I am persuaded the *tenth resolution* is the least of them. *Draft, marked “Secret and separate.”*

DANIEL PULTENEY TO THE DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, February 28. Fludyer Street.—I have not had time to read the papers I enclose, but assume that Pitt’s speech is pretty exact. It will naturally occur to you that “the arguments in a House of Commons must be very different on the two sides of the water.”

I can *assure* you on very good authority—in spite of all you will read or hear—“if Ireland—with whom England does not mean to *marchander*, like two pedlars—will substantiate the application of the overplus by precautions against its failure or anticipation, there will be no reluctance

in the Parliament of this country, notwithstanding all the clamors, advertisements, and God knows what other party symptoms of discontent, that may break out here."

JOHN MORTLOCK to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] February. Fludyer Street.—Stating that he has discharged every engagement of his banking house, and has real property clear to the amount of 33,000*l.*; and asking for the Duke's influence to have his partner, Mr. Francis, continued in the office of Receiver-General (for Cambridgeshire).

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, March 1, Tuesday night. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence*, p. 98.]

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] March 2. Fludyer Street.—The Irish business has been unavoidably postponed. Mr. Macnamara has mentioned to me that he has attended the meetings of the West India merchants, and though at first almost alone, has brought over a considerable party, and got some of their strongest resolutions rejected or softened. He conveys to me the idea that the clamour without doors against the Irish terms—if agreed to—will not be so great as was expected, and there is no doubt as to our numbers within.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, March 3. Whitehall.—I have shared the anxiety you express in your letter of the 23rd, and feel how strong your claims are at the present moment to the attention of the Ministry. I hope—from the conversation of Mr. Cooke—that our modifications of the business which I transmit to you with my official letter will be received favourably by the Irish Parliament. I do not think we can be accused of an unreasonable degree of jealousy. "As individuals, we are willing to confide in the Irish Parliament, but when two countrys are treating, everything ought to receive a permanent settlement, and nothing be left open to the chance of a future discussion. Mr. Cooke seems to think that the alteration made in the form of the Irish part of this business will not be unacceptable." I trust he is founded in expectation of success. Indeed, when I consider the magnitude of the business, I am "more inclined to wonder that we have so little difference than that this one has arisen. To your Grace's address, perseverance, and activity, I am inclined to ascribe this fortunate circumstance," not forgetting to give due merit to the gentlemen in the service of Government in Ireland; and credit must also be given to the honourable support of men of character, unconnected with the Government in Parliament. I rather wish than hope the Parliament of Great Britain will exhibit the same honourable scene. We have strong reason to believe that the attempts to get up a popular cry against these measures will fail. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

SIR ROBERT MURRAY KEITH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, March 3. Vienna.—Congratulating him on recovery, and on the hopeful prospects of the Irish administration.

E. COOKE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, March 3. London, Nerot's Hotel.—I hope the modification proposed will be admirable and satisfactory. I have steadily represented "that Ireland would not renounce the principle of securing future economy, whilst she was consenting to future permanent and increasing expence. But I would not say that Ireland would refuse to vary the mode of attaining her objects if it were made equally certain with the one proposed. The resolutions already transmitted are considered as inadmissible on the part of Great Britain. It remains to consider whether the alteration suggested is equally inadmissible on the part of Ireland. If that should be the case, it is still hoped that Ireland will not fly back to her first ground, but will recur to some fresh expedient." The fullest justice is due to your conduct on this occasion, and your consenting to an alteration founded on such a wise and beneficial principle is cordially approved. The Cabinet laments the necessity of altering the resolutions, but think that nothing contingent or conditional can be admitted. Mr. Pitt is confident that the compact will succeed notwithstanding the attempts of Opposition. The rumours as to the instability of the Ministry are quite unfounded.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, March 4. Fludyer Street.—I must explain my reasons for voting against the adjournment in opposition to G. Sutton and the Ministry. After the House was well calculated, and a majority had gone out, I joined them, about the 150th person, because, 1stly, the difference of one vote was nothing; 2ndly, I should see and converse with some of our own friends and bring them back on the succeeding question, as actually happened with Colonel Sutton, who has now promised to vote with Pitt on the main question, Monday, of expunging the scrutiny vote from the Journals; 3rdly, I should lessen the opposition triumph, as being notoriously a steady attender on Government divisions, it insinuated they could not carry a question of themselves; and lastly, it would give me an opportunity of speaking in a way to serve Pitt on the next debate, which I certainly should have done on the next question if Fox had not withdrawn it.

On Monday they bring on a question for expunging from the Journals the vote of June, in which J. Sutton and myself shall again undoubtedly rejoin our standard, because what we voted in June we were convinced was legal. Experience having proved its inefficacy, we have voted for its discontinuance; but not believing it to be illegal, we cannot vote for expunging. The Irish business stands for Tuesday. I find no alarm of consequence without doors; even if we are beaten on the expunging question, our majorities are not at all affected on any other occasion. "The explanation to all this is neither more nor less than that the House of Commons, being at present perhaps *too independent*, that *incorrupt* body has many whims and caprices, and will decide against any minister, sometimes without ill-will to him in the main." Pitt ought to have expected this vote on the scrutiny business; perhaps, after all, he did not dislike getting rid of it, though he certainly acted stoutly enough to appearance in its favour.

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, March 8. Fludyer Street.—The Irish business is put off today and is to be brought on again Thursday, though Pitt seemed to

think the House could not on that day come to any vote of consequence. Some of the Scotch members have been instructed as to the importation of Irish grain, which Pitt says is not within the meaning of the resolutions. The West India merchants divided to-day 59 to 40 against petitioning Parliament. I hope that we shall divide with a considerable majority. With respect to the expunging business, which Pitt must resist, I have in two or three instances done him material service respecting to-morrow's vote. Our majority will not be so great as on other occasions; but after to-morrow I think things will go smoothly.

ROBERT JEPHSON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, March 9.—A letter of thanks.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, March 10. Whitehall.—We are anxiously expecting your answer to mine of 24th ulto. I laid your letter of 28th—though a private one—before the King; who, remarking the paragraph in your own hand relating to Lieutenant General Cunningham's request of returning to the Irish staff, ordered me to write to you upon it. His Majesty thinks that the staff ought to consist of a permanent commander-in-chief, one lieutenant-general, two major-generals of infantry, and one of cavalry, the four latter to be changed every two years; and is willing to nominate General Cunningham to succeed in the autumn on this footing. I am also to consult you *privately* upon the major-generals whom you would wish to succeed to those now on the staff, although he does not consider these nominations within the patronage of the Lord Lieutenant. Pitt beat his virulent adversaries last night on the question of expunging the resolution for the scrutiny, by a majority of 105. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

E. FINCH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, March 10. London.—Lord Cornwallis has expressed an intention of not taking any person out with him to India under the idea of promotion. I have therefore given up the idea of applying to him. If not immediately required, I should wish to ask leave to stay a little longer in London, but, if necessary, shall return immediately. "Mrs. Fitzherbert goes about in a very plain equipage. She is said to be breeding, but they don't believe in general she is married. Lord L—— certainly could not have been present at the ceremony."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, March 11. Fludyer Street.—"I have only to acquaint your Grace that Pitt brought on to-day the resolution which he meant to move on Tuesday next, and though there was only a thin House, as not expecting any debate, I heard Alderman Watson and some others declare their fixed opinion that no material difficulty would lie in the way of a measure being carried under your Grace's Lieutenantcy, which is to all intents and purposes as permanent a junction of the two countries as if a bridge was extended from Holyhead to Dublin. Jenkinson spoke in defence of the Committee of Council in opposition to Fox. Though all parts of the kingdom have been solicited for petitions, we have only one now in three weeks from Manchester, and even the most sanguine in

opposition could not foresee to a certainty that above one or two more would be presented. God knows I have no reason to flatter Pitt, but I think more highly of his conduct every day, and his prudence in this business has been in every respect unexceptionable. I may venture to engage to your Grace *for certainty*, now we have got rid of the scrutiny, that there is no longer any ill humor in the House, and that the resolutions, of which I take it for granted your Grace has all the particulars, will be voted by a great majority. We beat them on the expunging motion by a very sufficient majority, as even amongst their number in that division were twenty at least of our friends."

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, March 12. London.—My journey has been retarded by the bad weather. "I have seen Mr. Pitt and have had a very long conversation with him, and am entirely confirmed in the ideas which we had formed of the single difficulty now remaining in the way of perfect agreement. He contends with very serious earnestness, and assures me—I believe *most truly*—that others are still more positive than he is, that the contribution, an indispensable ingredient in this system, is rendered precarious in some possible events by the condition annexed to it. He continues to be of that mind, although he has seen, and in most respects is extremely pleased with, the Bill, which had been put into his hands yesterday. He is ready to acknowledge that by the grant of the hereditary surplus to His Majesty with only a recommendation of certain preferable articles for the general purposes of the navy, is a great point settled, and removes much of their difficulty; but he nevertheless still continues to apprehend, that the perception of this fund being liable to the chance of diminution by the possible extravagance of Irish Government, is a circumstance which so entirely changes the nature of the security, that the British Parliament cannot consider it as upon the same footing with the rest of the agreement. He cannot admit the sufficiency of responsibility in the Irish Government to satisfy the British Parliament that no excesses of expence will be gone into; but even if that doubt could be obviated, he is not disposed to allow that confidence is in such a case as this a fit security against the possible refusal of the Irish Parliament to make good at any time hereafter even a reasonable exceeding, while they may be under the temptation of throwing it upon the surplus of the hereditary revenue. He does not, *of course*, apprehend any *early* instance of danger from this circumstance, but he is too seriously inclined to maintain his doubt of future possible instances, and at all events thinks that such an uncertainty, however light, should not exist in a compact of this sort, all parts of which ought to be equally permanent and secure. He was surprized at the value which seemed to be set in Ireland upon this check, and thought that the friends of economy and limitation might be well satisfied with some regulations for those purposes unconnected with this agreement.

"I took care in the first place to explain very entirely the cause and object of this condition, and to remove the mistaken idea of its being only intended as one means, which had accidentally occurred, for moderating the extravagance of Government in a general view. I made him sensible that it was taken up as properly and peculiarly belonging to this very point of a contribution, which was considered as an engagement to send money out of the country for purposes not separately those of Irish expence, and therefore ought to be accompanied with a reasonable assurance that this should not happen except when the charges of

the country were also answered. The surplus itself, therefore, had been proposed to be made liable to a condition which Government must be supposed to have it always in its power to prevent from operating to the disadvantage of Great Britain, by its care to keep within the allowed estimate, unless in cases of emergency or unforeseen propriety, in which there could be *no doubt* of a grant from Irish Parliament to make it good. *This* your Grace will at once perceive to be the stumbling block, because there is a *doubt* here of Irish Parliament *hereafter* being, upon caprice or pique or resentment, &c., &c., &c., apt to dispense with reason and to indulge passion, and, having the power, of being too ready to try the exercise of it. Besides, it is asked, How is the British Parliament to judge of the conduct of Irish Government in such a possible case, when upon first view the refusal of the Irish Parliament to make good any exceeding ought perhaps to be taken as a proof that that was no justifiable ground for it? The accounts of Irish expences cannot be brought before a British Parliament and discussed there. I did not find great weight allowed to my argument upon this, that the question could not turn upon general accounts, but upon some particular object of expence, which Irish Parliament would or would not allow to be entitled to a provision in order to prevent its falling upon the surplus of hereditary revenue; that of this the British Parliament could certainly judge so far as to form a decision upon the conduct of Ministers. But it is certain that the chief reliance must be upon the improbability, or the almost impossibility, of the case ever happening. In matters of ordinary expence, the Government certainly could take precautions against excess, and might well be made subject to a check of this kind; and their responsibility to the King, and through His Majesty to the British Parliament, must be considered as a sufficient controul. I did not fail to urge the various circumstances which lessened the hazard of excess without the approbation of Irish Parliament, and particularly that the annual meeting of Parliament left a less interval for the discretion of Government, and that the time of meeting and the date of the public grants, &c., gave another safeguard to the exposing of the hereditary surplus. I pressed, in short, the acknowledgment that under all the circumstances there remained only the single doubt that any excess in cases of real emergency or strong expediency—where it would perhaps be culpable in Government not to incur the risk—would be made good by Irish Parliament, rather than subject the surplus, appropriated to the navy of the Empire, to the discharge of it. Here the matter remains. I wish that I could report to your Grace a better prospect of success. I am to-morrow to see others of the Ministers, and shall most assuredly maintain our ground as firmly as possible. Mr. Pitt has promised to give the matter every consideration in his power with a view to accommodation, and if possible to acquiescence in our proposals.

“ I much fear his being thwarted elsewhere, but at present I am ignorant of the state of tempers and reasons, &c. I wish to give the earliest account of my arrival and the first opening of negotiation, and therefore do not wait to add more. I should have mentioned what, however, I trust your Grace would have naturally concluded, that I put in the strongest light to Mr. Pitt the ill consequences of a refusal to admit our propositions as now explained. I sought to convince him that even allowing a *possible*, nay a *probable*, risk of diminution to the surplus upon some particular occasions to discharge any excess in the annual Irish expences, it would be of no moment in comparison of the certain loss which would follow from the rejection of a demand, strongly urged on the part of Ireland, and thought to be only reasonable. I did not fail to mark the situation of the chief friends of Government, nay of

Government itself, in that country, and the fatal overthrow of all other measures, which by this small concession had been advanced to a most promising degree of success."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] March 15. Fludyer Street.—The Irish business is to come on to-day with counsel, attendance of Commissioners of Customs and Excise, and, in short, all the obstruction—by way of further light—that opposition could give it by petitions, papers, and evidence. I can assure you that all the resolutions will be carried, though some of the latter may in a trifle or two be modified so as not to deviate from the substance and the spirit of the first, by which the House is to understand itself completely bound.

A strange phenomenon appeared last night, in Barré rising from the Treasury Bench and falling in with the objections of some country gentlemen against the ordnance estimates, and in an able speech abusing the Duke of Richmond, who he knew was in the gallery. This visibly disconcerted Pitt, who went up to the gallery and persuaded the Duke to relinquish his ordnance projects until a more general board than the Ordnance Board had examined their utility. We had no division on account of the compromise. This is all useful to Pitt, but humiliating to the Duke of Richmond, whom, however, Pitt praised to the skies.

Postscript.—Since writing the above, there has been a ridiculous scene from a motion of Eden's for the attendance of all the Commissioners of Customs and Excise. It was foretold him they could have no information on the subject, and, on his proposing the first question, they answered they had never heard of the Irish proposals except from the newspapers. This occasioned a considerable laugh at Eden's expense, and the House broke up, and it is not yet agreed when we are to proceed. A petition was presented by the electors of Westminster against Fox, which, however, cannot be heard this year, and a more important petition was sent by a committee of traders and manufacturers. The drift of this is sufficiently understood by the sensible part of the House, and if Pitt were ready to proceed, the House is ready to agree to the terms proposed.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, March 16, Wednesday. London.—I have varied between hopes and fears, and am still at a loss to report the exact situation. The objections which I mentioned in my letter have been repeatedly pressed, and I have answered them as best I could. Yesterday I had real hopes that Mr. Pitt and his friends were satisfied with the explanation which had been given in the Bill, and the confidence that the spirit of the agreement might be sufficiently understood to exempt those possible cases wherein the Government might issue money or incur expenses for some extraordinary emergency. The Chancellor had suggested an addition to the preamble for this purpose. "He thought that the spirit of the compact, being thus recited, might at any time hereafter be resorted to, and would remove any doubts and prevent any *evil inclination* to throw this charge upon the surplus of the hereditary revenue. Still, however, a possibility would remain that the Irish Parliament might *hereafter*, in spite of shame or reason, refuse to make provision for such exceeding, and that the *permanency and security of the surplus, in favour of Great Britain*, could not therefore be now stated as equally

taken care of *with the commercial arrangement in favor of Ireland*. Arguing, however, as politicians, the cabinet seemed disposed to venture upon such a confidence, and to hope that the British Parliament would allow the security to be good for the sake of the general object." This day, however, Mr. Pitt again informed me that Ministers would not place a reliance on anything less secure than the Acts by which the commercial benefits would be rendered permanent, and it was therefore impossible to proceed until the condition should be taken away from the last resolution, and, in short, the tenth re-established. I have expended all my means of remonstrance and warning, but have not yet prevailed. I shall certainly not encourage Ministers to hope that our friends in Ireland can agree to separate the condition from the resolution for granting the surplus, "and that any better mode can be found of removing the difficulty they have started about the possibility of a future insecurity in cases where the Irish Parliament may or may not diminish the amount of the surplus. I wish, however, most anxiously that your Grace would consult with particular friends about this, and endeavour to devise some means of satisfaction without abandoning the principle. You know that I am only distressed about the public hazard, and grieved at the chance of great disturbance and confusion, because I am sure it is the object of your anxiety. I must, if this decision should be irretrievable, desire positive instructions how to act upon other business in Parliament, that at all events the danger may be as much prevented as possible before your situation, or the final part your Grace is to take about yourself, can be ultimately settled. It will require great temper and prudence to act consistently with honorable spirit respecting yourself, and yet with just regard of preference to the welfare of the community." I shall write again on Friday, when everything must be ultimately decided. You will doubtless reserve any expression of your feelings until I can positively inform you of the conclusion. I am so distressed and mortified that I can hardly convey an intelligible account of this business. The delay in putting any question on the resolutions will, I am afraid, have a bad effect on your side the water. On further consideration I think I had better see Mr. Pitt again to-morrow morning, before dispatching this, and I will then desire Mr. Cooke to hasten his departure.

"I would give every possible chance of accommodation to the scruples of the Government here, consistently with the preservation of what is necessary in every view for the uniformity and credit of your personal and ministerial conduct. Thus circumstanced, I am under an agitation of mind not to be described. I am sometimes inclined to fear that apprehensions about success in other matters occasion the reluctance to give way in this; and then follows the injustice of imputing to the change in the resolutions that difficulty in carrying the matter through, which arises from very different causes. I do not believe that Opposition could do much, unless the delay and timidity of Government should give them opportunity. I cannot succeed any more in hastening their progress than in convincing them of the very dangerous consequence which must follow from the suspension of the business, particularly on account of dissatisfaction with our last propositions, which is, after all, a scruple of so trifling a nature that I can hardly believe the Parliament here would take it up, if it was not suggested to it by Government itself."

Lord Sydney has taken the King's pleasure about the peerages and advances to be made, and has approved a list following Lord Northington's recommendations, which I understand to be what you wish at present. The King will grant the earldom to Lord Antrim, and in

succession to his three daughters and their heirs male, remainder to heirs of his own body, but cannot give an unlimited descent to heirs general. Lord Doneraile was always on the list in consequence of Lord Northington's promise. I will urge the matter of marquises and vice-treasurers. Lord Lansdowne is full of acknowledgment of your friendship. He thinks right about this business, and has acted very handsomely to Government. *Marked* "Secret."

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, March 18, Friday. London.—Mr. Cooke, who takes this, will inform you that at last I have succeeded in bringing the Cabinet to reason, and I congratulate you on their acknowledgment of the propriety as well as good intention of your conduct. They are sensible of the advantages and satisfied of the security. There are two or three trifling points about which I shall write more fully. The Chancellor has detained me so long that I have no time left now. *Marked* "Most secret."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] March 19, Saturday. Fludyer Street.—I flatter myself I may discharge my debt to you in time, and whether in or out of Parliament, whether at home or in the East or West Indies, "is almost a matter of as much indifference to me as Lord Barrington thought his wife's complexion was to him." The Irish business kept us late to-night, being the examination of the second witness. Fox and half his party seem determined to make the most of their opposition to this affair, and I fear it will not be over for three weeks. I say of half his party, because Lord Beauchamp was an hour to-night, in his awkward way, cross-examining the evidence, in order to prove the proposals not destructive to the cotton manufactory and printing. I have good reason to think the majority on this subject will be considerable. This should be satisfactory to Ireland, as being the opinion of the most independent House that has sat since the Revolution. As an instance of this: in an accidental division to-night, Pitt and Fox—so unfortunate are coalitions—divided in a minority of ten on a regulation respecting the ballots. Pitt, however, has not lost any of his popularity or support upon important questions.

[THE SAME to the SAME.]

[1785, March] 21, Monday morning.—If the Irish business is ready, Pitt has claimed this day to bring it on; if not, we are to have again the cursed scrutiny. "I find the City is as anxious about Orde's speech as if they were going to lose the River Thames. The London West India merchants conceive themselves ruined, and if we do not hasten the affair through the House of Commons we shall not want, I suppose, petitions, remonstrances, council, &c." I was told yesterday Pitt had disowned some parts of Orde's proposals, but I give this as a mere report. Pitt seems resolved to try it fairly. "There will be a great clamor against him, but I think we need not fear anything from numbers in the House of Commons, if people there are not put out of humor by a continuance of the foolish business of the High Bailiff, which, I am sorry to see, Pitt seems more and more obstinate in." Some of our Indian allies talk mutinously of Lord Macartney's late appointment, which is not easily to be accounted for. He is recalled as unfit for the inferior

Government of Madras, and then, without any examination of his conduct, is kicked upstairs, as they term it, to the reversion of the Supreme Presidency in India, but whether this is entirely an act of the Ministry, I shall not pretend to guess. The East Indians in the House are not, however, of much consequence, and they are never unanimous, so there is not much to be apprehended in disgusting a part of them. Pitt will gain credit with the public, at the risk of making some personal enemies, by his reforms in the offices. As the House of Commons supports him heartily in his plan, it must gain them some share of its (*sic*) popularity, "though, in opening the business, I must confess I was surprized to hear him treat the auditors with such asperity; for he said almost in as many words that their 'laziness was even superior to their avarice'; and these auditors are the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Montstuart, and Lord Sondes. Though nobody doubted the truth of his assertions, there was at least one in this number whom we did not expect to hear mentioned in such terms."

As the Irish affair will "be considered as Pitt's, your Grace need not apprehend your name being mentioned with any disrespect in the debates here, even by such a licentious assembly as ours."

The House of Commons is threatened with the same debate that is before the House of Lords "relative to orders *supposed* to be sent out by the supreme board for paying the Nabob's private creditors before the Company, contrary to the Act of last year. But I know the temper of our House well enough to foresee we shall divide on any question of this sort two or three to one."

Coffee House, House of Commons, 10 o'clock.—We have rather better ground on the scrutiny to-day. To-morrow the Irish business comes on. There will be some alarm; but Pitt need not fear support enough against party or prejudice. Watson, the City member, is sitting next me and arguing *rather* in favour of a possible system between the two countries, but others are very violent against him.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785.] March 22. Fludyer Street.—"I am sorry to acquaint your Grace that the selfishness, ignorance, and credulity of many more commercial towns has been too successfully practised on by Opposition, and the tide is at present running high in many considerable places against the whole of the Irish proposals. The people of Nottingham, under the influence of Portland emissaries, petitioned yesterday, which makes the 26th, I think, but young Smith, who presented it, and who is one of Pitt's friends, as your Grace may perhaps know, was very stout in declaring he thought his constituents were misinformed, and he should not be directed by them. If this doctrine was more general in the House, a Minister would better know what support he could depend on, but without it his very advisers to any measure, might, with supposed consistency, effect his ruin on any question. I placed myself last Sunday at a Speaker's dinner next Lord Penryn, in order to find out what the West India planters, &c. meant to do, and he declared that if they were not more satisfied than at present they would certainly petition and be heard by council. The truth, however, as I think I could discover, was that the Government friends were too strong in that quarter, and perhaps we shall hear no more of them. All this clamor, however, will certainly produce one bad effect, I mean delay, for as people will not all read the printed report of the Committee of Council, it will be necessary for Pitt to call the evidence examined there before

the House to refute what we have already heard on the other side. In order to satisfy your Grace, as an Englishman I can say I was very attentive to the turn of the questions proposed by Jenkinson and Pitt; and without repeating the reasonings, which it would not be necessary to enlarge on at Dublin. I, for one, could see no danger to the calicoes and fustians, which is the only point yet gone into. Independent of the necessity of risking inferior considerations for great systems of policy, I cannot, with all the attention I can give it, see in the report of Council any risque England will run against which the experience and the superior capitals of our merchants will not be a sufficient security; and from all I have ever heard or read of Ireland, there is an argument which cannot be publicly used, but which is a stronger, intrinsic superiority—I mean the perseverance, vigor, and industry of English workmen in every branch of trade. The House of Commons will adjourn on Thursday the 24th to Thursday the 31st, on which day the Irish business is to be resumed. The Opposition are very elate, and though the question should be carried with a considerable majority, they expect Pitt will lose much of his popularity, and at this perhaps there would be others equally pleased; but Pitt himself seems so cautious and prudent that I hope he will have address enough to throw the affair on the House, and make it an act of theirs as well as of the Ministers.

“In a division yesterday, to prevent people from going out of town in order to avoid the question of Reform, he told me he was glad to see me in the lobby as a proof I did not mean to run away from that business; to which I answered that I should treat instructions from Bramber just as Mr. Smith would do those from Nottingham, but that I had other instructions to vote for his reform, which I should certainly obey, with which he seemed perfectly content. In this I take it for granted all your Grace’s members will concur, though the Colonel he cannot prevail upon even to dine with him, and George Sutton, being applied to by him in the open House to waive his plea of having served at a ballot, was, to the astonishment of everyone, as impregnable as the Rock of Gibraltar. In every other respect we have been all of us very diligent attenders, and of course supporters, of Government. The Reform, it is generally supposed, must be thrown out to-morrow by a considerable majority. I must own I think the greater the better. The Speaker said, at dinner, the proper day to have brought on a question of Reform would have been Good Friday, and on somebody’s saying if it was carried Thursday morning the kingdom would enter upon a fast the next day with great propriety, the remark seemed to meet with a general assent. Your Grace will receive an account from me of the debate by Thursday’s post.”

VISCOUNT CARHAMPTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, March 22. Dawson Street.—Acknowledging the Duke’s intended recommendation for his promotion to the rank of earl, and requesting that his title may be Earl Carhampton, of the kingdom of Ireland.

THE EARL OF SHANNON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, March 24. Cork.—Concerning the intended advancement of Lord Doneraile in the peerage. With respect to political concerns, everything here wears the face of perfect content and good humour, and

I have heard no dislike expressed to a militia, nor any wish for the continuance of volunteers. I am sorry to add, however, that trade and credit are at a low ebb.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, March 24, Thursday. London.—Other business, especially that of Reform, prevented a meeting of the Cabinet to settle our affairs, and when yesterday they met there was so much cavil, and such endless distinctions upon trifles, that the hour of attending the House came before anything was decided. Another Council meets to-morrow, when I am to receive my ultimate instructions, and I shall set out on Saturday. Some of the Cabinet have attempted, but unsuccessfully, to re-open matters. I have been honoured with an audience in the Closet, and can assure you of all good in that quarter. Entire satisfaction and approbation were expressed in that quarter in the strongest terms. Business in the House has been delayed by the failure of a ballot for the trial of the Buckinghamshire election. Pitt, however, assures me that the delay will not last. There is more chance of his failure on Reform than of defeat on our commercial adjustment. I find the opinions of the wise very much divided about the event of the question of Reform. I really think, however, that the greater expectation is of its being carried, at least so far as for leave to bring in a bill. I wish there had been a longer adjournment of our Parliament, but hope to be at Dublin before Thursday. *Marked* "Most secret."

The EARL OF CLERMONT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, March 25. London.—I congratulate you on your being so well as to hunt. I have been twice up to your great plantation on the Warren Hill, where I saw that great numbers of the young plants are dead. I mention this, as next month is the time to replace them. I have been very glad to hear of your easy and happy session of Parliament. I sincerely wish you may carry your plans, and if you do, you will have made the most glorious campaign that has been made by any Lord Lieutenant. I sat an hour yesterday with Lord Gower, who has a good opinion of things, though so much pains have been taken to inflame the manufacturers and others.

I saw your filly out of Imperator's dam at Newmarket last week. She is a very fair one.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, March 27, Sunday.—I cannot get away until Tuesday next; but I can tell you, at last, that we have maintained our ground.

Pitt is in very good spirits about the business, and hopes, with good reason, for success when he can get a House to go on.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] March 28. Fludyer Street.—Though the Irish business was only adjourned till Thursday, it must now stand over to Monday, April 4th, when the Buckinghamshire ballot will certainly take place, and things go on as usual. You will see that Newmarket and other amusements have occasioned a week's delay instead of a regular ad-

jourment, the Speaker going *pro formâ* every day and breaking up at half-past three; and that no consideration respecting the Irish business or Pitt's Reform had the least to do with what has happened.

"A forged letter in Macnamara's name was sent ten days ago to Leicester desiring the mayor to call a meeting in order to oppose the Irish proposals, but was discovered soon enough to prevent its effect. Nottingham is the last petition I have heard of against them; but with regard to the House of Commons, even if any of Pitt's usual supporters should desert on this occasion out of real or pretended deference to their constituents, this will be more than balanced by Conways, &c., and I don't see any the least risque of our not having as great a majority as on any other question, I mean—to speak by guess—considerably above 100."

ADMIRAL J. GAMBIER to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, March 30. Queen Street, Mayfair.—Mentioning the death of his wife, and acknowledging the Duke's endeavours to obtain appointments for himself and members of his family.

WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, April 2. Putney Heath.—[*Correspondence*, p. 99.]

THOMAS CONOLLY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, April 2.—Asking for an appointment for Sir Michael Cromie.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, April 2. Albemarle Street.—I trust the Bill, with the alterations, will be acceptable on your side of the water. I think we shall carry our point here in spite of the most virulent opposition. Every method is taken to throw upon the *present* Opposition the odium of the concessions of our predecessors. I am more anxious at present about the agreement between Great Britain and Ireland than for any other object. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, April 3. Hillsborough.—We have obtained a complete victory at Carrickfergus, chiefly by the extraordinary exertions of Kilwarlin. After a furious struggle, we have turned out Cunningham by a majority of thirty-six, and fairly laid the troublesome, not to say rebellious, Constitution Club upon their backs, and, I trust, secured the peace of this part of the North. It has obliged me to postpone my journey to Dublin, but I hope still to be in time to lay before you my thoughts upon the Militia Bill.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] April 5, at night. House of Commons Coffee House.—"I have got a respite after a division to acquaint your Grace an accidental and very spirited debate has just taken place between Pitt, Fox, and Jenkinson, in which I am happy at last to hear from Pitt in these very words, which I took down:—'I can have no interest but that of

the people ; a considerable part of them have certainly misconceived the Irish resolutions. I have courted every means of information at the Bar, and I trust they will be convinced by the evidence given there. But if, unhappily, this should not be the case, I shall still retain my opinion decidedly in every part of this affair.' I believe these were exactly the words, but certainly the meaning. Your Grace will therefore erase from the letter I had the honor to send this morning any doubts conveyed in it respecting Pitt's delay. I am convinced the House is sufficiently with him even now, and when his evidence has been heard and the prejudice, partial as it is, has a little more subsided, I doubt not at all of numbers. Your Grace's situation may perhaps be a little unpleasant, but the event—which, however, might have been safely, I think, decided by this time—must end well at last."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] April 6. Fludyer Street. Before the House of Commons.—I am sorry my last letter did not contain a flattering account as to the forwardness of the Irish business, which it seems to me Pitt has not managed with his usual foresight or spirit. In the first place the Committee of Council was appointed *too late* ; for the resolutions were passed in Ireland before the report of the Committee was made to the King. In the second place, Pitt ought to have been prepared here, and at least after three weeks, and there was no petition, and the House being very well disposed to follow him, he ought to have committed this kingdom likewise, and saved you the unpleasantness of the present suspense. In fact, great as Pitt is in all the essential parts of a good minister, it is inconceivable "how partially informed he is of people's sentiments in the House, and because he lost the scrutiny, he now fears every division, and suspects, without any sort of reason, some trap or other in every debate. This delay has had as bad an effect here as it can have in Ireland ; and this inactivity of Pitt and indirect encouragement to petitions, I am afraid, has made several people in the House very diffident of the propriety of a measure on which they had at first no doubt. After all, his excuse last night was that, taking advantage from Fox's ill-conduct in the India Bill, he was not so impolitic as to call the opinion of the people delusion, and then he concluded by saying whether the people were satisfied or not, it would not alter his opinion." The measure would have passed with a great majority if Pitt had taken a vote, as he ought to have done, when it was first opened to the House. I am confident it could pass now, but perhaps not with so great a majority.

I regret Pitt's attachment to this Reform, in the course of which Fox will, I think, involve him in new difficulties. Fox will take advantage of it to injure Pitt with the King and the most respectable part of the country for the zeal and sincerity of his attempt at any reform at all.

The EARL OF CLERMONT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, April 6. London.—"I am just returned from Newmarket, where I never saw a fuller meeting nor more money, which is wonderful, in these hard times, and very fortunate for your tenants and farmers." I won eighteen hundred guineas, "*all Spanish*," on a young "conductor" of mine on Saturday.

"I hope your *tanta negotia* won't make you forget your noble young plantation on the Warren Hill, which may be a great ornament to our fine open country in a few years."

THOMAS CONOLLY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, April 6. Castletown.—Concerning an appointment.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785, April 7,] Thursday night. House of Commons.—The Committee is resumed on Irish affairs. I see very favourable symptoms in the House. You see the resolution of the Western manufacturers signed by J. Ainstie. Smith, of Nottingham, and others are resolved to vote against the instructions of their constituents. Macnamara says he could produce from Leicester, if necessary, a declaration that the Irish proposals have given them no apprehension. We have Rigby and Conways certain, and—I am told—Welbore Ellis. I have inquired if evidence is to be brought relative to the price of labour—as you mention—and find Pitt is well prepared on the subject. I am always ready to assist in explanations, and should not decline a more conspicuous part if I could have done good by it.

GENERAL EDMUND STEVENS to the [DUKE OF RUTLAND].

1785, April 8. King Street.—Announcing his intended marriage with Miss Hulse.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] April 11. Fludyer Street.—“As in your Grace’s present situation the slightest information respecting Irish affairs may be in some degree acceptable, I write to say—what I believe I have been uniform in—that there cannot be a shadow of doubt the resolutions will pass with a great majority. Without any great vanity I may say, what I believe many other members of the House can, that they know the opinions of the House better than the Ministry, who, from wanting perhaps the usual Treasury connections, are really more ignorant and frightened respecting divisions than it is possible for a stranger to believe. I have had lately, and by accident, some nearer insight into the particulars of the division to take place than I can, with fairness, expressly repeat; but every day I see or hear something to make me more pleased at the prospect. This system of Pitt’s, to act upon great general ideas of the propriety or wisdom of a measure without attending enough to the means by which it can be best and most happily introduced—I mean, knowing the general opinion of the House at the time—must, I foresee, involve him in time in one or the other of these difficulties. He must put off from diffidence, as in the present case, what he could more easily have carried through at the beginning; or he may bring on questions through rashness, or persevere in them from the same motive that, like the scrutiny, might nearly endanger his Ministry.

“I should not have had leisure to send your Grace these *profound* remarks but that the Bucks petition was this day given up by Lord Verney, and a committee, the fear of sitting on which had delayed the business of Government a fortnight, was one of the shortest of the session. I have the pleasure to hear from all sides of the House, and both in public and private, there never was a parliament where election justice was so impartially dispensed, though I say this with great deference to Lanark, which I believe your Grace first sat on. The House is to-day on the Manchester petition respecting the tax, and to-morrow will sit on Irish business, which, from classing the petitions and hearings

by council, will now be considerably shortened. I can only add that not only thinking but *knowing*, perhaps better than Pitt does, the strength we shall have on passing the Irish resolutions, I cannot think these sort of delays ought to occasion in Ireland, when properly explained, the least degree of jealousy or uneasiness; and I may venture to congratulate your Grace on having established a union upon a perpetual system, which, upon every principle of policy and good sense, was equally necessary to both kingdoms."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] April 13. Fludyer Street.—I can report little visible progress in the Irish business. Your Grace may know the reasons, which I can only guess at. The opposition is subsiding, and is now confined to the Manchester people and parts of Scotland.

I presented yesterday a petition from Grantham respecting a Navigation Bill. Pitt said to me he supposed the real reason of the petitioners was that the canals obstructed hunting. I confess I could not discover how Grantham would be affected by a proposed canal in Warwickshire; but, having regard to the thirty or forty respectable names on the petition, I shall, if I am in the House, vote according to the prayer.

Pitt's financial statement has had, I hear, a good effect in the City.

I hear "that Macnamara says the people of Leicester were so offended at the forgery attempted on them, that they offered him to petition *for* agreeing to the Irish resolutions, which, however, for reasons obvious enough, I suppose will not be required of them."

The EARL OF CHATHAM to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, April 13. Berkeley Square.—I have been alarmed about the Duchess, but an happy to hear to-day that she is better, and going on well. I am anxious to have this confirmed. I have great pleasure in the good accounts I hear of all you have been doing in Ireland. I have sent word to you that I have determined this summer to fulfil my promise of coming over to you. Whether I shall be able to do so I cannot yet tell. Hitherto Lady Chatham's illness prevented it; "and now Mr. Burke seems determined not to let us have a short session, as I had hoped. It is impossible yet to judge from the catalogue of crimes he has given in, each of which is a folio volume, whether anything really serious, or only vexation and consumption of time, will be the consequence; but I am afraid the prospect of the latter, at least, seems inevitable, perhaps both. Should it end in nothing, I shall hate him as much as he does Hastings." I have a ray of hope from what you wrote to my brother of our seeing you here. Lord Cornwallis seems vastly well and in good spirits. His appointment gave me great satisfaction. He is to sail as soon as his ship is ready.

LORD RODNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, April 13. London.—Thanking him for a letter, and congratulating him upon the prospects of his Government.

M. O'BYRNE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, April 14. London.—"I think it's as well for your Grace, and much better for Captain Morris, that he is of this side of the water, as, your wine being so good, I think towards the heel of the evening he

would be very apt to change the opinions of the Paddys, or, to a dead certainty, they would break every bone in his skin for the libertys he has taken with them in his last song call'd his Treaty of Commerce." But I most sincerely hope that all matters may be amicably settled.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, April 15. Whitehall.—Yours of the 7th, marked *private*, has been received. His Majesty's Ministers are very desirous that the matters depending should be brought to a speedy conclusion, and therefore see with regret a tendency to raise difficulties. You are aware "of the many local prejudices with which we have to contend, as well as the avidity with which those who wish to inflame the minds of the people of this country, seize every opportunity of representing the whole of this business as a dirilection of the interests of Great Britain and a surrender of her rights to Ireland."

"It is material to hold out to the people of this country that a permanent compensation is given by Ireland. Permanent regulations seem necessary to a permanent revenue, and, even to a temporary one, there can be no inconvenience in permanent regulations, as, when the revenue ceases, the effect of the regulations ceases likewise, having nothing to attach to.

"Mr. Orde, in his letter to Mr. Pitt upon this subject, expresses a wish that this measure of applying permanent regulations should originate in this kingdom. There can be no objection to that mode of proceeding, and here I cannot help observing that the very resolutions now upon the table of the House of Commons of Great Britain seem to form the foundation which Mr. Orde desires.

"It certainly is not matter of perfect indifference to the King's Ministers whether the clauses for perpetuating the revenue laws are inserted in the Appropriation Act or in a subsequent Revenue Act, as by the former method they appear more clearly to make a part of the compact. But however preferable that measure may be of the two, yet if the other will obviate any serious difficulty, they are ready to give way rather than the matter should be an object of further contention." *Signed. Marked "Secret."*

The SAME to the SAME.

Same date. Whitehall.—It is provoking to be so near the mark and still to be differing. I think our Irish friends are unreasonably tenacious. It seems forgotten that we have a jealous country and an active Opposition to deal with, "the former hurt at the idea of concessions to be repeatedly made at the expense of England; the latter, actuated by revenge and avarice, ready to propagate every opinion that may tend to inflame the minds of the people and to take advantage of every local prejudice.

"I am now writing to your Grace a letter of a most private kind, and therefore venture to hint to you that even among those who have received the most distinguished marks of favour from Government, there are some who appear to lean so entirely to the side of popularity in Ireland, as to lay embarrassments in the way of accommodation where the real interest of Ireland is not concerned.

"Under this head I rank the difficulty of the present minute. Permanent regulations are necessary to a permanent revenue, and if they were even extended to a temporary one, I can see no inconvenience

that can arise, as the moment the revenue ceases they have nothing to attach to, and remain a dead letter. . . . It is not, to be sure, matter of indifference whether the clauses for perpetuating the revenue laws are inserted in the Appropriating Act or in a subsequent Revenue Act, as by the former method they appear more clearly to make part of the compact." *Marked* "Secret and separate."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] April 16. Fludyer Street.—I see every day fresh proofs of our strength on the Irish question. Having occasion yesterday to write to Mr. Pitt on another subject, I took occasion to hint to him "how different I had found the sentiments of all I knew in the House from what we had heard at the Bar, and that every one seemed to wish to finish the affair directly." I inferred from his answer that he had doubted this, from want of common information; but last night, at eleven o'clock, he called for a new evidence, and seemed desirous to close the business as soon as possible. "It was pleasant enough to hear Fox, a few days ago, argue against the resolutions because they were irrevocable and conclusive, and to hear him last night, on the first glimpse of a difficulty in construing them, declare his dread of them because they seemed not so final and conclusive as they ought to be." On Monday comes the question of Reform, and by Tuesday's post you shall have the particulars.

The MARQUESS OF LANSDOWN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, April 18. Bowood Park.—"I expected something might have occurred previous to my quitting London worth communicating, but I left every one taken up with the Irish propositions, without much principle to go by, and Opposition, as far as I can judge, without any plan to offer in the room of what they find fault with. I may be mistaken, but the real difficulty appears to me to lie with the finance. The Manchester people have contrived artfully enough to confound the taxes lately imposed on manufactures with the Irish propositions, and Government has not seemed prepared to take a divided part to shift or enforce them. The iron and the silk import duties come under the same predicament. Government, I am inclined to believe, must accommodate somehow both these points, and if it was done immediately, as far as I can judge, all opposition without doors would drop to nothing. But I am writing, and, what is worse, taking up your Grace's time with observations which may not deserve attention. You must be informed how things stand by persons not only more capable of judging, but who have the materials before them which are indispensibly necessary to judge from. Mr. Orde will have told your Grace in what a loose, uncomfortable state everything in London is, which has made me very happy to get here among my woods, as soon as the season would justify my taking Lady Lansdown and one of her sisters out of town, before the formidable tribunals of Almack's and the Opera Room. When the propositions get to the House of Lords, it is my intention to go up, if it be for no other reason than to bear testimony to your Grace's conduct and merit. I can with truth assure you that there is but one opinion among impartial people, where the propositions have been fully explained. It will be an amazing point carried in the present situation of things to consolidate *for ever* the future navy of both kingdoms, and the surplus of the hereditary revenue must in time prove a most substantial resource, which I frankly confess I never thought could have

been carried under the untoward circumstances your Grace had to struggle with. There are things which do the present Government of Ireland the greatest honour, and, what I value much more on your account, are calculated to do it honour hereafter. As the newspapers when they have no fresh intelligence give an essay instead of news, I send your Grace enclosed a curious story from the East Indies, which may not have reached you. I am sorry to hear that the late accounts from India do not bring very favourable accounts of our finances there."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] April 19, Tuesday morning.—“The objects of the Bill perhaps your Grace was previously informed of; indeed, it had been dealt out here piecemeal in the papers for some time, and, I suppose, will be stated at length by Mr. Woodfall, &c., but the effects of the proposal in the House were what I was principally attentive to, in order to acquaint your Grace what influence it might have on Pitt's general supporters. He was heard, indeed, through a very long speech with great attention, but with that sort of civil attention which people give to a person who has a good claim to be heard, but with whom the hearers are determined to disagree, and though there were nearer 500 than 450 in the House, I never saw them behave so quiet, and yet so apparently determined. In dining above stairs, I had frequent opportunities to hear opinions, and there the generality of Pitt's friends only lamented that he would not keep clear of this absurd business, so I do not apprehend that if he acquiesces quietly it will at all affect his interest in the House. Fox did not rise till very late in the debate, and was, I believe, rather puzzled what part to take. If Pitt had been strong enough in his opinion to have obtained leave for bringing in the Bill, I am convinced he would have opposed it *in limine*; but foreseeing Pitt could not get leave for the Bill without his assistance, he was in hopes to get the Bill in, and then display all its inconsistencies, ill consequences, inadequacies, &c.—of which, to speak fairly, there appeared an abundance—when he had got the Bill in the Committee. All this, however, is happily at an end, and I hope the remembrance will be quite worn out before we come to the Irish business, which would have been over before now, I believe, if Mr. Pitt had not been so encumbered or enamoured with—I am not certain which—this Yorkshire system of Reform.”

Tuesday evening.—“The House not meeting to-day, I have nothing to add to the above, but that Pitt, whom I met in the park, looks as grave as if he had really suffered a Ministerial defeat, and Mr. Hill, whom I met soon afterwards, seemed as happy at our good riddance from such a troublesome affair. The latter told me some strange story of thirty principal manufacturers having signed an agreement to offer themselves to any Irish lord who would give them encouragement. This, however, was not in consequence of the Irish resolutions, but of the Excise laws having made such a progress in manufactures. The real fact is that the generality of all the trades in England apprehend little or nothing. Manchester and its neighbourhood, being out of humor with the late tax on fustians, and mixing their politicks with their resentment, have been very discontented. The woolen manufacturers are decidedly for the resolutions; and the House of Commons ready to put an end to all difficulties of all sorts if Pitt would bring them to a vote.

“Your Grace remembers probably a remark of Sir R. Walpole, which Pitt has already seen enough to allow the truth of, that a minister might

sheer the country gentlemen when he would, and the landed interest would always produce him a rich fleece in silence ; but that the trading interest resembled a hog, whom if you attempted to touch, though you was only to pluck a bristle, he would certainly cry out loud enough to alarm all the neighbourhood."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] April 20, Wednesday night.—“I have barely time to acquaint your Grace that Mr. Pitt has new modelled the Manchester tax, in taking it from bleached and dyed and transferring it to the printed cottons. The House was very full, and Dundas took occasion to say, ‘those finances which my honourable friend will long continue, I hope, to direct,’ in opposition to an idea of the newspapers and of Brookes’s that he meant to resign if beat on the Reform.

“A division was projected but given up, as we could have beat the movers of it three to one in a very full House.”

The SAME to the SAME.

[1785,] April 23. Fludyer Street.—The languishing state of the petitioners against the Irish resolutions promises as early a period to this business as Pitt chooses. I do not understand the reasons for delay. I think Pitt is very much “fettered in his conduct on great affairs. From a very partial and confined knowledge of the world, he is too full of caution and suspicions where there does not exist the shadow of a pretext for them; and, from having no immediate intercourse with the generality of the House of Commons here, he is as ignorant of their opinions on particular questions as if he was minister of another country. His whole conduct proves he can only be minister with an independent House; and the very proofs they give of independency, *i.e.* dissenting from him on points where, according to plain common sense, I think they have been in the right, startles him so much that he is too much frightened for some time to bring questions before them where he is equally sure of decisive majorities in his favor. His living and conversing with a very small circle and acting only on abstract general principles will, I foresee, involve him at some time or other in difficulties, from which no minister of this country can be free without more extensive information. But the aversion to the Coalition is still so strong in the House that he may continue many years, if he pleases, a very usefull Minister to the country, though not so absolute in majorities as some of his predecessors, and, whenever he was to quit, I think no ministry, not founded on corruption, could stand against him.”

I send this general speculation, for want of any Parliamentary information. As to myself, I remain silent in the House, in the absence of express instructions from you. Whatever service I could do by explanation or private conversations I have never failed in; and, above all, I have been a most constant attender, “which, I suppose, is the most meritorious duty any member with less than 10,000*l.* a year can perform.”

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DANIEL PULTENEY to the [DUKE OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] May 2. Fludyer Street.—“Mr. Pitt, after calling to-day for fresh evidence, and none appearing, declared he was still open to receive any that could be brought; but that if the evidence *against* the Irish propositions was closed on Wednesday, he would then bring forward a few in its favor, and proceed very soon after to take the sense of the House. I rather thought—but that may be mere fancy—Pitt inclined towards me when he said this, as if under an idea that I should acquaint your Grace. Fox seemed to think the question could not be well decided before Whitsuntide, but Pitt thought otherwise, and declared he meant it so. A call of the House to be protracted for the purpose was agreed on by both sides, and I can most assuredly congratulate your Grace on a very decided majority upon a subject that ought to endear your Grace’s administration to both kingdoms. As I think I can now see several reasons why Pitt might protract this business, I can only say he has great obligations, however, to your Grace for having kept Ireland so contented under their expectations.”

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, May 4. Whitehall.—As to extension of leave of absence for Major Master, of the 24th.

GENERAL W. A. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, May 4. Royal Hospital.—Concerning military promotions.
Signed.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] May 5, Thursday.—The House of Commons not rising in time for post, I could not until to-day acquaint you that Pitt began then on his evidence to disprove the assertions which have been made respecting the price of labour in Ireland. The evidence proved, in opposition to the enquiries, that little risk will be incurred by England, and little benefit gained, of course, to Ireland. The only thing to guard against is making too strong a case. I mean proving too fully, what I believe to be the truth, that Ireland will gain only *capabilities* of advantage, instead of advantages themselves. I am glad to find Pitt means to close his evidence almost directly, and to bring the House to a vote before Whitsuntide.

Before closing this I have been two or three hours in the House, and Pitt has declared he will bring us to a vote on the Irish question on *Thursday next*, subject, however, to the reception of new petitions and fresh counsel. I infer from Fox’s peevishness and a motion of Eden for fresh papers, they will drag up some other petition and counsel if they can, for delay, between this and Thursday.

To-day’s business is a sort of censure from Francis on the India directors. The result of the whole is to show that the East India revenues produce now an annual overplus of above 800,000*l.*, after payment of their establishments and interest of their debt.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, May 7. Whitehall.—Arlington, which Lord Carlow wishes to take for his earldom, is a title of the Duke of Grafton. Sunderland is the third title of the Duke of Marlborough. I find that these titles are likely to give offence, and especially to the Duke of Marlborough, who would not consent that the late Lord Spencer should take Sunderland for his earldom. If any other titles would equally please the ears of those who have fixed upon these, it would obviate all difficulty. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785, May 11,] Wednesday evening. House of Commons.—"What I believe many people foresaw took place to-day in the House, on the eve of the vote upon the resolutions for to-morrow, viz. that some fresh petition would be offered *merely for time*; and as Pitt had in fact said if fresh petitions were tendered they ought to be heard, he was in a sort of a dilemma, if we had not in a very crowded House—for the call—cheered him up so much that he said sufficient time had been given to every petitioner, and he would take the sense of the House if any more counsel should be heard. This was a point on which it exactly suited Fox to divide, for some of our overscrupulous friends would take this occasion to leave us, and the Conways, &c. would undoubtedly vote against us; but in spite of this disadvantage we divided, on an unfavorable previous kind of question, 261 to 143 against receiving any more petitions to be heard by counsel. Amongst other ridiculous arguments they will use to-morrow, I hear they mean to state that Pitt's evidence were all Irish, and of course the thing would speak for itself on which side of the argument he was partial. But as he only examined them on the price of labor which they actually paid themselves, it seems the Opposition would think a hearsay evidence from Cheapside a better authority on the subject, or, in other words, their objection must be that Pitt has merely brought the best evidence that is to be obtained from the fountain head, instead of hearing it by guess from London manufacturers. I suppose, however, this sort of argument will be abandoned to-morrow. Lord Ossory and Rigby were the only two of their party who voted with us to-day. I believe we shall have the Conways to-morrow, but that is only material to themselves and their own character in Ireland, not at all to us, in point of respectability or numbers. I think, from the re-assembly of a full House preceding the call to-day, Pitt had as decided marks of approbation from them as on the first day of their meeting. I need not anticipate what I have been, I believe, uniform in assuring your Grace, that there will be no doubt of succeeding to-morrow, though Pitt, I fancy, was once afraid of the question. The only enemies from our own party that we could apprehend losing did actually vote against us to-day, I mean Sir G. Shuckburgh, Blackburne, &c."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, May 13. Whitehall.—I congratulate you on the success of this morning, the account of which you will have received from Mr. Pitt. I find it will be absolutely necessary to prevail upon Lord Carlow and Mr. Malone to fix upon other titles. The Dukes of Grafton and Marlborough would be much displeased, and the King is not disposed to give them any cause for displeasure.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785, May 13,] Friday morning.—You will hear more authentically from the Ministers as to the amendments or explanations moved by Pitt, in addition to the Irish resolutions. The debate was protracted by every method for evading a question, and every Parliamentary trick practised by Fox to put off coming to any vote for some time longer. Pitt and Fox spoke three hours nearly each, but though there was very little said by anyone else except Jenkinson and Lord North, we could not divide on the first resolution till eight o'clock this morning. On a question for adjourning we divided 281 to 154, and on the first resolution 249 to 125; so that Ireland cannot complain their affairs wanted attendance or discussion. I take for granted you have got the consent of leaders in Ireland to the explanations moved by Pitt. Ireland may now be as great as she chooses to be industrious, and I think, though perhaps a few manufacturers may see some parts of their trade gradually travel to Ireland, that it was always a very narrow policy to fancy we did not partake in their prosperity, and that their interest was not our own. This idea being now so decidedly acknowledged by such a liberal and respectable House of Commons here, I hope you will partake with other Ministers in the popularity that ought to follow you on the other side of the water, and will, I trust, attend the Ministry here without doors as much as within, when the whole object is clearly viewed by the people.

The SAME to the SAME.

[1785,] May 13.—I may add to this morning's letter a few particulars of the debate, which you may not otherwise hear. "Dempster complained heavily of the manner in which the Scotch fishers were treated by the Irish at present, and hoped a resolution tending to a participation in fisheries would be established, and the Scotch leaders—Lord Advocate, &c.—complained likewise of the Irish putting in force an obsolete law of Charles II., which imposes a 5s. duty on handkerchiefs, and operates as a prohibition on their flowered gauzes. The case does indeed, as far as I heard it, seem peculiar, because if there was an actual prohibition they would be released of course, but as they only labour under a duty amounting to a prohibition they are not within the meaning of the resolution.

"I think nothing material was said besides, except something from Eden for mere mischief respecting the pressing Irish seamen, and something for the same purpose from Sheridan, which I own struck me in the same light it did him, when Pitt first read one of the new resolutions; I do not recollect which it was, but the purport of it was that when we did so and so, the Irish Parliament was bound to do the same, which is in effect legislating for both countries here."

[THOMAS ORDE to WILLIAM PITT.]

[1785, May.]—A long letter upon the subject of the hereditary revenue in Ireland, strongly urging the inexpediency of requiring permanent provisions for its due collection; and arguing upon a detailed statement of the existing position of this revenue, that no new conditions are necessary for securing its permanence. *Draft.*

IRELAND.

[1785, May.]—Draft of resolutions to be proposed in the Parliament of Great Britain. *Marked "Secret."*

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to WILLIAM PITT.

1785, May 19. Dublin Castle.—*Draft, marked "Private."* [*Correspondence, p. 100.*]

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785, May 20,] Friday morning, 6 o'clock.—We have just divided—195 to 90—for the resolution that now stands third. The line Fox now takes is that Ireland will not adopt the resolutions. He treated Orde roughly, in his usual way, and Pitt for allowing him to offer such a gift to Ireland by moving the five resolutions there and pledging Parliament here, which Fox said was a most ungracious as well as bungling plan. I cannot but think the Government here have given him an opening which he has made the most of; but Pitt has received unequivocal marks of confidence throughout. Lord North made a dull speech of two hours. Altogether we had a very tedious debate. I can only say, as the newspapers do when they happen to be right, that I always said Pitt was never in any sort of danger within doors, nor *without* after a dispassionate consideration. The only reason that we had not a larger division was that a number of our friends who were present had paired.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1785, May 20. Dublin Castle.—The majority seems very decisive, and to promise certainty to whatever Mr. Pitt may choose to bring forward. I must confess that the deviations from the original tenor of the propositions which it has been thought expedient to make in the English House of Commons are unfortunate, "as they may afford to discontent and faction an instrument to work much mischief with, and may open a field of difficulty and embarrassments which it will require all my exertions to overcome." One clause I have explicitly "assured him, in its present shape, to be impossible of success. I mean that which relates to the perpetuity of the penal laws for collecting the revenue. I almost believe the House of Commons would as soon vote the repeal of Magna Charta. I have in various despatches stated my objections to its introduction into the resolutions; but never having heard from the King's servants in reply to those objections, I am perfectly at a loss to guess the powerful reasons which have induced them to persist in adopting a change which I fear would be productive of very dangerous consequences to Government in this country." Lord Carlow and Mr. Malone have given up their intended titles. The one hopes to have that of Port Arlington, the other that of Sonderlin, from Lake Sonderlin, which, by an ingenious alteration of a few letters, he converted into the more ancient title of Sunderland. "I enclose a seditious and treasonable address presented by the Newry volunteers to Lord Charlemont; it was too strong for publication, and so it was hushed up." *Draft, marked "Secret and separate."*

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, May 21. Putney Heath.—[*Correspondence, p. 102.*]

* The SAME to the SAME.

1785, May 21. Putney Heath.—[*Correspondence, p. 103.*]

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, May 24. Whitehall.—Mr. Pitt tells me he has written fully upon the regulations. “Let us, for God’s sake, find some means of clearing up the difficulty, which, if not got over, may set aside the whole business, which seems now so near conclusion.” *Marked* “Secret and separate.”

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] May 24. London.—We got through the 4th resolution last night at a very late hour. “The idea first mentioned by Sheridan of Ireland becoming again a dependent Parliament, &c., under this resolution, was made the most of last night by Fox in one of the most barefaced party speeches I ever heard, and managed with so little address that it frequently set the House a laughing, and drew from Mr. Pulteney a pretty unreserved comment on the new Irish patriot. Amongst other things, he said ‘though an Irish Parliament might for obvious reasons agree to this or any other arrangement, it would be impossible to hoodwink the people of Ireland, who had too much good sense not to see that the 4th resolution subjected them to their old dependency on the selfishness, caprices, &c. of this country,’ which I take it for granted some good patriot of Ireland will, even without such a prompter, suggest to the majesty of the people in that kingdom.” We divided 194 to 36, all their people having left town except the mere Opposition bench. We meet again to-day at 3 on the 5th resolution.

The SAME to the SAME.

[1785,] May 26. Fludyer Street.—“We sate late again last night on the resolutions, no matter now whether we are to call them Irish or British, the two kingdoms being about to be so closely united for the future. We are to finish them this evening, and next *Monday for certain* the last debate on them is to take place on the report, where very few—if any—amendments are intended to be offered; and it is almost agreed by the Opposition to confine the debate to the spirit of them.

“Last night, Fox took fresh ground again and was an *English* patriot, moving to leave out the whole clause which was to secure to Ireland an effectual preference over every other country. The words effectual preference, after a long cavil, were altered to effectually favor—a distinction without a difference; but Fox was not contented, and argued speciously enough ‘that we might be involved in difficulties with any country—if such a one exists—whose product we are bound by treaty at present to import *duty free*, and how could we do this consistent with the proposition, to comply with which we must certainly lay on a duty?’

“No one, however, on either side the House could recollect that England is at present engaged in any such treaty, and the clause passed, as enlarged afterwards and explained by Pitt.

“Another violent opposition was made against the Irish being allowed to grant, as is their present custom, a bounty on the sale of a manufacture without our being permitted to lay on a countervailing duty here to balance such bounty. But on this, as well as on every division in the committee, we beat them—80 to 20, 70 to 15, &c., &c., having many divisions in the course of the evening. I can only say, in one word, that

Pitt never suffered any sort of amendment or comment unfavorable to Ireland to be directly or indirectly introduced in the course of this affair, of which your Grace may, with confidence, assure the Irish, except they should deem such the explanations relative to the E[ast] I[ndian] trade, and our declaring their trade in general to be subject to any regulations we may make for the benefit of both. Indeed, the propositions as they came over here, I must say, had left a great deal to be done in them, and whether manufactured here or in Ireland, or in both, were certainly in a more incomplete state than was expected by Pitt's friends. I shall not trouble your Grace with any further accounts till after the report. The printed resolutions will be finished, I suppose, by Friday evening, and your Grace will receive them from Government quicker than I could send them by post; but as some slight amendments may possibly be received on the report, I shall insert them in a printed list and transmit them as soon as possible after the division on Monday next, being the last edition *auctior* and *emendatior* of the House of Commons here.

“Receiving no sort of instruction from your Grace on the subject, and not even knowing whether in some of the clauses it would be proper for a member of your Grace's to adopt implicitly Mr. Pitt's arguments before the consent of Ireland is obtained, and, above all, never finding out but with great difficulty what Mr. Pitt intends when he first moves any resolution, waiting, as he often does, for Eden's or Fox's conduct upon it, and thoroughly convinced that an unauthorised member for Bramber would not add much weight in the scale, if I do not in the meantime receive any instructions to the contrary, I shall reserve all my eloquence for some future occasion; perceiving, too, that this is a subject on which as much ignorance has been displayed by both sides of the House as I ever remember in any question.” The session will end here about the middle or end of June. The Opposition, who had formed sanguine expectations after the division on the scrutiny and the introduction of the Irish business in such an incomplete state, have most of them left town. I don't know who are the principal advisers in this Irish business, but *Jenkinson*, next to Pitt, has taken the greatest lead. *Rigby* has never been but in one division, and *Vernon* I think I have never seen. *Lord Ossory* has divided with us only once. *Lord Beauchamp* has been always with us. “I believe all that are marked above are Irish placemen.”

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO WILLIAM PITT.

1785, May 26. Dublin Castle.—“The letter which I wrote to you a few days since in relation to the clause for perpetuating the hereditary revenue contained my unequivocal sentiments on its fate whenever it should come to be proposed to the Irish Parliament. I stated to you some modifications which I thought might be carried, if they should prove satisfactory to you, and correspondent with the objects you wished to establish. My opinion on this matter was not adopted lightly, but formed upon conversing with the principals of those from whom I am to expect the most decided and effectual support.

“The question in reality is a question of words; you have already the substance in that close connection between the hereditary revenue and the additional duties which renders it impossible, while the additional duties subsist—that is, during the existence of Parliament or Government—that the laws passed from time to time for their collection should [all] fully aid the collection of the hereditary revenue, for which there are so many perpetual provisions. You will consider the papers Orde

has proposed to you for a clause in the Act, and determine whether one of them will not establish satisfactory permanency. Do not alarm us here by requiring that the Revenue Bill shall be made *perpetual*. The word cannot accord with experimental provisions, as the idea must revolt when it is connected with felonies new created, and newly fangled, and unconstitutional modes of proceeding against persons who for the first time are here involved in felony. Mr. Grattan terms it a covenant which for the extension of commerce sacrifices and destroys the constitution. At the same time, if the urgency of the moment and the difficulties of your situation should compell you still to adopt this clause, unqualified and without modification, every exertion on my part shall be employed to reconcile men's minds to the whole of the propositions as they may ultimately be received from England, and though I can afford you no sanguine expectations of success—as far as may relate to that particular clause—yet every point which is tenable shall be contended for, and your battle shall be disputed inch by inch. The explanation you have given on the article of beer is a matter of consequence and will go some way in reconciliation.

“Lord Glerawley is not included among those who are *at present* to be promoted in the peerage. He has made his application to me, but without mentioning a title. My recommendations are confined to those originally mentioned to His Majesty.” *Press copy.*

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, May 28. Whitehall.—We expect a good deal of debate in the House of Lords, but I trust shall be more expeditious than in the House of Commons. “I trust in the good sense of the Irish nation in general, as well as in almost every individual who composes it, that no one will be the dupe of so barefaced an imposition as the attempt of those who have failed in exciting a commotion in England to raise one now in Ireland, upon principles and assertions totally contradictory to what they professed in the beginning of this business. Mr. Pitt has signalized himself both by his temper and his ability during the whole course of this business to a degree beyond what his most eager advocates could have foretold.” If the business answers, you and Mr. Pitt ought to stand, and will stand, in the opinion of both countries, equal to any men who have lived in them. A pretty beginning of a political career! *Marked* “Secret and separate.”

WILLIAM PITT to [THOMAS ORDE].

1785, May 29, Sunday. Putney Heath.—I desired Mr. Rose to send you the report of our resolutions from the Committee. You will find that we had anticipated the substance of most of the alterations wished for on your side in the new resolutions.

“In the 16th resolution we have found it right to change the words *effectual preference*, as they were thought to imply that, be the inferiority or scarcity of Irish goods of *any description* ever so great, we must lay such duties on foreign goods as would still ensure to the Irish the possession of the market, or, in other words, as would absolutely prohibit the foreign. This was never intended.” The addition at the end of the 16th only extends to American produce the principle admitted with regard to that of foreign colonies. In this extent it is absolutely necessary to complement that system of preference to our colonies in the Irish market, which is an indispensable consideration for

the unlimited enjoyment of the colony trade. "The criterion taken of requiring equalization only where we have higher duties than on the produce of our colonies seems fair, as that will never happen but where our colonies can really supply us, and then they ought to have the preference." I am impatient "to hear how you think it possible to any good purpose to separate the regulations from the penalties necessary to enforce them. The amendments against which we had to struggle in the course of these resolutions were more than I can send you a detailed account of. The principal objects attempted by Opposition were to represent the conditions on the part of Ireland as inconsistent with its independent rights—I trust to the discernment of every fair man to see the fallacy of the insinuation, as well as the object of those who make it—to prevent the importation of some specifick articles from Ireland, as salt, &c.; to require bounties to be given in Ireland on the export of our manufacture equal to ours on the export of Irish, and similar bounties on the sale of our manufactures as of their own; to reserve the liberty of laying an additional duty on coal going to Ireland; to preserve the bounty on sail-cloth; to omit altogether the provision in the first part of the 16th resolution for *mutual preference*; to require compleat equalization of duties in all respects, both on export and import, between Ireland and *North America* with the duties in Great Britain; and to raise the Irish duties on the import of all *foreign raw materials* to the amount payable here. All these were happily rejected."

Postscript.—"I fear you can scarce take up the consideration of our regulations regularly till they are transmitted to the Lord Lieutenant, which cannot be till the Lords have agreed to them and a joint address is presented. We shall, however, make this interval as short as possible. I think it can no way exceed a week. We may immediately after the Lords have agreed, bring in a Bill to enact the substance of the resolutions, and after reading it a first and second time, appoint a day for the Committee, which will give time to receive an account of the proceedings of your Parliament. You shall have a draft of the Bill immediately." *Copy.*

The MARQUESS OF CARMARTHEN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, May 30. St. James'.—Introducing Mr. Hussey, at request of the Spanish Minister.

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, May 30. London.—"I hope your Grace will never think that it was want of respect has made me so long defer answering your letter. I waited till the Exhibition opened, in order to see the works of the landskip painters. The person I fixed on to send to Ireland I had not till lately an opportunity of speaking to on the subject.

"Mr. Webber is the person who has accepted the proposal, and intends setting out for Ireland in about three weeks. He is much in the habit of taking views from Nature, some of which are in the Exhibition, which he did from drawings he made when he was with Captain Cook; they are excellent pictures, and I am sure your Grace will approve of his manner of painting. The picture of Rubens' Wife was sold at a greater price than it was worth. It was not one of Rubens' best works, and there was a separation of the pannel on which it was painted from top to bottom, which had been ill mended.

"We are going to erect a monument to the memory of Dr. Johnson;

we have all subscribed two guineas each. I will, in consequence of what your Grace has said, take the liberty of putting down your name for that sum.

"I acquainted Lady Lucan with your Grace's request in your own words, as they were so flattering to her Ladyship. She answered that she should set about it immediately, as she has now found a picture of the Protector Duke of Somerset, which is in the possession of the Marquis of Buckingham, but she says it is but an indifferent picture, and she fears her copy will be no great ornament to your cabinet.

"I don't know how to give a description of my Venus, as it is called; it is no more than a naked woman sitting on the ground leaning her back against a tree, and a boy peeping behind another tree. I have made the landskip as well as I could in the manner of Titian. Though it meets with the approbation of my friends, it is not what it ought to be, nor what I should make it. The next I paint I am confident will be better.

"I have begun a whole length of the Duc de Chartres for the Prince of Wales, and the Prince is to sit for him. I have sent a head of the Prince to the Exhibition, which I hear is much approved off. He dined with the Academy at our great dinner before the opening of the Exhibition, as did likewise the Duc de Chartres. The Prince behaved with great propriety; we were all mightily pleased with him. I am sorry—*spatiis exclusus iniquis*—I have only room to say that I shall take care to execute your Grace's orders respecting the picture of the young lords when it comes from the Exhibition."

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO WILLIAM PITT.

1785, June 2. Dublin Castle.—"My anxiety to see reconciliation established in the Royal family, and to prevent the discredit which must necessarily arise to the nation from the circumstance of a Prince of Wales being abroad in a pitiful way, without money and at variance with his father, renders me solicitous that your exertions may be interposed to prevent him from quitting England, which I hear he is positively determined to do at the end of the session, provided his debts are not previously discharged. If he persists, the breach, I am apprehensive, will be irreconcilable. I enter not into original causes; but, at all events, it is the duty of us all to prevent, if possible, such a misfortune. The attentions I have received from him have naturally rendered me, as an individual, his sincere well-wisher, and as [an] Englishman, I must ever be anxious to see a good understanding preserved in the Royal family. I hear one objection to a settlement of his debts arises from his refusal to declare with whom they were contracted, and, I understand, from a point of honour to the parties, he thinks himself pledged not to yield up their names. Could not that difficulty be overcome? I am satisfied your feelings as a private man, as well as those of the Minister of the Empire, must lead you to think it disgraceful for the heir apparent to the Crown to be wandering in a foreign country under the paltry, inconsistent, or discreditable circumstances I have described. If I could become in any shape an instrument to prevent the completion of a step which must so deeply wound the feelings of a parent, I should feel myself singularly happy. Let me beseech you to bring about the payment of his debts, and to re-establish harmony in the King's family.

"Lord Mornington is gone for England during the recess. He will state to you how men's minds in this country are inclined towards the system to be brought forward. He has strongly conceived his

doubts on that part which relates towards the perpetuity of the revenue laws. But I trust your reasonings and conversation with him will remove his objections and reconcile his mind to all the various parts of the propositions. I wish the alterations had not been so numerous. However, we must at all events endeavour to make them palatable, which—with an exception to perpetuating the laws for [the] collection of the revenue in its *obnoxious* extent—I do not despair of. The attempts of faction will be to postpone any ultimate decision on the question to a future session. But the danger to the Empire from such an idea is too obvious for me not to resist it to the last extremity. I hope the Chancellor will press the propositions forward and admit of no unnecessary delay among the Lords.

“I shall have occasion by the next packet to write to Lord Sydney with a memorial from General Luttrell, requesting to be continued as a major-general on the future staff. His services in Parliament, and his real utility as a general officer on this establishment, are circumstances too essential for me not to become his warm advocate; and though, from the King’s determination respecting the staff, I consider myself prevented from officially recommending him, yet as I have employed him in a very critical emergency, I must represent my wishes for his continuation, and I must earnestly beg of you to second my application in an effectual manner.” *Press copy; also a rough draft of this letter dated May 30, 1785. Marked “Most private.”*

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, June 4. Whitehall.—Upon the change of the staff, the King thinks of Lieutenant-General Cunninghame as Lieutenant-General, Major-General Luttrell, in consequence of your earnest desire, to continue as Major-General for the cavalry, and Majors-General O’Hara and St. Leger for the infantry.

“We come to the end of our evidence, and Friday next will be the day of battle. Mr. Nepean received Mr. Orde’s letter of the 30th to-day. It is strange that Ireland should think she has gained nothing by this bargain, while the manufacturers of Great Britain are inclined to think that she gains in fact the monopoly of the British market. Surely there is nothing unfair in supposing that the truth lies between the two, that is, that there will be a mutual benefit.” I hope both may have the good sense and temper to see it. *Marked “Secret and separate.”*

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, June 7. Fludyer Street.—“I was this day a witness in the House of Lords how much Lord Stormont and Co. have profited themselves by the many nights they spent under our gallery, for of all the frivolous or mischievous motions made with us, none could at all equal one which your Grace will see the House has negatived.” Lord Loughborough, in order to prove the necessity for producing to the House of Lords an account of all duties paid in Ireland on any raw materials or manufacture, said “the House would find a necessity for making the same exception for sugar that was made for beer, where the total of duty—eleven shillings—would have amounted to a prohibition. I could not, however, discover in that House, from appearances, the slightest disposition to give up any more from Ireland.”

“It is now declared openly that this session shall not close till Ireland and this country have adjusted the affair finally by Bills for that purpose;

and the Irish need not murmur at their share in any delay when they consider how hard it falls on the English Parliament, who had sat till August last year."

"I hope and believe, from what I saw in the Lords to-day, that they are very resolute not to lose a single day, and, as the clamor has very much subsided, I hope they will be embarrassed with few or no more petitions."

The EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] June 10. Stratford Place.—I write a few lines before I am summoned to attend my friend Hobart to Calais. "I have had a long conversation with Pitt, particularly on the subject of the *permanent provision*. I have great hopes that this point will be accommodated so as to meet the wishes of those persons in Ireland whose support is so essential to the credit and the permanency of the settlement. After the best consideration that I have been able to give to the amended propositions, I do not see any other point on which any reasonable man in Ireland could rest a material objection. I therefore do now form very sanguine expectations of their success. We are told here that Grattan and Daly have declared opposition, but I cannot believe it. The general opinion seems to be that the Lords will take about ten days to get through the propositions; the Opposition say a month, and threaten an increase of petitions. I think there is every appearance of great strength in Government; if the Irish business succeeds they will be immoveable. As soon as the Lords have concluded, my brother and I propose to set out for Ireland, in order to give every support within our power. I have not mentioned the subject of the vice-treasurerships to Pitt yet, but as far as I can form a judgment from the opinions of persons whose information is generally very good, I am inclined to apprehend that your Grace has been misinformed with regard to that business. I do not find that any arrangement is in contemplation which could open those offices to Ireland."

JAMES BYRES to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, June 10. Rome.—Some years ago you expressed "a desire of having The Seven Sacraments, by Nicholas Poussin, in the Bonapaduli Palace." At that time it was impossible to get them, but I have just now unexpectedly succeeded. The price is two thousand pounds sterling. They do not appear to have been ever cleaned or touched. "They must all of them be lined and cleaned. I get them, one at a time, from the Marquess, as the copies are made and put up in their place. I am in possession of four of them, and the fifth is now copying, but this is done with the greatest secrecy, and I must beg the favour of your Grace that, if you take them, you will not mention it until they are in your possession. Were it known that they were going out of Rome, they certainly would be stopped, as they were formerly, when Sir Robert Walpole had purchased them, and should wish that it were never known that they came through my hands, as it might bring me to some trouble here. If your Grace does not chuse to have them, I beg you will mention nothing of this affair and destroy this letter."

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD [SYDNEY].

1785, June 12. Phoenix Park.—The accompanying letter marked "private" will show "the extreme delicacy of my situation in respect to the propositions, and the difficulties which, it is too probable, I shall

have to encounter in carrying them through the Irish Parliament under their present obnoxious form. I need [not] trouble your Lordship with a repetition of the opinions, together with the reasonings, of those persons who composed the meeting at Mr. Orde's apartments, as they are stated at large in my private despatch. But I think it necessary to add the names of some others whose support have materially contributed to establish tranquillity and give efficacy to my Government, and who will set their faces with effect against the propositions if the obnoxious part of the fourth [proposition] is retained. The Speaker, whose influence is very extensive, and Mr. Grattan, whose powers are universally acknowledged, will become formidable opponents to the whole system; and Mr. Daly, who holds a valuable office and whose Parliamentary abilities have as yet rendered my administration most essential service, has written to Mr. Orde to inform him that he cannot, as an honest man, give his support to all the parts of this arrangement. Should he persist in his opposition, I hope His Majesty will agree with me in that he ought not to be permitted to continue in one of the most lucrative offices in the country while he opposes the Government. In short, my good Lord, a general consternation seems universally to pervade," and the alternative of the failure of the propositions or their being forced through the two Houses with all their reprehensible parts, would be equally productive of the most unpleasant effects. "In case of the first event, the torrent of protecting duties [and] non-importation agreements would be impossible to be stemmed; and, in the last, the alarm and jealousy which has seized the minds of all descriptions of men would again, I fear, revive the spirit of volunteering, which it has been so much my object and the interest of G[reat] B[ritain] to extinguish. It is not my principle in any situation to despond, and I trust my exertions will be increased as the difficulties may arise to be opposed; but it is my duty to represent to the King's Ministers the plain undisguised state of things, and the probable consequences which would flow from too tenaciously insisting on the obligation be[ing] expressly stated, when the recognition of the principle will be fully acknowledged, which, together with the holds Great Britain will ultimately have over Ireland, will be amply sufficient to prevent, on her part, any breach of this settlement."

I shall probably in a short time send a memorial to His Majesty from General Luttrell, requesting to be continued on the next staff. This memorial will have my best wishes. He has rendered great services to the Government, and shown great address in some very difficult emergencies. "Lord Temple can inform yourself how effectually he was employed, and with what dexterity he adjusted a very dangerous dispute between the army and the volunteers at Kilkenny."

Postscript.—"I had forgot to mention one instance of dirt, of meanness, and of ingratitude. In the same letter in which Lord Farnham acknowledges the notification of H[is] M[ajesty's] gracious favor in advancing him to the dignity of an earl, he informs Mr. Orde that he intends to oppose the commercial arrangement, at least the fourth proposition." *Draft.*

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO WILLIAM PITT.

[1785, June 12?]-"In my last letter I thought all our difficulty was centered in that clause of the last resolution which enacted the regulations for the collection of the revenue to be perpetual, but I now find another more formidable objection has arisen—I mean the fourth proposition—which has filled the minds of all descriptions of persons

with consternation and jealousy, and has left our cause almost destitute of an advocate. Mr. Beresford, who has very zealously undertaken a journey to London, and my official letter which Lord Sydney will receive by the messenger who will deliver this to you, will explain at large the sentiments of those on whose support I most depend. For form's sake, I will concisely mention the ground of difference and the objections which occurred and were forcibly insisted on by those friends who composed the meeting at Mr. Orde's apartments, and whose names are mentioned at large in my official letter to Lord Sydney."

"This is simply the ground of jealousy which has universally extended itself and has become a matter of general alarm, and which, if it has not made our success impossible, has at least rendered it a very precarious and equivocal point. I have stated more at large in my letter to Lord S[ydney] my apprehensions as to probable consequences. He will of course communicate to you my two letters. I hope I may find myself deceived. I feel the importance of the cause in which we are embarked, and, be assured, I have the success of your Government and the welfare of the Empire most sincerely at heart. Some persons have pledged themselves openly and fairly to support, and it would be therefore but candid to tell them what specifick hope they may entertain of the accomplishment of their objects—I mean as to the creation of Marquises and as to the establishment of the offices of the Vice-Treasurers into this country. I wish to have some declaration made on these heads, that I may not flatter men who are zealous in our cause with unsubstantial expectations. I hope you will enable me to explain myself distinctly on these points, as they may possibly become a contingency essential to our success." *Draft. On the fourth page is an account of the debate in the Irish House of Commons on the 4th proposition.*

THE MARQUESS OF BUCKINGHAM to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, June 12.—Recommending the bearer, Mr. Sherwin, who is painting a picture of the installation dinner (of the Order of St. Patrick) in 1783, and who wishes to take portraits of the Knights and others.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, June 14. Albemarle Street.—This will be delivered to you by Lord Courtown, who has an application in favour of his brother, Dean Stopford. He will give you some account of our proceedings here. The Opposition are creating as much delay as possible, and are using every possible means to raise dissatisfaction.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] June 15. Fludyer Street.—I was in the House of Lords last night, "where they appear to be teized and tormented, as Lord Camden truly called it, as much below the bar as we were in the House of Commons." We are all ignorant whether the bills are to be passed this session.

"The shop tax occasioned a trifling mob yesterday from the shops being shut up and the journeymen, &c. being let loose, drunk and idle. Pitt, however, walked from the House of Commons with McNamara and Beaufoy with no other inconvenience than hootings, &c. to his house in Downing Street." McNamara, on his return, was a little hurt, and Beaufoy took shelter in a house of which the mob broke the windows.

“In the evening a concourse was drawing together towards Downing Street, and had almost got possession of the street, when some horse and foot Guards were called out, and after two or three hours the people were dispersed without any sort of mischief.” “One of my Bramber friends, who *told me* he was a smuggler, has called here, whom I made drink with me, explained politicks to him, and gave him five guineas; from all which circumstances I flatter myself he will make a favorable report of me on his return, as he seemed very well disposed to do when half drunk. The man’s name is Owen. Mr. Hill has told me since he is the idlest fellow in the borough, and that I should not have given him anything; but this I fancy he would have hardly thought a good property in their member, especially as he took care to tell me that he never parted from your Grace’s without a bottle of wine.” Dr. Sutton is dying. I find it the general opinion in the House that we shall go through the Bills this session. I hear Evelyn Sutton has again gained his verdict against Johns[t]on. I suppose the Governor will appeal to the Lords, though doubtless with the same success as his former appeals.

COLONEL RICHARD ST. GEORGE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, June 15. London.—Concerning a duel between Lord Mornington and Mr. Vernon, as to which Mr. Grattan had been consulted and had expressed his positive opinion that Lord Mornington must fight.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, June 16. Albemarle Street.—Mr. Hussey, an Irish priest of suspicious character, has lately disappeared from London, and is supposed to be gone to Ireland. He was formerly employed with Mr. Cumberland to make a separate peace with Spain. We go on in the House of Lords not expeditiously, but from day to day.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] June 23. Fiudyer Street.—The resolutions being at a stand, I have not written lately. I could only have sent the common conversation, which was “that Beresford had alarmed the Ministry with his accounts of Grattan, Perry, &c. being averse to the fourth resolution, and that they were not yet determined themselves what to do in it. The same opposition is clogging the business in the House of Lords that opposed it before in the Commons; and from what I saw in a newspaper, if Mr. Grattan *invites* the same sort of obstacles in Ireland, I cannot think it possible to conclude the business this session, though Pitt declared otherwise yesterday.” Several of our supporters having told me they should not return from the country for it, and almost all the Opposition having left town, there will only be left George Sutton and myself and a few Treasury people; and though we passed many good laws last year by ourselves, Pitt will hardly bring the amended resolutions, to which there will be new opposition, before so thin a House.

“All sorts of people are getting all sorts of places here.” Several people must go out to India in October; but, “according to the vulgar proverb of the nearer the church the further from God, Sutton and myself, who are the most constant adherents Pitt has, are to be kept as pure and independent as Lord Chatham, Banks, Wilberforce, &c.”

I need not repeat that nothing can hurt Pitt with the present House of

Commons, though he is going on in a very honourable, bold career to settle the credit of the revenue, and of course, by such a number of new taxes, to have all the rabble his enemies without doors.

The EARL OF SHANNON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, June 24. Castle Bernard.—“My stay in the south will depend upon the progress of the Irish propositions in England. The arts practised to obtain Volunteer resolutions are repeated again to inflame the minds of men against their own interests. The conduct of some individuals in the metropolis has done much mischief, and from such authorities the uninformed are apt to take everything upon trust. Mr. Sheridan’s speech is in everyone’s hands, and has been dispersed by the grose.”

The MARQUESS OF CARMARTHEN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, June 24. St. James’.—Introducing Monsieur de Correa, a Portuguese gentleman.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] June 24. Fludyer Street.—I think that “most solid and lasting benefits will be gained by Ireland, such as she ought to receive if she has industry to merit them, but that those benefits will be *gradual* and not *immediate*. It is the confusion of these two points of view that has given the alarm to *our* manufacturers, and it would very much please Mr. Grattan, or any other zealous Irishman, to hear the evidence I have this day been present at in the House of Lords.” The exports of so many millions in all branches of trade, “the ready-money trade here, the certainty of many workmen, manufacturers, &c. emigrating in small parties to Ireland, and the gradual melting of one commerce into the others, ought to be such a prospect to a moderate and sensible Irishman as to make him consider the present as the real era of his country’s greatness.”

“With such a sincere disposition to benefit Ireland as this Ministry possesses, with the impossibility of any other Ministry—now pledged so far—doing so much, and the only alternative of nonsensical, speculative treaties with other nations who are either sharpers or beggars, Mr. Grattan must see very confusedly indeed if he does not agree to close the bargain directly.”

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, June 25. Hillsborough.—We hope to see you and the Duchess at our races, but my fear is that the propositions may come over from England just in time to interrupt them. They begin on the 18th of next month.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1785, June 27.—Transmitting a memorial of Lord Rosse. *Draft, marked “Private.”*

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, June 27.—Transmitting a memorial from General Lyon. *Draft, marked “Private.”*

J. BERESFORD to [THOMAS ORDE].

1785, June 27. London.—Yours of the 24th arrived here this morning. I waited on Mr. Pitt to learn the probable course of business, that you might judge how to act upon the meeting of the House on Tuesday the 2nd of August.

“Mr. Pitt says the Bill will be ready by Friday and will be brought in on that day; and if so, the printed Bill, the address, and resolutions will be sent off on Saturday at furthest, and be with you on Tuesday or Wednesday, so that a further adjournment seems unnecessary.” Some further time must be given for gentlemen to come up, and I suppose we may enter on our business about Tuesday the 9th of August, by which time I shall certainly make my appearance. I shall be uneasy until we hear from you how the friends of Government receive the alteration in the plan by arresting the Bill and sending the resolutions. *Copy.*

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to WILLIAM PITT.

1785, June 27. Phœnix Park.—“Your letter of the 20th was very safely delivered into my hands by Colonel St. George, and I perfectly admit the force of your reasoning, and acknowledge that jealousies have been raised on constitutional points which were never in contemplation to be affected; but we have the unalterable prejudice to contend with, and that prejudice has universally obtained. I do not, however, despair that certain accommodations may cancel the objections without impeaching the principle of the system. The bill of which you have transmitted the sketch will, I am persuaded, go a great length towards reconciliation, and most persons who have considered it admit that it removes the material difficulty. I purpose seeing Mr. Grattan in a day or two, when I shall mention the idea to him hypothetically, and I hope to be enabled to send you a good account of his sentiments. The Speaker declares himself satisfied, but still inclines to postpone the discussion of the business to a future session. I see innumerable difficulties from the operation of all sorts of faction should such a suspension be acquiesced in, and I am persuaded you agree with me that it would prove a very dangerous experiment. The task of satisfying this country is in truth a very precarious business, but yet I think it is open to accommodation, and I trust you may so far concede, without abandoning the principle of your system, as to render it congenial to the feelings of the people of Ireland. I must beg of you not to despair that fair modifications will not be accepted on the part of this country; I rather incline to believe they will, though I will [not] pledge myself for a nation which, with ten thousand generous qualities, is more governed by passion and prejudice than any other under heaven. I will use my utmost endeavours to reconcile and to produce satisfaction. You may depend upon Mr. Beresford. He is very competent to state to you every objection and demur which may be likely to arise. He is attached to the interest of the Empire at large, and I believe particularly wishes well to our administration.

“Daly has not as yet been in Dublin, but we may hope that the bill will be admitted by him as perfect accommodation. I wish the jealous scruples, the nice distinctions and refinements of Grattan on a point which he considers peculiar to himself, and on which he assumes an exclusive judgment, may be as easily adjusted. I shall endeavour, if possible, to settle his mind before he can create further mischief from apprehensions—pretended ones at least—that men’s minds are

inflamed, and that he will not come to the examination of the system with decided aversion from, and the strongest prejudice against, the whole of it." *Draft.*

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] June 28. Fludyer Street.—You must not be uneasy at our division here of only 47 to 33. I was one of the tellers. The debate was unexpected. There were not half of the Treasury, Admiralty, &c. in the House, but Pitt preferred closing at once to sending out for members. The Irish business goes on in the House of Lords. It is a pity Mr. Grattan could not hear the accounts given by our manufacturers, and the *certain* proofs that Ireland must run away with every trade, art, science, and capital, the moment the system is concluded on. "As to the fourth resolution, if they are determined to find in a commercial treaty a concealed system of tyranny, and if, at the moment that England is half ruined for asserting her last open claims on America, it is conceived we are so mad as to tamper with any more such chimerical policy, there can be given no possible answer to Irish suspicions."

DANIEL PULTENEY to ROBERT THOROTON.

[1785, June 29,] Wednesday morning.—Eden has found an objection to some of the amendments by the Lords that they are alterations affecting the money of the subject, to which Pitt will give his answer on Friday. Parliament cannot break up until Saturday week, but is expected to rise a day or two after that.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, June 30. Whitehall.—His Majesty, though most unwilling to break in upon his regulation, has acceded to your strong recommendation that General Luttrell should be continued on the staff. Let me advise you to prevent this step from being drawn into a precedent. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND.]

1785, July 1. Fludyer Street.—Pitt was hard driven in a division yesterday respecting a trifling job for Thornton, on which the Treasury were divided. I left before the division, as I should do Pitt very poor service and myself no sort of credit by swelling his majority, which would only multiply applications on him and disgust independent members. It was a job to give 2,000*l.* to Thornton's constituents, to which they have not a jot more claim than Mr. Owen of Bramber.

The Irish resolutions are fixed for the 8th in the Lords. Lord Tyrconnel and G. Sutton are the only ones of your friends left in town. I do not expect we shall have 200 in the House next Tuesday, and this will be made use of as an argument against going on with the resolutions this year. I think there is a languor coming over our friends, who, though they have not the slightest idea of going over to the Opposition, "will hardly walk across the street to work for the mere good of their country, and as to Treasury letters, they do rather more harm than good." I think "the old plan of Lord North, and afterwards of the Coalition, to divide the profits of a Ministry in their several proportions down to the lowest of their adherents, was too well calculated for modern times. But if Mr. Pitt

can long persuade a House of Commons that they are to spend their time and fortunes *independently* to support an *independent* Minister in great power and an income of 8,000*l.* a year, it will certainly be better for the country and more honorable to themselves, but will be such an instance of his eloquence as will raise him above Demosthenes and Cicero. I have even heard some of our most virtuous friends seriously complain that they never supported any minister a fortnight before in their lives without one dinner at least in the time, and it seems in this great duty of a good minister Pitt has almost deserved an impeachment."

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO WILLIAM PITT.

1785, July 4. PHOENIX PARK.—*Press copy, marked "Secret and confidential," which does not contain the postscript, and draft, which differs slightly.* [*Correspondence, p. 107.*]

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO LORD SYDNEY.

1785, July 4. PHOENIX PARK.—"I have written to Mr. Pitt an account of my unsuccessful interview with Mr. Grattan, and of the line of conduct which other persons of consequence in this country have thought fit to adopt within these few last days. He will apprise your Lordship of the situation of affairs. It will be needless, therefore, for me to trouble you with a recapitulation. I have only to observe that the Duke of Portland's faction begins to appear in every circumstance, and many emissaries are employed and are active in their exertions to disseminate mischief. For that honorable purpose Mr. Minchin is, I apprehend, at present in this country as a sort of agent to the party, and Captain Walpole, whose name is now before the King for the purchase of a majority—but whose promotion on this account I do not mean to obstruct—is, I hear, very assiduous in fomenting jealousies, and loud in all companies in arraigning the measures of His Majesty's Government. Lord Lucan is likewise in Ireland, for the probable purpose of giving his opposition in Parliament to the commercial adjustment. From these gentlemen more, in my opinion, is to be apprehended than from any endeavours of Mr. Hussey, against whom your Lordship has given me a caution. However, if we can accomplish a modification of those exceptionable parts, which Mr. Pitt seems desirous to accommodate to the prejudices and feelings of Ireland, I do not despair of bringing this important matter to a happy and honorable conclusion." Colonel Dundas is gone to England and will confer with you upon military arrangements, in which I am desirous of establishing a rotation in cavalry as well as infantry. "The wise policy of the measure is surely apparent at the first view. Local prejudices and personal attachment are very improper and dangerous for the army of the Empire to adopt, and are naturally contracted by a constant residence in one country; and in this, with all its jealousies against England, and with such a spirit of discontent and faction as for ever prevails, it is surely highly impolitick to permit that any part of the army should be permitted to be entirely Irish. I must beg leave to recommend this matter to your Lordship's most serious attention." *Press copy, marked "Secret and confidential," also draft, incomplete.*

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS TO THE DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, July 5.—"I wish I could express the gratitude I feel for your Grace's kindness to me in interesting yourself so much in my business, which I think is likely to turn out very successful.

“In regard to the subject of Mr. Beyers’ letter, I would by all means recommend your Grace to close with it. Though two thousand pounds is a great sum, a great object of art is procured by it, perhaps a greater than any we have at present in this nation. Poussin certainly ranks amongst the first of the first rank of painters, and to have such a set of pictures of such an artist will really and truly enrich the nation. I have not the least scruple about the sending copies for originals, not only from the character of Beyers, but if that trick had been intended, he would not have mentioned a word about his having copies made. I don’t wish to take them out of your Grace’s hands, but I certainly would be glad to be the purchaser myself. I only mean that I recommend only what I would do myself. I really think they are very cheap.

“Mr. Wobber has declined undertaking his intended journey to Ireland, and that partly by my advice. I found he misunderstood your Grace’s intention, which was, as I apprehend, to give him your protection and encouragement so far as employing for six pictures; he, I find, expected that his expences would be defrayed besides paying for those pictures; in short, I thought it would be a troublesome business, and that it would be better to have done with it.

“Madame la Comtesse Genlis is just arrived. I had the honour of her company yesterday to dinner. She speaks English tolerably well, and has very pleasing manners. To-day she is gone to Windsor, the Queen having sent to desire to see her.”

Postscript.—“I perfectly agree with your Grace that they should be sent as they are, without being cleaned or varnished.”

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] July 6. Fludyer Street.—“The House of Commons sat yesterday in a Committee on the Scrutiny Bill, which I believe I mentioned to your Grace was a most slovenly, incorrect performance of Pepper Arden’s, but which was polished a little by 12 at night, when we broke up. As it is, however, of more consequence in Ireland, I suppose, to know the numbers than the merits of a debate, we divided twice, 72 to 32 and 89 to 44, which, considering the time of year, and that this is their favorite question, was a very grand majority, and which Steele knows I am not always useless in obtaining. I hope Pitt will find out as much in time; and on this subject your Grace will excuse my repeating a conversation of yesterday when dining above stairs in a mixed party, amongst whom were Francis and Sawbridge. The former stated the language of their party, ‘that the Duke of Richmond opposed Lord Shelburne’s being of the Cabinet, that this had occasioned Barré’s attack on him, &c.’ On my saying there was no probability that Lord Shelburne was displeased, having received a title for himself, such a good place for Barré, and such confidential situations for his secretaries, Francis said I had omitted the greatest post that one of his friends had got, ‘the government of Ireland.’ On Sawbridge saying he believed Mr. Pitt had his share in that nomination, ‘No,’ replied Francis very innocently, ‘I don’t believe the Duke of Rutland has any connection with Mr. Pitt; you see none of his friends here have ever got anything.’ This of course made the rest of the party smile, but certainly was not intended by Francis, who did not know whether I was member for Bramber or Canterbury, and was a remark that I could not with propriety pretend to hear. But without any interested views on such a subject, I am sure it would be Pitt’s interest to do something for some one or other of us, as I really believe that Colonel Sutton is half in doubt whether your Grace is pleased on the subject of Ireland, and he has left

town some time. Lord Tyrconnel is never in the House, or indeed anyone else of your Grace's friends except George and myself, who work on as contentedly as if we were assured by your Grace we were doing right once a fortnight. Your Grace shall hear from me certainly whatever may pass, in particular Friday next, though I only expect a very dull repetition of what has been before said in the House of Commons."

The EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] July 8.—I cannot express how deeply I feel the kindness of your Grace's letter; it is a matter of solid satisfaction to me to have your approbation of my conduct in an affair where my honour was concerned. "Hobart and I are much indebted to St. George for the part which he acted; nothing could be more zealous, more temperate, or more honourable, than the whole of his conduct in the affair.

"I own I am a good deal alarmed at the accounts which I hear from Ireland of Grattan's opposition, and the general temper of the public; though I am firmly of opinion that the present system—properly explained in some parts—is equitable between the two countries, and essential to the interests of the Empire. I do not see that it is in any degree subversive to the independence of the Irish Legislature, nor do I see how that part of the treaty which is supposed to be so, can be relinquished by Great Britain, but I see plainly that Grattan is of a different opinion, and I know how forcibly his opinions will operate upon the public mind in Ireland. It will be a great calamity to both countries, as well as an undeserved blow to Administration, if this treaty, the great object of which was to restore tranquility to Ireland, should itself become a grievance of the first magnitude in the eyes of the Irish, and should throw us back to that state of jealousy and discontent in which we stood under Lord Carlisle's government. I fear that Grattan has power to do this. I am persuaded he will not use it unless he really thinks the settlement of 1782 invaded; if he does, then I apprehend a revival of all the old warmth of 1781. It appears to me to be worthy of the consideration of Government, whether it may be wise to press this system through Parliament this session under all the accumulated disadvantages which now attend it; to add a new ground of objection, as matters now stand, might not be safe, and certainly any appearance of force or of precipitation might tend to give additional vigour to the flame which has already been raised. I cannot conceive that your ground could be worse in the next session, and as you cannot expect to pass the book of rates this session in any event, it does not seem to me that the system can be pressed at this moment without some appearance of a wish to pledge Ireland hastily and by compulsion. I need not suggest to your Grace the mischief which any such appearance, however unjust a representation of the intentions of Government it might be, would cause in the present delicate situation of the feelings of Ireland.

"The House of Lords are to begin to debate the propositions to-day; how many days they may employ in the discussion cannot yet be said. I do not believe that the most sanguine expect that the business can be finally concluded, the address to the King moved, and the propositions sent to Ireland before Monday se'nnight. I suppose when they arrive in Ireland that petitions will be presented, counsel and evidence heard, and that an ample discussion cannot be refused; this will necessarily protract the session to an unprecedented length, and that very circumstance will put people out of temper."

I am much obliged for your letter to Mr. Pitt with regard to my

private objects. From motives of delicacy I have not yet mentioned the subject to him. I never doubted the sincerity of your disposition to keep the faith of Government with me, and am always happy to seize an opportunity of bearing testimony to your candour and justice. I certainly have not forgot either the promises of Government; but I assure you that neither expectation of what may be done on the one hand, nor resentment for what has been left so long undone on the other, can in the slightest degree affect the part which I and my friends propose to take on the approaching occasion. I know that your Grace has no other objects in remaining in Ireland but such as are honourable to yourself and advantageous to the Empire.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785, July 9,] Saturday morning. Fludyer Street.—You will see the debate in the House of Lords as early by this day's papers as I could transmit them by letter. There was little that had not been said again and again in both Houses, except from Lord Lansdown, who spoke with great information. Your conduct of this business on the other side is infinitely superior to that of Ministers here, who confine things to too small and uninformed a circle. "Pitt himself, however great, is not half equal to the variety of business his spirit and diligence tempt him to take on himself. It would be endless to repeat instances. A Mr. Popham, of the House of Commons, told me the man who receives 500*l.* or 600*l.* a year for drawing up Acts of Parliament says he has never been applied to by this Ministry; and such stuff is brought into the House by Rose and Steele, and frequently passed, as occasion great triumph to the Opposition." Pitt ought to beg, borrow, or buy some abler assistance.

The SAME to the SAME.

[1785,] July 13. Fludyer Street.—I met Lord Tyreconnel to-day behind the throne, who enquired very anxiously if I thought the resolutions would be in danger in Ireland. I said I thought they would not, and as I know he lives so entirely with Lord Delaval and that blockhead our schoolfellow, I took some pains to prove to him they would do no mischief here.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to WILLIAM PITT.

1785, July 13. Black Rock.—We are waiting anxiously for the final event of the business which draws so near a conclusion. "You have full credit from me for your readiness, your compliances, and your exertions to reconcile to the prejudices of Ireland the various difficulties which in its progress have arisen in the way of a prosperous completion of the business. I well know you must have had many great obstructions to struggle with, and those obstructions were perhaps not solely confined to Parliament. I sat long enough in your Cabinet to be acquainted with the cavil and pertinacity of some of your colleagues; but surely, if they deal fairly by you, when we have joined issue on the spirit and have merely words and explanations in dispute, they will not obstruct such explanations as may still be necessary to ensure our success in this country. The three first sheets of the bill have, by some accident, not been transmitted, and until they arrive it will be impossible to determine the total of the objections which may lie against it. Some few have been stated

to me which, I confess, I think founded. There is one clause which, if it be intended to refer to sugar and other articles similarly circumstanced in point of duties, will require some explanation, otherwise excessive duties will tend to exclude the intercourse for so much between the two countries, contrary to the profession and the principle of the adjustment. The clause respecting patents will likewise require alteration, as British patents will never be allowed of force in this kingdom. The concluding part of the clause which relates to the continuance of the laws for collecting the hereditary [revenue] is unnecessary, and, I must confess, I think highly objectionable. Against the whole of this you know I have ever entered my protest. Would you compel this country to declare that if they do not grant perpetual additional duties they shall grant perpetual laws? The articles of preference from the colonies over the American States must be enumerated, for on that enumeration the favorable or unfavorable reception of that clause will depend. The eventual restriction of the trade with the East, on the dissolution of the present charter, is conceived likewise to extend too far. Why should it be general? Let it be established on the same principle of limitations as those of the West India trade, and give the preference to the British settlements in the East as to the colonies in the West.

"I have cursorally run over the objections which remain to [be] adjusted. Mr. Orde, who has had a full conversation on every point with all the confidential servants of the Crown, will send them in detail, either to you or Mr. Beresford, by the same messenger who will deliver this into your hands.

"It would be injustice to mention Mr. Orde's name without expressing my satisfaction of his labors and endeavours to reconcile men's minds to the various difficulties which have arisen. I must bear the amplest testimony to his indefatigable zeal and exertions. He has brought the Speaker into a good temper, and I have much hope that he will render us essential service, and may perhaps settle the minds of those whose supposed defection has made us apprehend for the event of our propositions. In short, my dear friend, I begin to feel my strength, and though I will not too far indulge confidence, yet I confess I am sanguine. You have done your part by me so honorably, that, however unpleasant I may at any time find my situation, I will never cherish a wish to relinquish it while I can render the country service, give strength and support to your Government, and while His Majesty shall repose his confidence in my administration. In short, as long as you desire me to continue, I will not abandon my station. I am in doubt whether we shall be able to contend with the volunteers this year, and establish a militia; that must be determined by events in the progress of the propositions. I confess I should lean, if we had a tolerable prospect, to suppress them immediately. Nothing is safe while they are permitted to exist." *Postscript*.—"I never hear from or of your brother. I hope he is alive and well." *Draft, also fair copy of part of the letter, marked* "Secret and confidential."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, July 16. Whitehall.—The regard I have long borne to the Duke of Portland "makes me the more regret the appearance he now makes in the hands and under the direction of men whose characters are the reverse of his own. Mischief is always in the power of those who have as little ability as inclination to do good, otherwise two of the persons named in your Grace's letter as emissaries of sedition, would be

little to be dreaded. As for the third, I am hurt about him, as I liked him and love his family. But it is hard that men cannot be neutral at least, when they are asking for and receiving favours. The thing is stopped, and was so by the King before your Grace's letter arrived, but your generosity did not alter His Majesty's determination. The King will, I believe, consent to the relief and rotation taking place in the cavalry and artillery; but then he will expect that promotions should go as they do [in] England, and that way should not too frequently [be] given to favour.

"We report, or at least debate upon the report already made of the propositions, to-morrow. You can hardly form an idea of the barefaced and outrageous malignity of the Opposition, with the long-minded Stormont at their head.

"We have as arduous a task and as much to contend with as men ever had. Your contest in Ireland, I find, is likewise likely to be great, but I trust we shall do well at last." *Marked* "Secret and separate."

THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, July 17. Waverley.—I shall attend the Lords on Monday on the Irish business—my first attendance this Parliament. I hear you are to make excursions during the summer to the west and north of Ireland. Let me know your intentions upon that subject. "I did imagine that Grattan would not have been with you, though I do not think he will be violent against you. His *situation* is undoubtedly the most particular one in any country; and though apparently against you, I am apt to think that in his heart he must be a well-wisher to the measures now adopted by you. As to Conolly, provided you can prevail upon him to speak against you, I think you will be, as they say in Ireland, a gainer by the loss."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] July 18. Fludyer Street.—Pressing the Duke to obtain him a place worth 400*l.* a year at home, or a place in the East Indies, and defending his conduct for not having taken a more active part in debate on the ground that "mere members from Bramber" could not do much service on his side of the House.

THE SAME to the SAME.

[1785,] July 19. Fludyer Street.—In last night's debate Lord Camden, in a very able speech, took the English view of the question, and "Lord Thurlow defended the 4th resolution, beginning with the argument used by your Grace, that it was *in itself* one of the most striking proofs of that independency which they fancy will be affected by it; that one country *must* take the lead in making regulations respecting trade and navigation; that such regulations could not, on a variety of accounts, be made by *common* consent, though it would be impossible the *common King* of both countries would risque their wider separation by suffering anything partial; that any Minister here would be fool enough to attempt it; or that Ireland would acquiesce in it if any regulations were of that description, &c. Who then should regulate? The country already in possession of that commerce, better acquainted with it by its experience, and *ceding* its participation? or should the country *receiving* it, the more inexperienced and the lesser,

take the lead and regulate for us? That no solution could be effected of this alternative but a Union, which, however, was at present impossible. The union with Scotland was effected at last by those means which, if attempted in Ireland, would immediately produce a civil war, viz holding out to that country powerfull temptations in some points and strong threats on the other, which Ireland would take fire at. But what were the consequences of that Union at this day, and what would be the effect of this system, which was as near an union as the nature of the countries would admit? Why, Scotland was infinitely richer, and England not a shilling poorer. Then, returning again to the 4th resolution, he said—he was not at all *damped* with what he had heard from Ireland; he knew that private enemies to Ministers, or public enemies to both countries, might be industrious in sowing alarms, but that the good sense of the respectable Protestants in that country could not but take the alarm on their part, when they considered all the alternatives before them." In last night's debate "Lord Stormont, after paying great compliments to the Chancellor, wished '*his* wisdom had more weight in the Cabinet, and that this Duke of Buckingham minister, this young Villiers, so all-sufficient in his own eyes and so insufficient in the eyes of everyone else, had shewn greater deference and attention to his colleagues.' Lord Derby, who is now leader of the Hussars in opposition, and who shines in that character, was, I think, less abusive than Lord Stormont." Lord Townshend spoke sensibly, and Lord Camelford said "that though this system was final and conclusive to all intents and purposes without the consent of both kingdoms to its alteration, yet if upon experience any article should be found injurious to both, or merely inconvenient, as they possessed two *sovereign legislatures*, by mediation between the two countries such articles might be remedied by consent, which was a superiority in this system over an union, because in the latter no authority existed sufficient to alter any fundamental points. This idea appears perfectly just, but could hardly be used with safety to a jealous Irishman."

I came in at the conclusion of Lord Sackville's speech, who had been proposing to address the King for appointing Commissioners, though I forgot to mention Lord Thurlow's answer to this idea. "It was, 'that the King had no such power without acts of both the Parliaments; that in debating such acts they should again have the principle of the system to debate; and after Commissioners had made a report, they should still have to debate that report; petitions and counsel against every article on one side the water or other, and both kingdoms in the meantime in a ferment and dissatisfaction.' Poor Lord Scarborough made a miserable effort in the course of the day, but though I was very close to him—behind the throne—I did not hear what he said, except his calling Pitt 'Phaeton,' or some such nonsense."

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, July 19. London.—"I set out to-morrow morning for Brussels, and consequently take the liberty of writing to your Grace in the midst of hurry and confusion. I have but just received a catalogue of the pictures which are now on view at Brussels. The Emperor has suppressed sixty-six religious houses, the pictures of which are to be sold by auction. Le Comte de Kageneck informs me the Emperor has selected for himself some of the principal pictures; however, there is one altar-piece which belonged to the Convent of the *Dames Blanches* at Lovain, which is to be sold. The subject is the Adoration of the Magi,

ten feet by seven feet eight inches, which I take to be about the size of your picture of Rubens. I do not recollect this picture accurately, and, what is *valde difflendus*, I have no notes to refer to—they are, alas, in your Grace's possession. This picture, I suspect, is the only one worth purchasing if your Grace has any such intention, or will honour me with discretionary orders in regard to other pictures. I shall leave orders for your letter to be forwarded to me at Brussels. The sale does not begin till the twelfth of September; during the whole month of August the pictures are shut up, but for what reason I cannot imagine. The principal object of my journey is to re-examine and leave a commission for a picture of Rubens of a St. Justus—a figure with his head in his hands after it had been cut off—as I wish to have it for the excellency of its painting; the oddness of the subject will, I hope, make it cheap. Whether it will be a bargain or not I am resolved to have it at any rate. I have taken the liberty to take Mr. Crab's verses with me, having but just now received your Grace's letter in which they were contained. I shall have time to examine them critically on the road. I shall have the honour of writing to your Grace again from Brussels."

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, July 19. Hillsborough.—Regretting that they must give up the hope of seeing him and the Duchess at the races, and begging that Mr. Annesley may have the vacant place at the Revenue board.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1875, July 19. Black Rock.—The recommendation of Captain Walpole to purchase a majority came to me as a matter of course, there being no competitor. I have no acquaintance with the party, but I hope no representations of mine have operated against him.

"We are waiting with the utmost solicitude for the final event of the propositions in your House. No news—according to the old proverb—I conclude to be good. I collect none but from the prints and from accidental private correspondence. The Duke of Portland's declaration of his own intentions, together with those of his party, in regard to Ireland makes the noise and has the effect your Lordship may imagine. It may be turned to great advantage. That interest will be blown up for ever in this country.

"Everything wears a cheerful aspect, and from the principle of fair accommodation, which His Majesty's servants seem so wisely disposed to adopt, I flatter myself that this important and extensive settlement will at length be happily and honorably concluded." *Draft, marked "Secret."*

[The SAME to the SAME.]

[1785, July.]—Acknowledging the receipt of his letter of the 16th July, marked secret and separate, and stating his regret that his recommendation of Captain Walpole for a majority has not been confirmed by the King; also expressing his mortification at the insinuation expressed in the same letter that his military promotions have not been generally agreeable to the King, and urging the impossibility of his carrying on the Government if independent memorials sent from Ireland to England, without passing through his hands, are attended to. *Draft, in Thomas Orde's hand.*

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, July 20. Leicester Fields.—“Lord Lucan, who is just about setting out for Ireland, will present to your Grace the picture which Lady Lucan has made of the Protector Duke of Somerset.

“The landskip painter, Mr. Webber, which (*sic*) I have engaged, is at least equal [to], I think better than, Marlow. In regard to my visiting Ireland this summer, I am loth to abandon the idea; at the same time it appears impossible, when I consider the quantity of work which I have before me.

“May I now beg your Grace’s indulgence and solicit your interest in a matter which relates to myself. I believe I mentioned to your Grace the reduction of the salary of the King’s Painter from two hundred to fifty pounds per annum. As there is great difficulty of having the old salary restored, as it would open the door to such numerous solicitations, I thought there was an opportunity of giving me a very honourable compensation in making me secretary and register to the Order of the Bath. Upon this ground, by means of Mr. Elliot, I asked for it, but it was too late; Mr. Pitt had already promised it to Mr. Lake, a gentleman who has some office in the Treasury. Since this negotiation, Mr. Lake has been appointed one of the Commissioners of Accounts, a place of a thousand a year for life, and is supposed to be incompatible with his holding this place of secretary, etc.; at the same time, this latter is only three hundred a year, so that there can be no doubt, if he can hold only one, which he will keep. I have therefore to entreat your Grace to procure from Mr. Pitt that in case Mr. Lake relinquishes it, I may be the next oars (*sic*).

“If your Grace had been in London when Mr. Whithead dyed, I should not have despaired of having had the first promise. I have very little confidence in Mr. Elliot’s interest, and therefore have not made a second application to him.

“Though, as I said before, the difficulties of my visiting Ireland are very great, yet in this case, if your Grace can procure me this honourable place, I should think it an indispensable duty to make my personal appearance to return my thanks with the order about my neck, though not on my shoulder.

“Mr. Pitt, I fear, has not much attention to the arts; if he had, he would think it reasonable that a man who had given up so much of his time to the establishment of an Academy, and had attended sixteen years without any emolument whatever, and who unluckily when made the King’s Painter was the first person in that place who had their salary reduced to a fourth part, that he should have some compensation. I am confident your Grace would have seen it in this light had the place been in your gift, but a thousand apologies are necessary for my presuming to hope for your Grace’s influence with Mr. Pitt in my behalf.”

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, July 20. Whitehall.—“Lord Derby has shown himself by much the best debater in the course of this contest. Lord Loughborough has not exerted himself much. I cannot make the same reproach to Lord Stormont. The number of his speeches has seldom been less than seven in any one day, and the length of them has been grievous in the extreme. The virulence has not been weakened by the length. Lord Fitzwilliam has spoken longer, but not with more strength or less peevishness than usual. I have sent you the list of the minority and of their proxys. I believe Lord Sackville spoke and voted from

opinion ; Lord Dudley to please his Worcestershire neighbours ; Lord Radnor because he is for a Union ; and Lord Grey de Wilton because he has been knight of the shire for Lancashire. The rest are mere party men. Their protest is wretchedly dull and bald. It is signed, as your Grace sees, by six lords only, and all of them *ames damnées* of Mr. Fox's. The Northites and Stormontites—if there be such *ites* as the latter—have all withheld their names. Their next game is to attempt a quarrel between the Lords and Commons, which point I trust they will not accomplish." *Marked* "Secret and separate."

GENERAL W. A. PITT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, July 20. Shanes Castle.—I am obliged for your early intimation of His Majesty's intentions in regard to the staff. I am quite satisfied, particularly by the compliance with your wishes respecting Lord Luttrell.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] July 22. Fludyer Street.—In a full House where the Opposition did not dare to divide, we passed all the resolutions as amended by the Lords except the third, eleventh, and twelfth, which, as encroaching on the privileges of the Commons, were adjourned for three months ; but Pitt moved as if *de novo* the same propositions almost verbatim. He explained that on Monday, if the resolutions came back from the Lords, he should move an address to the King, for communicating the resolutions to Ireland, I suppose, and move for leave to bring in a Bill framed upon the resolutions, which Bill when printed might be carried away by members during the adjournment ; that at the end of next week we might be adjourned ; and if the resolutions had been gone through in Ireland, we might meet again in October, to go through this Bill with any amendments that might then be found necessary.

LODGE MORRIS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, July 25. Maryville.—A complimentary letter, with a book on political history.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to the EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH.

1785, July 25. Black Rock.—"I was much concerned that I was obliged to remain in Dublin when such a prospect of amusement was offered as that of attending your Lordship at Hillsborough races." You have been misinformed as to any arrangements being in agitation. None of any sort are in present contemplation. You will have seen the result of the propositions in the House of Lords. The ninth resolution is satisfactorily explained, and I am sure there is the best disposition among the King's servants to make every fair accommodation which may be required. I have therefore sanguine hopes that this difficult settlement will be terminated to the mutual advantage and satisfaction of both countries. *Draft.*

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] July 26. Fludyer Street.—The proceedings of the House of Commons have been decisive in favour of the resolutions. Though it was so late in the year, there were above 200 in the House, and at one

time, in looking over both sides, I saw we had about 170 to 30, and in that proportion we should have divided had they ventured on a division, or not been ashamed, as Dundas upbraided them, "to shew the weakness of their paltry party."

"Fox, Pitt, and Sheridan spoke at great length, and principally on the 4th resolution, where they all endeavored to shine. The last of them entertained the House with the wittiest and most ingenious abuse of the resolutions that I yet heard or could conceive had been at this time left unsaid; and if Mr. Woodfall—who is bought by the Coalition—can do him justice, your Grace will be entertained by so many ingenious, whimsical illustrations. I suppose Orde will have to combat the same reasonings, delivered with perhaps less wit, by some Irish patriots."

I will try to recollect the arguments Pitt used, "but must fairly say that one only—the treaty with Portugal—appeared to me to be a sort of case in point"; and if you should advise Orde how to argue it in the Irish House of Commons, he had better take the very strongest ground at first, and never quit it to display ingenuity.

[The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.]

1785, July 27. Waverley.—Pray let me have a line from you to let me know how the propositions have been taken in Ireland, "and if you are to undergo another bating or not." The Lord Chancellor's speech here on Monday was one of the very ablest I ever heard, but I think he brought in Mr. Grattan's name rather imprudently.

GEORGE ROSE to [THOMAS ORDE].

1785, July 27, Wednesday. Treasury Chambers.—You will receive the address previous to your meeting on Tuesday. "I regret most sincerely the necessity of the resolutions going over to you. Every exertion has been used by Mr. Pitt to prevent it, but in vain. I see all the possible ill consequences which may arise from it, but I trust the address accompanying them will remove all the ill effects of them. You will, I am sure, admit that the warmest enthusiast for Irish liberty could not have worded it more strongly. Anxious as I was to avoid the resolutions going, I could not urge Mr. Pitt further than to endeavor to convince the Cabinet, which he did with all possible earnestness—failing in that, it was too much to press him to act against their united opinions." I can hardly find terms warm enough for Beresford, who is indefatigable to shew himself equally a friend to this country and to Ireland.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785, July 27?] Wednesday. Castle.—I am sorry you had the trouble of calling, and that I was employed upon "the present important doubts" with Lord Earlsfort and Mr. Foster. "I am sorry to inform you that both declared a decided opinion against the possibility of success if the resolutions should be sent over. It will surely be necessary to state this immediately to the other side. I will see the Archbishop, the Provost, &c. to-morrow."

SIR ROBERT MURRAY KEITH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, July 30. Vienna.—Introducing Lieutenant-General Dalton, who wishes to register in the Heralds' Office the titles he has obtained from the House of Austria.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, July 30. Whitehall.—I send you “the resolutions and the address of both Houses and the King’s answer. The address went without a division in the House of Commons, and *nemine dissentiente* with us. The attendance in the House of Commons was very numerous for the time of year and extremely respectable from the weight, property, and character of those who came to town on purpose. The conciliatory paragraph relative to the legislative rights of the Parliament of Ireland was by no means agreeable to those who wish to raise a flame on your side of the water, in which laudable and *avowed* endeavour I hope they will not succede.”

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, July 31. Hillsborough.—“I am vastly pleased at the address of the House of Commons, which Mr. Orde was so good as to send me. If it were possible to stop the discontented brawl of faction, I should think this would do it. So soon as I receive the honour of your Grace’s commands, I will, with all the strength I can muster, have the honour to attend you in Dublin, and I hope everything will pass entirely to your satisfaction, for then I am sure the true interests of both countries will be effectually served.”

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] August 2. Fludyer Street.—We are now adjourned to 27th October. Very little has been said in all our debates about the Irish Government. The aim of the Opposition has been to find fault with Pitt and Jenkinson, and with that view to treat the Irish Government as subordinate, and of course to pique the Irish with that idea. Nothing has ever been said of you by name except by Lord Shelburne, and Orde has only been quoted as conveying Pitt’s instructions to the Irish Parliament, in order to charge Pitt with duplicity. The Bill is not yet printed. I hear Pitt has given Bates—Lord Sandwich’s man—a commissionership in the Customs. Whish—the Duke of Newcastle’s—has one in the Excise. I hope you will insist with Pitt that I shall have something half as good.

The MARQUESS OF LANSDOWN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, August 3. Bowood Park.—Introducing Monsieur Le President Virly.

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, August 8. Burton Pynsent.—[*Correspondence*, p. 110.]

* The SAME to the SAME.

Same date. Burton Pynsent.—[*Correspondence*, p. 113.]

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, August 8. Dublin Castle.—Concerning the printing of the English and Irish Bills.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] August 8. Monday night. Phoenix Park.—It may be well to delay sending the letter which you have done me the honour to send me until we shall receive the Irish Bill, and see whether some observations may not be made on it. The English Bill has certainly some little difficulties, which I believe arise merely from hurry, but at the same time do not justify an entire declaration of its being unobjectionable. Perhaps the Irish Bill may satisfactorily explain them. It is indeed provoking that no authentic copy of the Bill has been sent to us.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1785, August 8. Dublin Castle.—I have received your letter accompanying the resolutions. "It were much to be wished they had been reserved, and that the Bill which is grounded on them had alone been transmitted, as it may perhaps be found difficult to restrain the Irish House of Commons from attempting some vote of insult and violence, which, if carried, your Lordship must imagine would be productive of a fatal breach between the two countries. Mr. Orde has repeatedly represented in his letters to Mr. Beresford the dangers of this measure, and the opinions of all our confidential friends on this side the water respecting it. But in cabinets as well as in armies the greatest difficulties often arise within your own camp, as from the manœuvres of the enemy. The Bill—of which Mr. Beresford has sent a copy—is indeed free from all manner of objection; and if it were not for the unpopularity with which the production of the resolutions may be attended, I could promise your Lordship the certainty of a prosperous issue to that business. If anything could possibly damn the system and myself in this country, it would be this unfortunate step. But I hope the flattering unctious of the address, together with the more solid advantages which are contained in the Bill, will so far conciliate and reconcile men's minds that I shall be enabled to stem the torrent of faction, which is in full tide to frustrate the good intentions of England.

"I do not express the hopes I have of success so sanguinely as perhaps I feel them, lest any unforeseen event should spring up to obstruct our progress. But the truth is, if our affairs continue in the fortunate course they seem now to have taken, I have no doubt that the exertions of the King's ministers in both countries will be crowned with the most honorable victory. No effort on my part shall be forborn to ensure success" to a system which is so essential to the service of the King and to the lasting advantage of the Empire at large.

"Mr. Grattan is wild on the business. He says the constitution is under . . . and indeed his general notions are so strange and extravagant, and so wide from any mark or possible compromise, that we must abandon all expectation of anything from him but extreme hostility and determined opposition." *Draft.*

THE EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1785,] August 9. Hillsborough. — Warning him that a mob is coming from Belfast to present a petition, and that he intends to come to Dublin as soon as possible in hopes that if he gets there before them they will disperse quietly.

JOHN MANNERS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, August 10. Pall Mall.—Recommending Mr. Parke as a proper person to succeed his father in the appointment of clerk of the peace for Leicestershire.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to WILLIAM PITT.

1785, August 13.—*Draft*. [*Correspondence*, p. 115.]

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, August 17. Putney Heath.—[*Correspondence*, p. 117.]

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to WILLIAM PITT.

1785, August 17. Dublin Castle. — *Draft*, marked "Private." [*Correspondence*, p. 120.]

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, August 18. Whitehall.—"It was impossible to avoid sending over the resolutions of the Parliament of Great Britain to Ireland, as, to be sure, neither Parliament would or indeed could have acquiesced in their suppression. In the present state of affairs, the determination which your Grace has taken of adjourning Parliament seems the most adviseable one, that time may be given for men of weight to cool and to see the business in its proper light.

"There are certainly men whose conduct can never excite astonishment, but that of Mr. Conolly is not of the number. It is contrary to every part of his former behaviour, and indeed inconsistent with every principle which he has hitherto professed." *Marked* "Secret and separate."

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, August 19, Friday evening. Castle.—It is absolutely necessary for me to ask you to return to town as soon as you conveniently can. Mr. Ponsonby is not disposed to relinquish his views, and I am convinced you are right "in letting him know the sense of Government and feel it by their displeasure." There are several persons whom you must see and talk to as soon as possible.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, August 20.—"We received yesterday the accounts of what passed in the Irish House of Commons on Monday, and are inclined to think you have taken the most adviseable step under the present circumstances. Prejudice may subside, and faction, which avails itself of it, may grow less formidable. If there is a thinking part of Ireland, and they will reflect upon what they have rejected, they will repent." *Marked* "Secret and separate."

SIR J. REYNOLDS to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, August 22. London.—"I set out for Brussels the day after I wrote to your Grace, but left word that if any answer arrived to be

sent after me, but my stay abroad was so short that I missed it; however, I have since received it in London. I was much disappointed in the pictures of the suppressed religious houses; they are the saddest trash that ever were collected together. The Adoration of the Magi, and St. Justus, by Rubens, and a Crucifixion by Vandyck, were the only tolerable pictures, but these are not the best of those masters. I did not like the Justus as well [as] I did before, but I think of sending a small commission for it; the two others I dare say will not go to above 200*l.* each. The Vandyck was in the church of the Dominicains at Antwerp. I was shewn some of the pictures which were reserved by the Emperor, which were not a jota better than the common run of the rest of the collection.

“Though I was disappointed in the object of my journey, I have made some considerable purchases from private collections. I have bought a very capital picture of Rubens of Hercules and Omphale, a composition of seven or eight figures, perfectly preserved, and as bright as colouring can be carried. The figures are rather less than life; the height of the picture, I believe, is not above seven feet. I have likewise a Holy Family, a Silenus and Bacchanals, and two portraits, all by Rubens. I have a Virgin and Infant Christ and two portraits by Vandyck, and two of the best huntings of wild beasts, by Snyders and De Vos, that I ever saw. I begin now to be impatient for their arrival, which I expect every day. The banker, Mr. Danoot, was very ill when we were at Brussels, supposed to be dying; if that should happen his pictures will be sold.

“There are no pictures of Mieris either at Antwerp or Brussels. All the pictures in those two places which were worth bringing home I have bought—I mean of those which were upon sale—except indeed one, the Rape of Sabinas, for which they asked 3,500*l.*; excepting this, I have swept the country, and for this I would not exchange my Hercules and Omphale.

“I return Mr. Crabb’s verses with many thanks, and many apologies I ought to make for the liberty I took in carrying them abroad with me; there are very beautiful lines in it, but it is not so much finished as some of his other works. If your Grace should choose to send any commission for the altar-piece of Rubens, or for the Vandyck, the sale begins the twelfth of September; you will please to let me know time enough before the sale for the commission to arrive at Brussels.”

E. COOKE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, August 22. London. Nerot’s Hotel.—I did not see Mr. Pitt until to-day. “His reception of me was most satisfactory, as it afforded me the most immediate assurance that every part of your Grace’s administration respecting the commercial intercourse was most cordially approved. I was extremely happy in finding that the measure of his disappointment was by no means answerable to the conjectures and wishes of many persons in Ireland; and he expressed much more satisfaction at the judicious exertions to mature and carry the measure than regret at its unavoidable failure for the present. He was perfectly sensible of all the difficulties that had been imposed upon your Government by the protraction of the business, and of the opportunities it had afforded for the efforts of Opposition to misrepresent and inflame; and he entirely concurred in the prudence of your Grace’s determination not to press forward the measure whilst there was a prejudice against it in the country, which would prevent its true tendency from being acknowledged and its advantages allowed.

“Lord Sydney was present at my conversation with Mr. Pitt, which chiefly consisted in narration on my part, and which merely stated matters for his consideration, so that, at present, I have nothing decisive to write.”

JAMES BYRES to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, August 24. Rome.—I received a few days ago a letter from the Bishop of Killala, written by your desire, and was glad to see from it that you mean to have those pictures. The acquisition of them will make your collection the finest in England. “I have done nothing to the five that are in my possession except washing off the white of an egg that was upon them, with a sponge and water. I am glad you wish to have them in the state they were taken down, for I should have been much puzzled who to have trusted with the cleaning of them, both on account of the pictures and the secrecy necessary to be kept. The sixth is now copying. I expect to have it in a fortnight, and hope to have the seventh in about two months hence. As two of the pictures did not easily take the water, I imagine someone has rubbed them with poppy-oil to bring them out.” I shall send the pictures as soon as I receive your directions about them.

The SAME to [the BISHOP OF KILLALA].

1785, August 24. Rome.—I am glad his Grace is determined to add these fine Poussins to his collection. The more I see them the more I admire them. The plan of ancient Rome is not yet finished, but you may depend on having one of the first copies of it.

“The best prints published here since you left us are Signor Voipato’s prints from Raphael’s rooms at the Vatican. The large ones cost three crowns each; the smaller, two crowns. Young Piranesi is publishing a series of the best ancient statues; many of them are very well.”

Sir William Hamilton writes to me that he has just returned from visiting the islands of Ponza and Favignano [Favignana?], which he finds to be volcanic, and tells me that he has met with sufficient material to furnish another letter to the Royal Society. Sir James Hall and Dr. Home are just returned from a tour in Sicily and Calabria. They tell me the latter is still in a very wretched condition, the earthquakes continuing.

You know that the last Pope began a museum at the Vatican, which the present Pope has greatly enlarged and enriched with many monuments of antiquity found within the last ten or twelve years, particularly an Adonis, a Ganymede, an Apollo catching a lizard, a crouching Venus, an Apollo in the Lydian dress with the Muses, several busts *relievos* and vases, especially that of oriental alabaster, which contained the ashes of Livilla, sister of Caligula. A mosaic pavement found at Otricoli serves as a pavement to a large rotunda room, and there are other mosaics from Adrian’s villa at Tivoli. Independently of these, the Pope has also collected a number of things that were scattered in private houses. The Vatican Museum is now, perhaps, the greatest collection in the world. Nobody would think it the work of a ruined state, for everything is done with the greatest magnificence.

“Prince Borghese is likewise repairing his villa. You know what a fine collection he has. It now looks more like the habitation of an Asiatic monarch than that of a European subject. I am told it has not cost less than 120,000*l.* sterling. Our countryman, Mr. Gavin Hamilton, has painted a room there representing the life of Paris,” and

another countryman, Mr. More, who is now our first landscape painter, has just finished a very fine picture for this villa.

“Baltoni is still alive and painting large pictures for the Queen of Portugal, but such subjects as do no credit to the eighteenth century—new devotions and new miracles lately introduced or wrought in that country.

“A great sculptor, Signor Canova, a Venetian, has rose here since you left us; I believe amongst the very best we have had since the revival of the arts. His merit is recompensed, being employed in two great works—a tomb for the Rezzonico Pope and one for Gangarelli. You have probably heard that the present Pope has, at a great expense, built a new sacristy to St. Peter’s church, a very bad thing. He has likewise undertaken the draining of the Pontine marshes, a much better and more useful work, in which, if he be well served, he will certainly succeed, there being no physical impedi[ment], there being sufficient declivity. He will not [only reg]ain a country of twenty-five miles long by fifteen broad [of the] richest land possible, but contribute much to the wholesomeness of all the neighbourhood. The post road goes now to Naples through these marshes on the foundations of the antient *Via Appia*, which shortens the way to Naples about eighteen miles and avoids the hill of Piperno.”

THE MARQUESS OF CARMARTHEN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, August 24. St. James’.—Forwarding a request from Mr. George Legard. *Marked* “Private.”

GENERAL W. A. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, August 27. Royal Hospital.—Requesting leave to go to England on private affairs.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, August 28. Dover.—Commenting on the reception of Mr. Pitt’s commercial proposals by the Irish Parliament, and announcing his intention of going for a month to Brussels.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785, August 29 ?]—Mr. Ponsonby did not to me abandon his object, but will wait on you, by appointment, to explain his conduct. I stated to him very strongly the unhappy consequences of the step he had taken, and the necessity you found yourself under of maintaining your Government by *every* exertion if he should persist, and I think that his knowing your opinion from yourself may decide him against a measure in which I assured him he must fail. *Marked* “Private.”

CAPTAIN A. PYE MOLLOY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, August 29. Plymouth.—Giving a detailed account of the bad treatment he had received from Mr. Pitt in reference to a civil appointment promised to him, on his temporary retirement from active service in the navy.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1785, August 30. Dublin Castle.—You will have heard “from Mr. Pitt of the impotent attempt of Mr. Ponsonby, and supported by avowed faction, to disturb the peace of this country by becoming a candidate for the Speaker’s chair, in opposition to the express wishes of His Majesty’s Government. The event has indeed only tended to demonstrate the strength of Administration, and he was obliged, on a calculation of his numbers, unconditionally to relinquish the pursuit of his object. It has likewise taught us to distinguish between those who support from principle and from attachment and those who, possessing great offices, wait only for a favourable opportunity to sacrifice their employers to the views and to the ambition of English faction. Government, I can safely assure your Lordship, is as strong as it ever has been at any period since the commencement of my administration. We must, however, employ the interval of the recess to increase that strength, and secure it against treachery and the sudden defection of our insidious allies. If it be not consistent with true policy at present to make examples, we must at least invigorate our Government by such an accession of force as to set apostacy at defiance, and to be enabled to conduct the King’s measures with decision, independent of such hollow support.” I have received an application for leave from the Commander-in-Chief. As this country is in a state of perfect tranquility, I see no reason against granting it. You will therefore be pleased to mention the matter to the King for his approbation. *Draft, marked “Private.”*

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to WILLIAM PITT.

1785, August 31. Black Rock.—“My mind was much relieved by the receipt of your obliging letter, and by the account which Mr. Cooke gave me of the gallantry with which you received the news of our defeat. I cannot too much admire your magnanimity, but I am inexpressibly mortified it should have been put to the test by the failure of an object so extensive and important, and which had engaged so long the public attention; we must wait a more propitious moment. No pains or exertions on my part shall be wanting to explain to this infatuated country the real tendency and principles of the system, and to influence, if possible, their minds to its adoption. The effect, I think, may be produced at some future period, and perhaps not a very distant one. I have it much at heart, and if I can appropriate to myself one single sprig of those laurels which you are wreathing to your own brow, I shall be contented. Our affairs at present bear as favorable an aspect as our most sanguine wishes could possibly hope for. The hostile but impotent attempt of Mr. Ponsonby to seize the Speaker’s chair has been only attended with this effect, to evince the strength of Government and to demonstrate the weakness of its unprincipled opponents.

“I must now trouble you with a detail of those objects which I have engaged to my friends to make a point of with Administration. I must confess myself to be much interested in the success of Captain Molloy’s promotion to the government, mentioned to you, or to some respectable situation not incompatible to his profession. The Customs or Excise I take to be not absolutely inconsistent, as Captain Lutterel of the navy has lately received such an appointment. I very much wish to obtain an office of about 400*l. per annum*, not preclusive of a seat in Parliament, for Pulteney. He has nothing to live upon. I must either support him out of my own pocket, or he will be forced into the arms of Opposition

upon future expectations. He has in truth been very useful to me during the progress of the adjustment, by transmitting to me clear, distinct, and regular accounts of all that was passing. He would have no objection to considerable duty and attendance. I think you might employ him to effect. If no office of that description should offer itself, might I point out some situation in the East Indies. It would vacate a seat *for me*, and *he* would be provided for. My connection with, and my anxiety to serve Dr. Ekins you well know. I have constantly solicited every Church preferment since the commencement of Lord Shelburne's administration, and have been as constantly refused in favour of some person no doubt of better pretensions, and of more real and sincere attachment to the different Governments I have supported. I hope, however, at last he will not be forgotten. There is one object more, but as it involves very unpleasant and melancholy considerations, you will excuse me from expatiating on it. I can only say I am extremely anxious on that head. Lord Chatham will explain to what I allude; to him I refer you. These are the different objects which I must urge to you strongly, upon the plea of our public connection and our private friendship. I hope you will not think me exorbitant, considering the claims which ten years' opposition must have created, and that my influence has not as yet reached to the gratification of any one of them." *Copy, also a draft varying slightly from the copy.*

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The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, September 3. Waverley.—“It gives me the truest satisfaction to find that in your present arduous and critical situation you possess that spirit and fortitude which I always thought you would do upon the day of trial; and that, with your coolness and watchfulness, I trust and believe will carry you through all your difficulties with honour and *éclat*.

“I have, I think, some knowledge of the genius of Ireland; I believe most things I have conversed upon with you have proved that to be true. You are now in a situation where every act of yours will be canvassed, and I am glad of it, assuring myself you will weather the storm with firmness and satisfaction to your own feelings, and conviction to all the world, for Ireland in its present situation is a general object.”

“I had a long letter from Dean Marlay, who tells me that notwithstanding the opposition of Grattan he has the highest respect for you. What the devil they can mean I cannot conceive, for the propositions, according to my conception, were more in favour of Ireland than the most sanguine man amongst them ought to have expected. It is better, however, that they should have met the fate they have done, than to have carried them through by a small majority.

“I most truly approve of your scheme relative to the cavalry. I mentioned it to poor Harvey twelve years ago. If it had then been put into execution you would have had a British cavalry instead of an Irish Roman Catholic one by this time. My plan was to send the two regiments of B[ritish] Dragoons that are yearly sent into Scotland to embark for Donaghadee, and the same transports to have brought over

two Irish regiments, which, if executed, would by this time have made the cavalry of both countries nearly British. I fear something serious must happen with an army of armed subjects; if it does the sooner the better in my opinion, as I hope France could not now do us so much mischief as she will be able to do some years hence."

EDMUND SIXTEN PERY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, September 4.—Intimating his intention to resign the Speaker's chair, in consequence of increasing infirmities.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1785, September 5. Dublin Castle.—The House of Commons have just elected Mr. Foster to be their Speaker. To-morrow the address will be reported, so that it is yet questionable whether I shall be able to prorogue Parliament till the 7th. At the close of the session Lord Shannon and the Archbishop of Cashell propose going to England. I hope you will let them know that I have at all times represented to you their consequence, and their steady attachment to His Majesty's Government. Such matters, though trifles, have their proper effect in promoting zealous service. *Marked* "Private."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, September 8. Froggall.—I was glad to learn from your letter of the 31st August that the strength of your Administration is not impaired by the recent event. "The fate of Mr. Flood's motion, and the unsuccessful attempt to oppose Mr. Foster's succeeding to the Chair, seem to prove that, independent of the ill-founded jealousy entertained of the resolutions, no very formidable spirit of opposition to your Government exists in the House of Commons of Ireland.

"It gives me great concern, however, to observe how ready some of those, who have been treated by your Grace with confidence and favour, are to catch at an opportunity of making you an ungratefull return, especially if any prospect of personal advantage to themselves appears to present itself.

"I agree perfectly with your Grace that though it may be very proper to temporise, yet too much care cannot be taken to be prepared against the effects of a sudden defection of these insidious allies, and to collect such strength as may make it a less *prudent* measure for them to take such a step.

"It is indeed an unaccountable conduct in those, who have so much to lose in case of a confusion in Ireland." *Marked* "Secret and separate."

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, September 10.—"Though I have not been so punctual in answering your Grace's letters as I ought, yet I took care that nothing should prevent me from writing to my correspondent in Flanders, to desire he would go so far as four hundred guineas for the Vandyck, and three hundred for the Rubens. I could not in conscience give him a higher commission. Your Grace will certainly have them, I think within the commission. I must beg leave to mention to your Grace the

person I have employed in this business; his name is De Gray, a very excellent painter in *chiaro oscuro*, in imitation of *basrelievos*. He paints likewise portraits in oil and in crayons extremely well. He was very civil and attentive to me when I was at Antwerp, and was the means of my purchasing some very fine pictures. He then told me he intended going to Ireland, having been invited by Mr. Cunningham; and I promised to recommend him likewise to your Grace's protection, which I can with a very safe conscience, not only as a very ingenious artist, but a young man of very pleasing manners. I have no doubt but he is very happy in this opportunity of doing anything to oblige your Grace, and will be very zealous in the performance.

"I don't know how to account for the pictures at Antwerp not appearing so striking to me this last journey as they did the first. I was disappointed in many other pictures besides those on sale. It ought at least to teach me this lesson—not to be very impatient when anyone differs with me about the degree of excellence of any pictures, since I find I differ so much from myself at different times.

"I have inclosed the title and that part of the catalogue which has the Rubens and the Vandyck, which I apprehend is all that your Grace wished to see.

"The picture will be sent away on Monday by way of Liverpool. In the hurry of pictures I have neglected thanking your Grace for your kind solicitations in my favour with Mr. Pitt. I am, as I certainly ought to be, as grateful as if it had been crowned with success.

"If your Grace wishes to remain longer in Ireland, I think I may congratulate you on losing the Irish propositions. If they had passed it is most certain there would have been a great commotion here by addresses from the manufacturers and inflammatory speeches to mobs, that would probably have gone near to shake the Administration; but now all is quiet and settled again."

HENRY DUNDAS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] September 10. Whitehall.—"After being almost faged to death, I set out for Scotland this afternoon to shoot and hunt for two months. The want of funds has prevented me sooner obeying your commands relative to Dr. Blair; but a pension having fallen in Scotland, which enables the King to do it, I have this morning mentioned to Mr. Pitt your wishes for a professorship of practical astronomy to be erected in the University of Edinburgh and the appointment conferred on Dr. Blair. It will be done immediately, and it gives us all great pleasure that, at the same time we are gratifying a wish of your Grace, we are serving a very meritorious man."

(Enclosure.)

HENRY DUNDAS to [DR. ROBERT BLAIR].

[1785,] September 10. India Board.—I have this morning settled with Mr. Pitt that you shall be immediately appointed Professor of Practical Astronomy in the University of Edinburgh. He has likewise undertaken to endeavour to get you the additional reward from the Commissioners of Longitude which you have been prevented from getting in the shape of a patent.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1785, September 18. Phœnix Park—I embrace the opportunity of Mr. Orde's visit to England to assure you of the perfect tranquillity here.

“The instruments of faction have indeed endeavoured to nourish the flame of discontent at the different assizes, but as yet without any great effect. The meetings in the several counties which have adopted inflammatory resolutions have been formidable neither for property nor numbers. I have, in truth, sanguine hopes that this deluded country will ultimately be convinced of the infatuation of its conduct, and will at some future period implore with earnest solicitation that liberal and advantageous system which it now has thought proper to reject. Every means in my power shall be employed to instruct and regulate the national opinion, and, if possible, to emancipate the minds of the people from that bondage [of] error and delusion in which they appear at present to be enslaved.” “I must not omit to mention that a pamphlet has been written by Mr. Sheridan, the Secretary at War, in support of the commercial adjustment. It is an admirable production, and well calculated to produce its intended effect.” He has dealt honourably by the Government he serves, and his principles have not been warped by the influence of private connexion. *Draft, marked “Private.”*

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, September 19. Holyhead.—We have landed after a favourable passage of twelve hours. Be assured I shall attend to all your commissions, both public and private.

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, September 22. London.—“I am sorry to acquaint your Grace that there is nothing bought at the sale. I have inclosed Mr. De Gree’s letter, by which it appears they went much above even the commission that you wished me to send. I cannot think that either the Rubens or Vandyck were worth half the money they sold for. The Vandyck was an immense picture and very scantily filled; it had more defects than beauties, and as to the Rubens, I think your Grace’s is worth a hundred of them. They are so large, too, that it would cost near two hundred pounds bringing them to England. I have sent the catalogue to Lord Sydney’s office to be forwarded to your Grace.”

THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, September 23. Waverley.—“I was lucky enough to meet Mr. Orde yesterday at St. James’, and of hearing, from a man who by this time I suppose is confidential, of the whole tenure of your conduct in Ireland, of which he speaks in the highest degree of applause. I hope you exult in the successful efforts you have made and carried through, so much to your own honour, and to the establishing a permanency to the Government here, which I hope they may have gratitude enough to own is in a great measure owing to your firmness and dexterity in Ireland.”

“The success you have met with under the very arduous trials you have gone through will, I hope, make you remain where you are and fit you for greater situations; by that you will establish your political knowledge, get free from all your difficulties, and avoid the only danger that ever threatened your understanding, I mean chiefly your want of activity.”

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, September 23, Friday. London.—“I arrived in town yesterday, but found everybody so occupied in preparation to attend the celebration of the fête at St. James’s that I had no opportunity of conversation before the evening. I dined with Mr. Pitt, and, after the departure of his other guests, I passed an hour with him alone,” when I introduced every point of your instructions. The approbation, already signified, of your measures in Ireland was fully confirmed; and something more than satisfaction was expressed at the circumstances which marked the conclusion of our session. This was uttered not only by Mr. Pitt but by the *Lord President* and the two Secretaries of State, the only Ministers now in town. The idea entertained here of our future proceeding corresponds entirely with that which you thought advisable, and it is therefore recommended that no extraordinary exertion should be hastily used to force conviction “upon those who will certainly have greater doubts in proportion to the apparent pains taken to remove them.” Mr. Pitt nor any of the Ministry are sanguine as to an immediate change in the prejudices of the country; but they are not uneasy at the consequences of delay. Mr. Pitt thinks that perhaps, “after all consideration, we may be most likely to draw on, under favorable circumstances, the great subject by the manner and reason of our resistance to the probable attempt of urging separate questions on distinct points—such as Construction of the Navigation Act, Protecting Duties, East India Trade. I am very glad to be authorized also, confidentially, to inform your Grace that the British Ministry will find no difficulty in maintaining the propriety of their own conduct in offering the terms they have offered to Ireland, or in declaring explicitly that they continue to take pride in the system they have digested and laid before the public, how advantageous soever it may justly be said to be to Ireland; and that they shall therefore wait with patience till Ireland shall become sufficiently attentive to her own interests to desire the reconsideration of the subject, ready at any time to stand forward in aid of her wishes to accomplish the plan.

“Another ground of pleasure and confidence will appear to your Grace in this further assurance which Mr. Pitt gave me, that they may venture to reckon upon such proofs of the strength and union of their Government, and of the happy progress of the measures taken for the recovery of the national commerce and resources, as will leave no doubt of any motive but a generous regard to the welfare of the sister kingdom having any influence with them in exciting their anxiety to establish the proposed system of commercial agreement with England. He is, at the same time, persuaded that we should watch every discreet opportunity of drawing forth the declaration of favourable opinion upon the plan, and of desire to have a liberal discussion of the detail in a committee of the House of Commons. With respect to the conduct we should hold to those who have fairly entitled themselves to reward, or made themselves liable to punishment, he entirely assents to that line which seemed to be your choice at the time I last talked with you on the subject. This would confine, though it would confirm, the extent of severity to Lord Bellamont, Mr. Burton, and Mr. Hunt, and would hardly put any limits to your own disposition to reward. The list of pensions and arrangements are approved, and I am to have further conversation about the new boards and marquisates, with this previous encouragement, that he is at present disposed to approve of both.” “Upon the point of the vice-treasurerships, he is still unable to be more explicit than he has been, but he will see, and seek to satisfy, Lord

Mornington. The Prince of Wales will be a subject for our next conversation, but there seems little hope of being able to profit to any purpose of your friendly offer of mediation." As to your particular objects, Mr. Pitt will certainly take a very early opportunity of providing for Dr. Ekins, and will seek to make the other objects succeed as soon as possible. I had a fair opportunity of introducing, as you wished, the topic of the government of Windsor Castle, and from the warmth of satisfaction which Mr. Pitt expressed in receiving any hint of what may be a personal gratification to you, and of his zealous wish to accomplish it, I conceive the most pleasing hopes of success. The Duke of Montagu is, however, again restored to health. I ought to have mentioned at the beginning of this letter that I had a complete opportunity of conveying your messages of zeal and attachment to the King, and that I received from him expressions of very marked satisfaction and acknowledgment of your services. The office of Chief Remembrancer is given to Lady Harriet Pitt as her portion upon her marriage to-morrow with Mr. Eliot. It is worth 1,500*l.* per annum net. Old Lord Eliot will, it is hoped, be softened by this accession of income. *Marked* "Private."

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, September 26. London.—"Immediately on the receipt of your Grace's letter I wrote to Mr. De Gree to make enquiry to whom the pictures were sold, and whether they would part with them again at a certain profit; at the same time, I am confident if your Grace saw them you would not be very anxious about possessing them. The Poussin's are a real national object, and I rejoice to hear that the scheme of their coming to England is in such forwardness.

"Mr. Boswell has just sent me his "Johnsoniana," which is one of the most entertaining books I ever read. If your Grace pleases I will send it by the same conveyance as the catalogue. I think you will be agreeably amused for a few hours; there are Johnson's opinions upon a great variety of subjects, and Boswell has drawn his character in a very masterly manner. The Bishop of Killaloo, who knew Johnson very well, I think will subscribe to the justness and truth of the drawing."

THE REV. GEORGE CRABBE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, September 29. Stathern.—"It gives me much pain to inform your Grace that, from Mr. Dodsley's last letter to me, I have no hope of seeing the additional paper relating to your noble brother joined with the former in his Register, the pages of which he assures me were all laid out, though so long before publishing, in such manner that he finds it impossible to alter them or make any addition. He observes that in a future number (should he publish again) there will be room for any anecdotes or remarks that your Grace may choose to have inserted with reference to the character in the volume before. In this or in any other way, I shall think myself happy if I can be instrumental in setting forth such an example and portraying such a character as that of Lord Robert Manners. I hope your Grace will pardon me that I do not yet return the inscriptions; it would be impertinent to trouble you with the reasons of my delay, and I will only assure your Grace that they were such as made it impossible for me to be attentive, and you know, my Lord, there is no forcing a fitness in one's mind for these

things. I am now at home, and will try to do what I cannot but think your Grace has already done, at least in substance and strength, and I do not know but likewise in elegance and form.

“Your Grace having indulged me hitherto by hearing me speak of my own affairs, I take the liberty of informing you that Lord Thurlow keeps me yet in suspense, neither giving the living I applied for in exchange to any other, nor giving me any other reason to hope for it. Thus far, however, I think I may gather from his behaviour to me that he does not mean to be very uncomplying, and that if he does in this instance refuse me, he will certainly consent, whenever it becomes absolutely necessary, to my exchanging with some person in your Grace’s neighbourhood. Should you, my Lord, hear from the Chancellor on this subject, I will be much indebted to you for the information, as this suspense, besides the pain of it, is a real hindrance to me, and if it be to end in a disappointment, no inconsiderable one, as I believe I could at this time make an agreement, though something disadvantageous, with a clergyman within a few miles of me.

“I have to beg your pardon, my Lord, for dwelling longer on this selfish subject than I intended, and once more to thank your Grace for your very kind permission for my returning to Belvoir, should we find Sathern very unhealthy. At present we are well, but are much threatened by report that in the winter we shall be troubled with agues, impassable roads, and the petty larcenies of my poor parishioners; but I have hope, as your Grace’s wood is so convenient for them, that they will not be so wicked as to steal from their pastor what his patron can so amply supply them with.”

The EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, September 29. Stratford Place.—Since my arrival here I have had a long conversation with Mr. Pitt, who entered in the most clear, open, and friendly manner into my situation with Government and into theirs with regard to me. “He assured me of his sincere disposition to fulfil his engagements to me whenever an opportunity offered, either in Ireland or here, and of his resolution to accelerate that opportunity by every possible exertion. . . . He was so obliging as to express a strong sense of what he was pleased to term the liberality of my conduct towards Government, and to declare that Government must be insensible indeed if the part which I had acted did not stimulate them to the most assiduous diligence in the promotion of my objects. He said that he wished all unpleasant passages between me and any part of the Government of Ireland to be forgotten; that upon my own personal objects I might for the future communicate with that part of the Irish Government in which I had never suspected any other qualities than such as would conciliate and cement confidence and connexion, and with himself, whose good will towards me could not be doubtful; that with others I might communicate to such extent as I judged fit, and need go no further. He then expressed his hope that under all these circumstances I would not keep aloof from the Government because the accomplishment of my views could not be promised to a day. Although, as your Grace knows, I had, in consequence of transactions which I need not recall to your memory, determined against any confidential intercourse with Government until their promises to me were actually fulfilled, yet the clearness of Mr. Pitt’s language, the evident sincerity of his professions, and, above all, the security he held out to me against future deception by throwing the whole weight of my

claims upon his own and your Grace's honour, and by permitting me to communicate with your Grace and himself as the managers of my interest, entirely overcame my former resolution, and removed every obstacle to my acceptance of whatever share of confidence you may think fit to entrust to me in the course of the next session." As a proof that I wished to profit by the good faith of Government rather than by their distress, I stated to Mr. Pitt that, in the event of Mr. Ponsonby's dismissal, I had, in conversation with you, waived all claims upon the Post Office, conceiving that this office might be necessary to you in the construction of a new Government.

"From every appearance I conceive Pitt to be as strong as he has been at any period since the general election. I had much conversation with him relative to Ireland, on which subject we entirely agreed. His idea is to suffer the Bill to rest in peace, unless it is called from the dead by the voice of the people of Ireland, but, in the interval, to resist every attempt towards alteration in the present situation of the commerce of the two kingdoms."

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, September 30. Brighthelmstone.—I have passed three days here with Mr. Pitt, and "have, as much as the idle lounging of the place would allow, conversed with him upon the various objects which are interesting to your Grace's Government. He continues to entertain the same opinions he has already expressed" in regard to his project of a commercial treaty between Great Britain and Ireland, and "is entirely against any strong public effort to bring it forward, but would at the same time recommend every prudent endeavour to give a right turn to the minds of such gentlemen who, in their different counties, may have influence to introduce quietly a disposition among the people to consider their real interests, rather than to give a hasty current to passion and prejudice. He is not sanguine about the early period at which any effectual change may be worked; and as he is determined to prefer the probable duration of the compact and the acknowledgment of its real value to any appearance of credit or strength to his Government by an immediate completion of it, he is chiefly anxious that our language should be what it has been—to maintain the propriety of our conduct in the whole transaction and assert the conviction of benefits offered by the system to Ireland, and a persuasion that she will not always be so blind as not to see them, or so much her own enemy as to deprive herself of the enjoyment of them. He is the more confirmed in these sentiments by what I am happy to communicate of the state of this country in respect to improvement in its commerce and finances. I am assured that we shall be surprized indeed at the account he will be enabled to give in the next session to the public of the situation of their affairs; and he ventures to think that this may have an essential effect upon the temper and judgment of the Irish nation, who may thereby be less liable to be imposed upon by the insinuation that Great Britain is necessarily so solicitous about a settlement with Ireland as to be likely to concede still further advantages in consequence of pretended dissatisfaction at the present proposition."

Mr. Pitt thinks the dismissal of Mr. Burton and Mr. Hunt indispensable, as well as the suppression of Lord Bellamont's pension. He will soon take the King's pleasure about the marquises, so as to enable you to give a "*positive assurance*" on his Majesty's part, but he thinks you may still have doubts about the *time* of accomplishing this object of your Government. It will be necessary for me to converse with you

about the vice-treasurerships. Mr. Pitt has seen Lord Mornington and talked him into perfect good humour.

I cannot discover any dissension or any probability of change in the Cabinet; all seems settled for the present on the old footing.

Your interest at Scarborough will, I am assured, be taken care of. Lord Mulgrave does not compete with you there. The Continental news of peace between the Emperor and the Dutch is confirmed, but the ascendancy of the French party and the Prince of Orange's want of spirit and judgment threaten a revolution in Holland. I enclose a letter from Lord Walpole to Lord Sydney, from which I am glad to see that Major Walpole's family do not countenance his improper conduct. *Marked "Private."*

(Enclosure.)

LORD WALPOLE to LORD [SIDNEY].

1785, September 25. Wolterton.—Expressing thanks for the promotion of his son Captain George Walpole, and regrets for imprudent conversation on political matters which had been held by Captain Walpole in Ireland.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, October 5. Fludyer Street.—I am arrived here, and have very few acquaintances in town. From what I can hear, I find it a general belief that Pitt's Ministry is rather strengthened than otherwise by the capriciousness of the Irish. There is at present, both in France and Flanders, so great a passion for English manufactures that no *arrêt* can prevent their sale; and I was told by a banker at Lille, who was changing me a bill at the rate of twenty-five livres for 1*l.* sterling, an exchange of ten per cent. advantage, that Dunkerque and the smuggling towns had been entirely ruined by Pitt's Commutation Bill, and that it would be difficult to find 100 guineas of English money in all Flanders, whereas, during the period of smuggling, 200,000 were melted down there annually; and that, as Dunkerque is a free port, the best prospect the citizens had now, under the French King's *arrêt*, was to smuggle *against* their own country. "I saw myself, on the great square at Lille, a curious proof of the efficacy of an *arrêt*. The King had forbidden, under a great penalty, affixing over any warehouse *Magazin Anglois*, to avoid which I saw at Lille, over the greatest warehouse in the place, the following inscription *verbatim*: '*Magazin François*,'—lower in capital letters, and in English, 'where are likewise sold goods of all other nations.' But if the Irish do not choose to make a joint stock with the English in order to attain the same perfection with them, I cannot think they will rival us in foreign markets where we have beat out the natives themselves."

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, October 8. London.—Mr. Pitt is out of town, and none of the Ministers will be here until next week. I have given Mr. Pitt and Lord Sydney memoranda relating to your objects, and shall receive their answers when next we meet. Everybody is in good spirits owing to the rise in the stocks and the consequent circulation of money. This is good for the credit and strength of Government, and arises chiefly from the extraordinary produce of the old duties, a certain mark of the increasing commerce and good order of the country.

I found from Mr. Pitt and Lord Sydney that Captain Molloy's particular object was the Government of the Leeward Islands, in case it should become vacant. May I take the liberty of mentioning that my brother, who is Governor of Dominica, has long been a candidate for an advantageous removal, and that the Leeward Islands have of course attracted his attention. I had been a solicitor for him both with Mr. Pitt and Lord Sydney. May I venture to hope that you will afford him your protection so far as not to raise any obstacle to his promotion?

I apprehend, from a letter received from Mr. Hamilton, that you may have quitted Dublin and begun your expedition southward. I heartily wish you an agreeable tour.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, October 12, Wednesday. Dublin Castle.—On official business.

The EARL OF CHATHAM to [THOMAS ORDE?].

[1785, October.] Berkeley Square.—Conveying Mr. Pitt's assurances that he would seize the earliest opportunity to forward the Duke of Rutland's wishes with respect to Mr. Leslie.

THOMAS THOROTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, October 13. Belvoir Castle.—“I am here to obey your commands relative to the prints and the wine, which will set off for Dublin immediately.” The scheme of the navigable canal to Leicester is so practicable at a very *small expence*, the injury to individuals so readily obviated, and the benefit so great to the whole *country*—I say *country*, for it will not be confined to the *county*—that Lord Harborough is excessively anxious about it. It is intended to bring the navigation up to Melton, to extend it to Oakham, and perhaps almost to Harborough. There is already more money subscribed than is wanted, as people are sure that the work will return amazing interest. It cannot fail of being the greatest utility to your estates in this county, and still greater to those about Ilkestone, Greisly and Hallam, as it will open all your collieries in those parts. The navigation up the Erewash is to be extended, and I hope even Swanwick will be benefited.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, October 13. Dublin Castle.—Lord and Lady Shannon set out to-morrow to prepare for your reception. I have told them that you intend to go to Castlemartyr before you go to Cork, and Lord Shannon said it would be more convenient. The Lord Mayor and sheriffs, with two aldermen, went last night to one of the unlicensed lottery offices, dispersed the assembly, and lodged the office-keeper in gaol; and to-day the Lord Mayor and Aldermen publish a proclamation declaring their intention to punish in like manner any person who shall insure lottery tickets. This step has saved the country fifty, perhaps one hundred thousand pounds. You will thank Sir Lucius O'Brien, privately, for suggesting this power of suppressing an illegal nuisance to be in the magistrates; and I trust you will approve my engaging that the expense of prosecutions would be supported by Government.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, October 14. Dublin Castle.—The storm prevents the arrival of any packet. “Another lottery office keeper committed last night to gaol has quite damped the spirit of insurance among the poor people. The impositions of those offices may be guessed from this circumstance, that one of them gave 182*l.* for the hire of a back shop not ten feet square, during the drawing, because of its situation near the place of drawing.

“Napper Tandy, at this day’s Quarter Assembly of the city, suddenly and without notice brought forward resolutions against the Intercourse Bill; which passed the Commons, and after much debate were carried, also at the Board of Aldermen. If men when their interests are concerned will listen to Napper Tandy and preclude themselves from hearing the subject debated, they deserve the consequences of their folly. Every such occasion must make you rejoice in the line you have taken.”

The SAME to [the SAME].

1785, October 15. Dublin Castle.—All is peace; I have, therefore, nothing to take up your time with, except to ask for your commands as to *the viscounty*. *Marked* “Private.”

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, October 17. Dublin Castle.—The judges before whom Maurice Fitzgerald was tried being out of town, I trouble you with a respite for him for a fortnight, until Mr. Alimuty can make the necessary application to the judge. “A fellow who, about a year ago, had tarred and feathered a poor shoemaker, and had contrived to put off his trial till this Commission, is convicted and sentenced to be whipped over the same ground by which he had led the poor tarred shoemaker.” “I rejoice in this fine weather for your Grace’s and the Duchess’s sake. Sir Hercules Langrishe says you cannot fail, at this time, of seeing super-eminent beauty in Killarney.”

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to [the BISHOP OF KILLALA].

1785, October 18. Ardfert House, Kerry.—To-morrow we proceed to the Lake of Killarney. My reception has been very honourable at all places, and my journey has been made as pleasant to me as possible, and I hardly think it will fall off in that respect at the houses of Lord Shannon and Lord Tyrone. The country seems very quiet and loyal, “but I hear at Dublin Napper Tandy has contrived to lead the Court of Aldermen *by the horns* into some factious determinations against the commercial settlement. As to my own private matters, they are in *statu quo*. I wish the period were arrived in which the *final adjustment* on that point will be accomplished. The intermediate time is a time of discontent and irritation. There appears not the smallest inclination to make matters comfortable, tho’ the period is so short, but a giddy, unthinking pursuit after diversion and pleasure, but no more. I wish you would talk to Norris about the footmen, who might be dismissed. I see no necessity of keeping two housekeepers.” I do not know what alterations I can make in the servants out of livery, but you

might enquire into the use and abuse of each particular individual. My blessing to all my children. I hope Granby by this time can hit a button at a hundred yards distance. I admire Bob Thoroton's letter and importance.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, October 19. London.—I have just passed three days at Bowood with Lord Lansdowne, whom I found in perfect health, but not in the most satisfactory temper with the Ministers, whom he seems to charge with inattention to him, but he always accompanied every insinuation of that sort with assurances of friendly dispositions to Government and of warm attachment to you, which he says influences his conduct towards the rest of the Administration. He adds that he must have an opinion of his own, and that if he does not meet with some degree of confidence, he may, much against his will, *happen* to form it in disagreement with the measures of Government. I have hinted this to Mr. Pitt, and he appeared glad to have been apprised of the line of attention which he ought to pursue. I found Lord Lansdowne was full of apprehensions about the affairs on the Continent, from the very decided part which the King has taken in regard to the German League. There does not, however, appear to be any apprehension in the Ministers about foreign affairs.

Mr. Pitt continues to be strongly of opinion that we should on no account seek to hurry a revolution of sentiment in regard to our commercial propositions; he persuades himself that delay will weaken opposition to our plan by the return of dispassionate consideration.

I hope your expedition will prove agreeable to yourself and the Duchess. I have no doubt of the respect which will be paid to you personally. I wish you would determine whether Mr. Pery's peerage should be a viscounty. I think it would be well to recommend this step.

Mr. Pitt has spoken about the marquises, and there seems no hesitation about allowing you to make promises to some of the candidates, but I am not yet authorized to communicate this as settled. I find that objections are made to the number, and the necessity of advancing either Lord Clanricarde or Lord Antrim is not readily acknowledged. If we could persuade the King and his Ministers to give English peerages to Lord Shannon and Lord Tyrone, you might be relieved from all difficulties.

I saw Lord Mansfield at St. James' to-day, but he was not within my reach to speak to him. He looks well. The Chancellor is returned; I am to dine with him on Saturday at Mr. Jenkinson's, and shall not fail to press him to confer the living on Mr. Haggett. *Marked* "Most private."

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, October 20. Dublin Castle.—Nothing is stirring here, except a requisition which Napper Tandy has on foot for a county meeting to take the Intercourse Bill into consideration.

The SAME to [the SAME].

1785, October 20. Ashton Lodge.—Concerning an application from Lord Charlemont in favour of the Dissenters. Napper Tandy's resolu-

tions took the city of Dublin by surprize, but the whole affair seems already totally forgotten. I hear he intends to follow up his blow in the county; but he beats the air, and his being the mover of it is more likely to sink the credit of his measure than even its folly could. I am glad you have resolved upon the viscounty for Mr. Pery, and I think the address of the House of Commons will justify the distinction if others should feel hurt by it. I am happy, for the honour of my countrymen, to hear you have been received with that respect and attention which is so justly your due. Your exertions for the prosperity of Ireland will not be diminished by your having witnessed the gratitude and poverty of the people. *Marked* "Private."

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, October 21. Dublin Castle.—On current business.

The SAME to [the SAME].

1785, October 22. Dublin Castle.—The Chancellor has been ill, but is well again. Sir Hercules Langrishe informs me that he has seized smuggled tobacco and spirits in the town of Derry, to the value of 3,000*l.* The King's letters for the six privy counsellors are arrived:—Lord Antrim, Lord Altamont, Lord Mountcashel, Sir J. Parnell, Sir Lucius O'Brien, and Mr. Mason.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to the BISHOP OF KILLALA,
at Phoenix Lodge.

1785, October 22. Killarney.—"If you receive this before the 20,000*l.* prize is drawn, pray buy me a couple more tickets. My winning the 2,000*l.* has given me courage to adventure a little further. We are very comfortable. The beauties of Killarney are not exaggerated, but the weather begins to turn. On Wednesday I shall be at Cork."

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, October 24. Killarney.—"I see the 20,000*l.* is come up, so of course my former directions about purchasing tickets fall to the ground. You say nothing of my 2,000*l.* I hope I am not deceived. Has Granby been robbed?"

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, October 24. Dublin Castle.—On official business.

The SAME to [the SAME].

1785, October 25. Dublin Castle.—I did not hear until this morning of your good fortune in our lottery, or I should not have been so late in congratulating you. Reporting applications for vacant posts.

The SAME to [the SAME].

1785, October, 26. Dublin Castle.—On official business.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, October 27. Dublin Castle.—On official business.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to the [BISHOP OF KILLALA].

1785, October 27. Cork.—I enclose a leave of absence for Lord Arran's son—the hope and prop of that family. “Everything here is as I can wish, quiet and loyall, except the Whiteboys, who are attacking and murdering your cloath.”

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, October 28. Brighthelmstone.—[*Correspondence*, p. 125.]

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to [LORD SYDNEY].

1785, October 28. Cork.—I arrived at Cork the day preceding yesterday, after having traversed a large extent of loyal but very dreary country, and receiving every mark of respect and attention from the gentlemen of the counties through which I passed. I came to this city by invitation, and my reception has been very distinguished, and marked with every feature of zeal and attachment for the representative of the Sovereign. I reside in a large house procured for me by the Corporation, and my expenses are defrayed by that body during my continuance in this city. The merchants at first demurred to addressing me, but not choosing to be singular they at length consented, and to-day I am to receive their congratulations. “But at the same time, tho’ I have the satisfaction to assure your Lordship of the apparent quiet of the province of Munster and of its political content, I must cloud my narrative by informing you that the Whiteboys have appeared in a very alarming degree and with very dangerous intentions. They have destroyed cattle and committed some murders. Seventy-two persons of that desperate description have possessed themselves of the fastnesses and strongholds of Muskerry, in this county, from whence they suddenly sally forth to destroy cattle and murder the inhabitants, and to committ every sort of cruelty and devastations. The Protestant clergy and the tythe procters are the principal objects of their enmity and barbarity. In consequence of the solicitation of the principal persons of this county, I have directed a regiment of light cavalry to be sent down without delay to Mallow and its vicinity in the room of a heavy regiment, and I shall summon a Privy Council on the spot to issue an immediate proclamation. This matter is in truth very alarming, and, I fear, will be made a pretence for re-instituting the volunteer corps in all their dangerous and illegal extent; and I am almost led to believe that these outrages are encouraged by some seditious and dangerous persons in a better sphere of life, to render the country clamorous for that revival. Be that as it may, it bears a very unpleasant appearance; but I trust that the vigorous measures which must be pursued will crush compleatly these desperate and lawless combinations.

“I have likewise a further unpleasant circumstance to relate to your Lordship. A mutiny has taken place in the 2nd regiment of Horse, which hitherto had been generally esteemed among our best-disciplined corps. A threatening letter was sent to their Lieutenant-Colonel, Skeffington,

from the regiment, relating to the sentence of a court-martial and some other matters of internal discipline. The ringleaders, however, are in confinement. I cannot give any favorable account of the good discipline of the Irish cavalry in general. A lawless spirit has of late discovered itself among that part of the army of a very dangerous tendency. I trust this will appear to your Lordship, as it does most strikingly to me, to afford a very strong additional reason for establishing the rotation between the cavalry of the two countries. I must impress this on your Lordship's mind as essential to His Majesty's service." To-day I proceed to review regiments at Charlesfort and Kinsale. The infantry I have seen in my progress consist of fine bodies of well-disciplined men, but many of the regiments are very weak, some wanting ninety or a hundred of their complement. *Draft.*

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, October 28. Dublin Castle.—Mr. Daly has asked for an order to the army to assist him in quelling outrages in Galway. Captain Brooke desires that you will visit his manufactories at Prosperous on your way home.

The EARL OF SHANNON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, October 29. Castlemartyr.—Your attention to the quiet of this country claims the warmest acknowledgment of every one who is interested in its welfare. I regret that your leisure should be interrupted by memorials on the subject of Whiteboy outrages.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, October 29. Dublin Castle.—As soon as I see General Cunningham I will talk with him about quartering troops in Kerry and the west of the county of Cork. The exchange of heavy cavalry in the county of Cork for light cavalry will occasion no difficulty. The outrages there are such as I have never known the common people to venture on unless at the instigation and with the encouragement of some of their superiors. Concerning various matters of administration.

GEORGE Y. KENDALL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, October 30. Paris.—I have been already at the Sevres manufactory about the groups for the Duchess, but met with nothing that pleased. The director has promised to shew me some others which he is preparing for the new year. Our Court remains at Fontainebleau for another fortnight. I believe there never were so few English in Paris as there are now, and therefore I have no anecdotes to send you.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, October 31. Dublin Castle.—The County Meeting was held this morning, and would have been composed of the same persons who have generally made up such assemblies; but unfortunately it was the day when several freeholders came to register their freeholds. The violent spirits turned the sub-sheriff out of the chair and prevailed upon Mr. Conolly to take it. He objected, resisted, declared his doubts of

the legality of the meeting, and was very unwilling, but they at last prevailed, and his name will appear at the head of a string of resolutions prepared by Binns and Taudy. Lord Luttrell was there; combated their proceedings with his usual spirit, but in vain. Mr. Conolly was taken in. The number present was fifty-nine. General Cunninghame has ordered all the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates of the light cavalry regiment at Carlow to join, notwithstanding any leave, preparatory to the departure of the regiment for the county of Cork. *Marked "Private."*

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 1. Dublin Castle.—This evening I have received, by express, a long letter from the sheriff of the county of Tipperary, with a memorial and affidavits, representing the entirely lawless state of some parts of that county, and the impossibility of the magistrates executing the laws without military aid. Mr. Sheridan and General Cunninghame are giving their attention to the matter.

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, November 2. Dublin Castle.—On official business.

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, November 3. Dublin Castle.—On official business.

VISCOUNT TORRINGTON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, November 4. Brussels.—Recommending Mrs. Mary Ganniclyff for a share of the *concordatum* money which was to be distributed at the next meeting of the Irish Parliament.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 4. Dublin Castle.—Sir John Parnell, who is one of the trustees for distributing bounties to manufacturers who should settle out of Dublin under the Act of last session, called upon me to say that their fund was nearly out, and that upwards of 4,000 persons presented themselves as ready to go. The trustees would make an application to you to obtain for them a further sum if they thought you would approve. I have requested them to prepare a simple statement of the facts for your consideration; and feel it my duty to advise you to comply with their prayer for an advance of 2,500*l.* The faith of the public has been pledged to give these people what has been offered by the trustees, and each individual will have just foundation of complaint if he be driven to distress by disappointment. Inclosed is a card with the number of volunteers who to-day paraded before the statue of King William. Since I received it I have had reason to believe that the Dublin Volunteers—about eighty—are omitted. The Duke of Leinster, I am told, marched at their head.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1785,] November 4. Fludyer Street.—A banker "declared to me a day or two ago the astonishment of the commercial men here at the

immense quantity of specie now in London, to which, I well know in many instances, Pitt's ministry has essentially contributed. I am sorry to say, on the subject of bankers, that Mortlocke, whom I saw here lately, appears very much dissatisfied with Mr. Pitt, and I fear we shall lose him when Parliament meets unless the King will knight him as mayor when he visits Cambridge." I meddle little with the affairs of that place, confining myself to keeping up at King's the remembrance that you would be a candidate on a vacancy in either of the great offices of the university, nor have I ever heard or suspected that anyone will venture to be your rival. I must mention what has struck me on reading the Irish debates, for which, if the Opposition paid Mr. Woodfall 500*l.*, you ought to pay him 5,000*l.* Such a body of good sense on one side, and on the other so much flightiness, even in Grattan's fine speech, and so much ignorance, heat, and scurrility in the rest. "But my reason for adverting to this publication is that I see Mr. Beresford's assertion respecting the Duke of Portland has been doubted in Ireland. The Duke of Portland, who is certainly incapable of misstating anything by design, is only one additional proof to very many I have seen, that even very correct speakers are often at a loss to recollect what they have said, when the debate is over. I was at that time in the House of Lords, and nearer the throne than Mr. Beresford, who generally sat near the door; and the Duke of Portland certainly said, in the very words quoted by Mr. Beresford, '*I know not what ideas might have been floating in the minds of individuals, but*—I then understood him to say—it certainly was not in the contemplation of that Cabinet to form a commercial system with Ireland, much less to have granted such concessions from this country.' I remember this idea striking me very strongly at the time, because I immediately saw how impolitic such a declaration respecting Ireland must prove to his connections in Ireland; but it struck me likewise in another point of view, because if the Duke of Portland was well informed, that Cabinet must have been more attentive to their own places than to the principal difficulty in which the kingdom was then engaged; if he was not well informed—which I verily believe to be the case—Fox and some of the others were forming a system of which he, although Prime Minister, was to know nothing till it was fit for publication. At all events, the Duke of Portland I heard declare very distinctly that *he never had thought of granting such advantages or concessions to Ireland*; and I believe I ventured to reason upon this idea, in a letter I had the honour to write to your Grace from Dover, before I knew the expression had been denied. I know so little of Irish politics that perhaps this disputed expression is quite forgot. I am sure, if your Grace acted upon mere party, it is an expression that the Irish should never be suffered to forget. I cannot think it serviceable to Mr. Pitt to revive such a subject here, because in an English House of Commons your Grace sees the Duke's language is more palatable; but, if out of respect to Mr. Beresford, or on any other account, your Grace will give me instructions to do so, I will take some means of saying the above on the first debate of the address, which will mostly turn, I suppose, on Irish business."

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 6. Dublin Castle.—"A letter by the last mail from a gentleman of strict veracity at Oxford mentions his being caught by a sudden exclamation from one countryman to another as he walked

through the street. ‘Why, sure, Thomas, that there man cannot be a parson in them there cloaths!’ The gentleman turned his head and saw no other than the Bishop of Derry in a light lilac coat and his volunteer hat, fiercely cocked, laced, and with a cockade. He is going to the Continent.”

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 7. Dublin Castle.—Concerning administrative business. The Speaker is exceedingly earnest for the continuance of the bounty to encourage manufacturers to quit the city of Dublin. I hope to receive your approval of an advance being made to the trustees, as I understand that not less than 7,000 persons have desired to accept of the conditions offered them.

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, November 8. Dublin Castle.—I am glad of your resolution to make the advance for the use of the rustivating manufacturers. “This is the moment to seize, when doing exactly what you desire, you gratify the pressing wish of the people concerned.”

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, November 8. Dublin Castle.—The enclosed papers give an account of an affray in the county of Limerick, in which Michael Slattery was murdered. Sir Vere Hunt recommends Mr. Noblett Newenham to succeed Slattery, on the ground that, as Newenham lives in the district where the riot happened, he will be more likely to be supported than a stranger. As the office has no salary but from the King’s share of the seizures which the officer makes, if you wish to oblige Sir Vere, it cannot be done at a cheaper rate.

CHARLES FRANCIS SHERIDAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 8. War Office, Dublin Castle.—Concerning the disposition of troops for the protection of life and property in the south of Ireland.

W. B. PONSONBY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 8. Bishop’s Court.—Recommending the Rev. Mr. Sheppard for the living of Passage. *Enclosed is a letter from Thomas Sheppard to Mr. Ponsonby on the same subject.*

The EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785,] November 9. Ballyfinn.—I have received your letter enclosing another to Mr. Pitt, for both of which I thank you. Your injunction of secrecy shall be scrupulously observed.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 9. London.—I congratulate you on your satisfactory expedition to the south of Ireland. Many good effects must arise

from this progress, and I trust that the vigor and activity with which you have marked your resolution to suppress licentious and savage revolt against the laws will be attended with present success and be an effectual warning for the future. I concur with you as to the danger of allowing "any pretence for raising the volunteers into array and credit, and the rapidity with which the army may appear in aid of the civil power must be a chief means of check against their intrusion, until some more regular police shall crush disorder in the seed, or some regular establishment of militia shall supersede any pretended necessity for occasional and voluntary armaments of the people. This subject indisputably provokes the more earnest consideration of the two points, respecting the exchange by rotation of the cavalry and artillery stationed in the two kingdoms, and the carrying into effect an Act for a National Militia, attended, of course, with some proper steps for the suppression of volunteers." As regards the former point, it will be necessary to overcome the determined opposition of colonels of British regiments, and, perhaps, reluctance on the part of the King. Upon the latter subject "I have earnestly pressed Mr. Pitt to furnish us with express instructions," but "he does not choose to hazard himself alone in a business of this importance without the assembly of Cabinet." "It is absolutely necessary to be secure of the fullest support of this Government in case of attempting such a measure in Ireland; yet, after all, chief reliance must be placed, for the propriety and expediency of it, on your Grace's discretion and judgment on the spot. The difficulty which occurs against an immediate decision arises from the consideration of the effect which this step may have upon other matters of great importance and expectation. It was thought adviseable to postpone the execution of the plan till the commercial adjustment should have been completed. That is now deferred, and will not probably be resumed in the next session. May we therefore safely go to a previous measure of such strength and decision as that of a positive suppression of the volunteers?" Perhaps "the only method of resolving this difficulty will be by endeavour to satisfy ourselves about the real sentiments of the principal interests and property of the country, and so to contrive as that Government may seem to be called upon by them to vigorous measures in their support. The horrible scenes of disorder and anarchy in some parts of the kingdom furnish good ground for this." This sanction of public opinion seems to me of so much consequence, that I think we cannot venture to decide upon our policy till we have tried "the pulse not only of your Grace's principal friends, but of other country gentlemen and men of property. They are mad if recent instances will not convince them of the danger to which the Protestant interest and property would be exposed if internal disorder is to prevail or can only be kept under by volunteers, chiefly Catholic; but still more of the ruin which might at once fall upon them in case of a war, and no provision made for any defence at home against possible defection and probable encroachment, both of which they should look to in considering the nature and views of their present defenders." This is a grave chapter, which must be read over more than once before the sense and drift be entirely pronounced upon.

"A plan of education, such as may answer in a great and liberal view, is not without many embarrassments, yet they may be surely surmounted. The chief difficulty respects the Catholics, who must in some degree be considered when any extensive system shall be in agitation. I am persuaded that at this moment the secret instigators and abettors of many disorders and of much sedition are those itinerant monks who receive a miserable education in foreign countries, and bring home to

their own no other tokens of improvement but in low and mischievous intrigue and bigotry. I have often had an idea that the principal persons in that persuasion, both of the clergy and laity, might be tempted to lend their countenance and assistance to a scheme for abolishing the functions of these wretches, and for confining them to persons more immediately licensed by the titular bishops, who may be supposed to have some regard for their country, and might be made accountable to it. The line should perhaps be drawn closer, and limited to those who should have received their education in Ireland. But this is a very delicate matter, and requires great discretion and arrangement. Public schools of much utility might, however, be instituted without waiting for this delicate completion." I am surprized to hear of Lord Earlsfort's views as to the succession to the Great Seal. On many accounts he is unfit for that situation. It would be desirable to have a proper man *in petto*, and I have pressed the subject here. "Eyre seems to be the only man thought of; it is doubtful whether he would take it." *Marked* "Most private."

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to the [BISHOP OF KILLALA].

1785, November 11. Castlemartyr.—I am concerned to hear that you have been ill, but I hope by the end of the month "to find you so far recovered as to be able to give every protection and shelter *under your wings* to the young actress committed to your charge. I have been issuing proclamations to seize Whiteboys who have been murdering clergymen and destroying their better parts the tythes. I am sorry that all our fountains of wealth are drained."

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 11. Dublin Castle.—On official business and private affairs.

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, November 12.—On official business.

JAMES BYRES to the [BISHOP OF KILLALA].

1785, November 12. Rome.—The Seven Sacraments are now all in my possession, and, as I mentioned to you in my letter of August 24, "in much better preservation than I had imagined, their apparent huskiness principally proceeding from the quantity of white of egg that was upon them, which I have washed off with a sponge and water. As far as I can perceive they have never been cleaned; three of them, I imagine—from the difficulty in taking the water—have been rubbed with nut oil by somebody that has copied them, but do not seem to have suffered by it." They only wait for his Grace's orders to be sent off. "Lord and Lady Spencer, with several English travellers, are already arrived. Many more are expected this winter."

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, November 13. Holwood Hill.—[*Correspondence*, p. 132.]

HENRY DUNDAS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785?] November 15. Edinburgh.—Supporting a request from Mr. Vaughan Montgomery.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 15. Dublin Castle.—On official business.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to the BISHOP OF KILLALA.

1785, November 16. Curraghmore.—“Chamberlayne is come over with a long list of complaints relative to the treatment of Government towards me respecting my borough of Scarborough. I wish you would hear his story. You will give him a bed at the Park and keep him quiet. Hill writes me word he has been very active, and that there is much truth and foundation in his complaints. Castle Martyr is very cleaver, the landlord the most hospitable and pleasant that can be. But this place is, I sincerely believe, not to be equalled in magnificence as to grounds and extent in all England. Lord Tyrone is very attentive and full of anxiety to please. The end of next week or the beginning of the subsequent will safely land me at the Phœnix Park. Mr. Pitt writes me word that the state of the finances proves flourishing almost beyond what could be expected; that they have a surplus from the existing taxes of 800,000*l.* for a sinking fund, and that it is advancing very fast to a clear million. A few years' peace will, I trust, enable Great Britain to raise her crest as high as ever, and look Europe in the face.”

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 16. Dublin Castle.—On official business.

COLONEL JOHN WHYTE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 17. Cashell.—“I arrived here the night of the 15th, and the day following proposed to the High Sheriff to surround the castle of Bellenemona, suspecting the people in would make their escape on hearing of the heavy artillery being on their march. I accordingly marched with one captain, two subalterns, and fifty men two howers before day, accompanied by the High Sheriff, Mr. Barton, and Sub-Sheriff Mr. Collins, two firm, active magistrates. I arrived within musket-shot of the place a little before break of day, and was saluted with sixteen shot and loud huzzas from the garrison; but judging it prudent not to advance further untill daylight, I then examined the situation of the castle, and the ground round, and, under cover of ditches, advanced within 100 yards of the castle; when, being informed by a boy that part of the garrison had gone to Tipperary for a supply of ammunition, I determined to attempt the castle, and, to my great surprize, finding no resistance on our approach to it, I entered, and found to my great sorrow that they had effected their escape, whilst I was advancing, under cover of the ditches; the castle, the strongest I ever saw, being sixteen feet thick at bottom for twenty foot high, and there strongly arched, and entered by a door ten feet from the ground; above this it rises about thirty feet, where the wall is about eight feet thick, destroying which

does not hurt in the least degree the under vaults. I have put a garrison of the 6th into it, untill by my advice to the gentlemen of the country it can be blown up, which they are determined to do. They desire me to present their most respectful gratitude to your Grace for the very great support you have been pleased to grant them, and as I find I can be of no further service here, I wait for orders to remove."

COLONEL JOHN WHYTE to COLONEL FIGOTT, Adjutant-General.

1785, November 17. Cashel.—Reporting the capture of the castle of Bellenemona, and informing him that the light troop of the 13th Dragoons had arrived at Cashel, and were to march to Tipperary the next day.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 17.—The Recorder of Dublin died this morning. Mr. Sheridan will apply to you to favour his cousin, Richard Sheridan. Many other candidates for the post also solicit your interest, which must be used in the most private manner. *Marked* "Private."

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, November 18. Dublin Castle.—"Lord Luttrell desires me to solicit your Grace for a *concordatum* warrant of 130*l.* for the use of Mr. Smythe, Lord Strangford's eldest son, who is in very great distress with a wife and five children, and for want of such a sum would be arrested and hindered of a preferment in the Church. Lord Luttrell puts his request on the ground that the young man must soon be a peer; that such a charity to a man of rank is not unworthy as a public matter of the consideration of Government; that if he misses the preferment he expects he must, when a peer, be thrown on the public for support, and that his preferment may save a future pension. If your Grace be disposed to order it, secret service is the only fund out of which it can, with propriety, be issued, for if it were *known* to be granted thousands of such applications would be poured upon you." *Marked* "Private."

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, November 18.—Concerning the Recordership.

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, November 19. Dublin Castle.—Mr. Annesley and Mr. Lees called on me this morning. They left Mr. Orde expecting a Cabinet on Friday (yesterday) or to-day, and to set out for Ireland on Monday. The letter to the Lords of the Treasury, which I submit to you, takes only the ostensible ground of application; and, therefore, I have ventured to add the substance of a private letter which you may think advisable to send to Mr. Pitt.

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, November 19. Dublin Castle.—On official business.

MEMORANDUM.

1785, November 20.—Setting forth the inconveniences of the ferry at Waterford, and suggesting that as the inhabitants of Waterford would subscribe 15,000*l.* towards building a bridge, Parliament should furnish the additional 15,000*l.* required for the purpose.

The EARL OF CLANRICARDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 20. Belmont, near Warnford, Hampshire.—Referring to wishes and *pretensions* previously communicated.

GEORGE ROSE to [THOMAS ORDE].

1785, November 20. Great George Street.—Relating to the distribution of Government patronage at Scarborough.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 21. Dublin Castle.—Concerning the various candidates for the Recordership. *Marked* "Private."

MATTHEW KEOUGH to [WILLIAM BRABAZON PONSONBY].

1785, November 21. Kilkenny.—Soliciting his intercession with the Lord Lieutenant on behalf of his nephew, John Keough, a private in the 2nd regiment of Horse, who is awaiting the sentence of a court-martial on a charge of mutiny.

W. B. PONSONBY to [CHARLES FRANCIS SHERIDAN]

1785, November 22. Bishop's Court.—Forwarding the foregoing letter of Mr. Keough, and interceding earnestly for the writer's nephew.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 22. Dublin Castle.—On official business.

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, November 22. Ashton Lodge.—On official business.

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, November 23. Dublin Castle.—Counsellor George is strongly recommended by Lord Earlsfort for the Recordership, and he is spoken of by the Attorney-General as a sensible, steady man, who has never meddled in politics. There is something awkward in the management of a business where the open interference of Government would defeat it in the Commons. The only object of Government is to have the choice fall on a man of knowledge and moderation who may lead the city to a legal line of conduct. The election is to-morrow.

CHARLES FRANCIS SHERIDAN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, November 23. War Office.—I have just received the enclosed letter from Lord Shannon, and memorial from the town of Charleville praying for the return of the two troops lately quartered there; and a letter from the high sheriff of Tipperary stating that the town and neighbourhood of Fethard are in the most alarming state of disturbance, and praying that, for the preservation of the peace, and of the lives of the inhabitants, your Grace would be pleased to order one or two troops of dragoons to be quartered in the town of Fethard with all possible expedition.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 24. Dublin Castle.—Counsellor Wilson was first returned by the aldermen to the Common Council for the office of Recorder, but rejected. Counsellor Denis George was the second, and is elected. I believe it to be a very happy choice for the honour and advantage of the city, and for the ease of your administration.

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, November 25. Dublin Castle.—On official business.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 25. London.—“ I have passed several of the last days in conversation with the King’s Ministers upon the subject of Irish affairs, and I hope to-morrow to receive their final sentiments and instructions, which, however, I have already collected upon almost every point. I shall, of course, abstain from troubling your Grace at this moment with any detail, as I hope so soon to have the honor of laying the whole before you, and of accompanying them with remarks and explanations. I venture to believe that your Grace will in general be well satisfied with the decision of Cabinet. With respect to the great question of the volunteers, they seem to think that your Grace can better judge than they of the temper and probable support, not only of Parliament, but of the respectable gentry in such a case, and seem only anxious that a very strong assurance of success should precede any attempt to do more than check their excesses. The great alarm is, lest any resistance should be made which might not be instantly crushed, as the state of foreign politics would not warrant any possible risk of the interference of France, or other foreign power, which might involve us in a new war. A militia, indeed, could never be a very desirable measure, except [as] a substitution for an irregular and lawless force. So far, Lord Shannon’s opinions seem to meet with concurrence here. The disturbances in some parts of the country, which shew the necessity of strong military force, may at the same time have the effect of opening the eyes of the Protestants to their own interests, which are deeply concerned in the establishment of perfect order, due subordination, and the power of the sword in the Crown alone. I am afraid that party motives, or even more personal considerations of the moment, will influence many to foment a mischief, in the consequences of which they may be great sufferers. But this is not a danger of such magnitude as are other probable sources of these disorders, which must probably be attributed to Catholic intrigue and foreign stimulatives.

"I really am at a loss in regard to rewards and punishments, but more particularly the latter. There is much weight in what Lord Shannon observes, and if others of your Grace's particular friends would, like him, give the same advice, there would be no difficulty in the decision. But you remember that complaint has been made by them of too much forbearance towards delinquents, by which they have been exposed singly to unpopularity and abuse. Then, again, among our friends there are just claimants, who cannot be provided for if some opening is not made. New lights, however, may appear upon explicit conversation with the parties, which must now be had forthwith.

"I intended to have written to your Grace upon many other points, but Mr. Pitt has so strongly pressed me to go with him into the country with a view to have more conversation this evening, that I cannot decline it, and I am therefore obliged to put an instant conclusion to my letter." *Marked* "Most private."

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 26. Dublin Castle. — "The sequel of Captain Gaff's villainy is said to be more shocking than what preceded it. Slattery being shot with a blunderbuss, stab'd, his skull fractured, and thrown into a ditch, to all appearance lifeless, was by some humane passenger carried to Askeaton, and the next day, for safety, to Rathkeale, about four miles distant. But the infernal gang having heard where he was, broke into the house at night, and going up to his room in the dark, struck their swords through his bed repeatedly, but finding that by some accident they missed him, one of them brought a turf coal from the hearth, and blew it near the bed to make light enough to distinguish where he lay, and another firing at him with a blunderbuss, shot him through the body and ran off. He is nevertheless alive and likely to recover, and their blowing the turf so near him, has enabled him to swear positively to them. One is said to be Capt. Gaff and the other a son of Mr. Nash, in whose house the smuggled goods were lodged. I have not yet seen the examinations, but Mr. Beresford will send copies from the Revenue Board."

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to [the] LORD [BISHOP OF KILLALA].

1785, November 26. Gowran.—"I shall be with you at dinner to-morrow, when I shall hope to find you with a good stomach, and competent to a bottle of burgundy. Kilkenny refuses me any compliments, and I receive none but from *your great* commercial towns. Your inland ones I hold in great contempt."

The EARL OF TYRONE to [JOHN] BERESFORD.

1785, November 26. Curraghmore.—Asking him to lay his pretensions to a vice-treasurership before the Duke, to whom he was for many reasons reluctant to make a personal application.

The SAME to the SAME.

1785, November 27.—On the same subject.

The EARL OF SHANNON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 27. Castlemartyr.—“I took immediate occasion to make publick your Grace’s anxious good wishes for the preservation of the publick peace, and to explain particularly to the clergy, who have been the mouthpieces of grievance, that your desire to inflict speedy punishment on the delinquents does not fall short of your exertions to discover the offenders, manifested by your extraordinary Privy Council and sudden proclamation. Nothing very essential has yet come out, further than what may affect the lives of the wretches who are in confinement ; their abettors will probably owe their safety to the caution of their villainy. I have the pleasure to inform your Grace that though every art and effort have been practised with some ingenuity to revive the volunteers, there seems to be a total stagnation to their spirit.”

GEORGE ROSE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, November 30.—Concerning Government appointments at Scarborough.

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, December 5. Hatfield House.—You know better than I can pretend to do the proper time for the meeting of Parliament. If the *great business* is not to come on, we have very little to do ; if it is, the more expeditious we are about it the better.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to W. PITT.

1785, December 6. Phœnix Park.—“Mr. Orde arrived yesterday, but as yet I have had no time to converse with him at large. Everything remains perfectly tranquil, and there can be no doubt of our competency to act on the defensive, and without a mathematical certainty of success nothing out of the common course shall be attempted. But should the torrent appear formidable, and the wild ideas of protecting duties and such like extravagant notions be threatened in earnest, would it be impolitic for some independent member to arise in the British House of Commons and suggest in such an event the policy of opening the English market to foreign linnens, withdrawing the bounties on the Irish, *et cetera*? Or suppose, without Government appearing in it, addresses to Parliament were procured from some of the great manufacturing towns—Leeds, Manchester, and others—praying the same object in case Ireland should adopt such a line of conduct? It would spread an universal alarm over the north, and would keep the whole mass of northern members and property quiet. This is merely a loose hint for your consideration. It is very delicate and in some degree dangerous. You will turn it in your mind whether such a measure should *precede* the attempt, or only be consequential of its success, which I trust is hardly possible.

“Orde has just had time to inform me that you were congenial to all my objects and wishes, for which I sincerely thank you. I never could doubt you on any point which could result from personal friendship, and I never would impose on you any request which could militate against your interest, or which, in my opinion, did not tend to promote it.” *Marked* “Most private.” *Press copy.*

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to [LORD SYDNEY].

1785, December 6. Phœnix Park.—“I returned to this place on the 27th ult., after having passed six or seven very agreeable weeks, and having seen a country to all appearance perfectly satisfied and quiet, except where the outrages of the Whiteboys have entrenched upon the public tranquility. The sudden steps taken by Government have indeed been attended with very excellent effects, eight of that description of ruffians having been seized and lodged in the gaol of Corke. But I fear the evil strikes deeper, and could its bottom be explored, the operations of men in a higher sphere of life than those who appear on the surface as the instruments of the delinquents, would be discovered. I could without much force to my mind carry my ideas to the manœuvres of foreign powers, who have frequently the means, and constantly the inclination, of fomenting discontents and abetting commotions amongst His Majesty’s subjects. French money has certainly by some means been in circulation, and perhaps French interference might have had some influence on the fate of the Propositions. The meetings which have been summoned for the purpose of taking the *sense* of the country on the final adjustment have been for the most part very thinly attended, and entirely composed of those who on all occasions have distinguished themselves as inimical to all government. No opposition has been given on our part, because the effect of these assemblies has been very inconsiderable, and because the influence and the opinions which have already been declared cannot weigh a feather with the real solid body and mass of the people, who must ultimately judge and determine upon the great question of commercial arrangement. The meeting of the freeholders of Dublin, for instance, consisted of about sixty persons out of two hundred; Mr. Conolly, very inconsistent with his station and character, president of this assembly; General Luttrell alone was present to oppose their resolutions. This is termed the *sense* of that county. The office of Recorder of this city, lately become vacant, which at certain times is important to Government, has been decently filled by an unmeddling man, who has hitherto confined himself to his professional engagements. I forgot to mention that an unpleasant affair took place at a village in the county of Limerick, and on the banks of the Shannon, between some smugglers and a small detachment from the 21st, in which the sergeant and eight men were wounded and the party obliged to retreat. The revenue officer who was conducting the troops to the place where the smuggled goods were deposited was wounded and mangled in a most shocking manner; there are subsequent circumstances of barbarity, too tedious to relate, which indicate a savageness hardly to be paralleled in history. The ruffians have escaped for the present, but I hope not entirely. It is one of the blessed effects of volunteering, that the whole country, Papist and Protestant indiscriminately, are possessed of arms, which they employ to the most criminal and illegal purposes. The minds of the better parts of the nation are awake to the danger following from this cause, and will, I trust, second the exertions of Government to defeat and remove an evil of such magnitude. I must not omit informing your Lordship that every great town through which I passed paid every respect to the station which I have the honour to hold. Kilkenny alone refused a compliment. But I understand the people there were willing to imitate the example previously given them, had not the influence of Mr. Butler interposed to prevent any mark of attention being paid to me. I therefore did not visit that town. The dearth of events renders my correspondence with your Lordship less frequent, but you may be assured I

will never neglect giving your Lordship every important information, and your time is otherwise too materially engaged for you to be troubled on each trivial occasion."

Postscript.—"His Majesty was graciously pleased to promise the portraits of himself and the Queen for the Castle of Dublin. The apartments are now fitting up. May I request you to repeat my application with my humblest duty. Mr. Orde arrived yesterday." *Marked "Private."* *Press copy.*

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to his uncle, LORD [GEORGE MANNERS SUTTON].

1785, December 6. Phoenix Park.—I hear from Mr. Orde that your portrait has been drawn by Sir Joshua Reynolds. May I request your permission to direct Sir Joshua to make a copy of it for me. I need not say with what affection I should prize it, and how valuable I should consider an exact resemblance of a man whose friendship has been the perpetual pride and happiness of my life. I have just returned from my tour in the southern part of this kingdom. It comprehends many beauties, but the poverty of the inhabitants casts a gloomy shade over the picture. Everthing is quiet except where the public tranquillity has been invaded by the Whiteboys, who from time to time make their appearance, but not in the formidable degree they did heretofore. *Draft.*

The EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, December 8. Paris.—I received your kind letter a month ago, at Geneva. Since I have been in Paris I have seen a good deal of a certain Colonel Kendall, whom I recollect to have at your table met frequently, in Ireland. From his conversation I understand that you correspond with him, and that he is also in the habit of corresponding with the Bishop of Killala and almost every man of consequence in Ireland. Now I must inform you that Mr. Hailes, our *chargé d'affaires* here, has assured me that this gentleman is notoriously a spy of the French Court. Colonel Kendall has put me to the question, ordinary and extraordinary, in order to extract some intelligence respecting the intention of Government with regard to the propositions, but I have stood the rack without uttering a sentence of information. If you write to me by the post, you will remember *Messieurs les inspecteurs des lettres*. I am sure you will not commit me with regard to Monsieur le Baron de Kendall, his title here. Let me remind you "of a younger brother of mine whom you were so kind as to take into your consideration for a commission in the army. He is here at this moment and perfectly idle. It is a matter of indifference to me what commission he gets provided he gets it soon."

GEORGE Y. KENDALL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, December 11. Paris.—Referring to various matters which had engaged his attention as the Duke's commissioner on the Continent. I hope to be soon in possession of figures in Sevres china for the Duchess, and of your Grace's gun. The Countess of Rochecouard informs me that she wishes to sell her diamond watch and chain. They are of great value, and might suit the Duchess.

LODGE MORRIS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, December 11.—“The Opposition last session were at one time very strong, and it would require great nicety and judgment to lessen them; but if that has not been done, it is necessary to infuse a great portion of good will and zeal in our friends to act and attend steddily to defeat them. I am not a man to recommend turnings out, but if zealous friends are not encouraged, and that men in office are suffered with impunity to vote against administration, there is no knowing how suddenly a great crash may come. In my experience I have always found more danger from discontent than desertion. In Lord Northington's time we had men enow on paper; but if the minority knew the difficulty there was to get them to attend, they would have beat his Excellency. It was worse with Lord Buckinhamshire. The Secretary of that day was assured by his advisers that he would have a majority, and when the division came he was in a minority of 45, tho' he assured Lord Shannon that day that he should be victorious. I never saw a more zealous attendance than there was last session. If we have a right to expect the same now, there will be nothing but the minority to fear—which I take to be eighty—but I hope your Grace will allow me to request you will look into that fact. In the examination you will find many devoted to yourself, and if there should be any dissatisfied men, you will have the heartfelt satisfaction of doing them justice and telling them your own opinion, which is certainly what they have a right to expect when their claims are just and their services are honorable.” There is “a report abroad that there is shortly to be a vice-treasurership vacant, and that it is to be given to this country. There are but six men in Ireland to whom such an office could with propriety be given: Lord Shannon, Lord Hillsborough, Mr. Ponsonby, the Duke of Leinster, Lord Loftus, and Lord Clifden, and if it should go lower it will breed the greatest discontent. Your Grace is perfect master of the Parliamentary weight and the family connexions of this country, and if three great interests were to unite in representing a matter to the Crown, exclusive of any clog their discontents might create in the country or Parliament, surely it would be an unhappy circumstance.” “This hint does not exactly belong either to this moment or to this circumstance; but if a league was in contemplation, or if already formed, no occurrence would sooner bring it into action than such an event.” I will now give you my opinion in a matter of state, “as I wish you to acquire credit as a statesman. There is a force in this country that could dictate to the King's ministers, and by taking advantage of circumstances could disgrace an administration. This was discovered to be the case in Lord Hartford's administration, and Lord Bristol was chosen to undermine it. He shrunk from the task, and Lord Townshend was appointed in his room. What was only discovered then was now proved to exist, for Lord Townshend united against him Lord Shannon, Lord Loftus, and Mr. Ponsonby, and his administration was beat and disgraced, and it would have been recalled but that Lord Loftus was got over. Those very interests are conscious that they were beat by division and know that they could effect great matters by a union, and they are highly well-disposed to each other. They would not act together upon slight occasions, but I know certain points upon which they would sacrifice every consideration to unite.

“The only way to prevent this having a fatal effect is for Government to keep up a communication with those who have boroughs to sell; to do them little favours; advance them money occasionally to find purchasers on vacancies; and, at all events, to secure a considerable

number; and about this time is the only fit period within the octennial Parliament for securing such an interest without noise or disturbance.

“I beg of your Grace to consider this intelligence as a matter of a most private and secret nature. No human being ever was acquainted with any information I ever gave you, nor ever shall, save only Mr. Thoroton, who read some part of the first Parliamentary History I sent to you, and copies of some letters which he had to shew you.”

THE EARL OF MANSFIELD to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1785, December 11. Lincoln's Inn Fields.—“I go down hill with a gentle decay, and, I thank God, without gout or stone. The load of business grows too great; since the last term I have 107 causes in Middlesex and 118 in London, and they must all be dispatched before Christmas day. The picture Sir Joshua has done of me is generally thought to be finely done. Sir Joshua himself thinks it one of the best he ever did. He took a great deal of pains, and had been trying a great many years to get me to sit for him. You gratify my pride beyond measure in doing it the honour to place a copy of it among your friends. I shall direct Sir Joshua not to let it go till he receives and has executed your order. It is going to Bartolozzi to be engraved. If you had not too much ceremony I should think your tour must have been agreeable; I am sure it was wise. I beg my best and most respectful compliments to the Duchess. Elizabeth desires me to make many acknowledgments to your Grace. She is just going to be married, by her own choice and to the satisfaction of her family. I give her 10,000*l.* and her father 7,000*l.*, and you would hardly believe that by the advantageous sale of Hatton Garden, by luck and very good management in other respects, he has discharged the incumbrances, and has a very ample clear estate of between 6,000*l.* and 7,000*l.* a year. I mention it because he is your relation, and you interest yourself about him.”

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, December 14. London.—“Mr. De Gree, the bearer of this, was very desirous of the honour of being introduced to your Grace; I therefore delayed my letter in order to give him this opportunity. Besides being a very ingenious artist in a variety of ways, he is a very excellent connoisseur, and was the means of my procuring some very excellent pictures at Antwerp. He was the agent about the pictures of Rubens and Vandyck, consequently he will be able to give your Grace all his information about them.

“I am very glad the picture of the children meets with your Grace's approbation; I am sorry to say the companion is not yet finished, but I will endeavour to exert myself and set furiously about it.

“The portrait of Morilio which I have seen is very finely painted, and there is not the least doubt about its being an original of his hand; it will be a very considerable acquisition to your Grace's collection. The Poussins, I suppose, I am not to expect for some time; when they arrive I shall certainly take all possible care of them.”

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to W. PITT.

1785, December 18. Phoenix Park.—[*Correspondence*, p. 132.]
Press copy.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD [SYDNEY].

1785, December 18. Phoenix Park.—“ Few people are as yet arrived in Dublin, but those whom I have seen are perfectly sanguine of our strength in Parliament, and have made the most unequivocal declarations of a steady and determined support. It will be our province to act on the defensive, as I suppose the disappointed ambition of a frustrated faction will be notable in devising measures by which, if possible, they may perplex and distress the King’s Government.” “ An idea has often occurred to me, which I should think might be attended with very beneficial effects to His Majesty’s army. I have frequently suggested it to the Commander-in-Chief and other intelligent officers, and the scheme appears very practicable, without endangering the strength of the necessary defences of this kingdom. I have thought that in the beginning of the summer, when the troops are appointed to move to their different quarters, a body of six or seven thousand men—infantry, cavalry, and artillery included—might be collected to act together on some general systematick plan. It may be ridiculous to mention it, but, to compare great things with small, something similar to the reviews on the Continent, a general system of discipline being first adopted, and the troops trained to that system. A week might be allotted in each year to the exercise of such a project without any risk, regard being previously had to the tranquil state of the kingdom. The expense, likewise, would be very moderate. No other part of His Majesty’s dominions is competent to the adoption of such a scheme, and there is a very central and well-situated place—the Curragh of Kildare—conveniently calculated for military operations. I have, as I before observed, mentioned it in a passing way to different officers. But I would not seriously think of it as a measure without previously obtaining His Majesty’s approbation. If the King should not disapprove it, such a plan might be prepared and have effect by the summer after next. While I am on a military subject, I cannot omit expressing my satisfaction of the merits of Colonel Vallancy, who is at present with His Majesty, respecting his survey of Ireland. No encomiums of mine can add to his panegyrick for his laborious zeal and sedulous attention; but it would be injustice in me to be silent in his applause.” *Marked* “ Private.” *Press copy.*

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, December 18. Kelham.—I am here with Sutton, who has feasted the Newark aldermen, and treated them with coursing and shooting, so that I suppose, were an election to come on shortly, he, without the assistance of any of his brothers, would be a match in that borough for the Duke of Newcastle himself. I flatter myself that you will acquaint me before Parliament meets with what I have to expect from Mr. Pitt.

C. J. GREVILLE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, December 24. King’s Mews.—You communicated to me the prospect of success of a measure in which my opinion did not coincide with yours. I have the misfortune of differing from most people. “ I consider the former equalization in the article of iron as a specimen of the consequence of future regulations; and that endless complaints and dissatisfaction would arise between two countries which must sooner or

later be one kingdom, as much united as Great Britain; and as the temper of the times does not admit of that union, I wish things to remain as they are till both countries can see the necessity of an Union."

"I know so much the ardor and liberality with which you pursue all your objects that I believe the purse is not more weighty than it used to be, and that your extravagance takes a more royal range than virtue requires. The reason, however, I write at this time is to inform you that I saw this day a picture which Mr. Hamilton, of Rome, purchased at Milan in his return to England. It is a public picture, painted by Leonardo da Vinci for the church of St. Francis at Milan, and removed from thence, when that convent was suppressed, to the Foundling Hospital, which was allowed to sell it to make up a deficiency in the fund of that charity. It is painted on a board about 6 feet 8 inches by 3 feet 6 inches, contains a Virgin and Child, and a St. John and an angel. The figures are all beautiful, and it is the finest picture I have seen of the master out of Italy, and contains remarkably the expression and sentiment for which that master is celebrated. The picture has never been in a cleaner's hand, and Mr. Hamilton alone has cleaned and repaired it. When you consider the antiquity of the painting, I think its preservation remarkable, and no material part of the picture had suffered. It is in good harmony, and he will not part with it under 800 guineas. It was sold for 1,000 sequins, in its uncleaned state, and, as the chance has been in favor of the purchaser, I do not think he overpays himself; but certainly it is a picture which might be put at the head of any collection, and in case you had been in cash, I name it to you. I also know that a very great stroke might now be made, but it is beyond one collector's purse; but 7,000*l.* or 8,000*l.* might bring to this country a collection which now is the first ornament of a capital in Italy. I cannot say more of it as I am in the secret, but I know one person has offered 2,000*l.* for one picture in that collection if purchased. As I have known your intention to purchase, from the liberal offers you made for pictures at Rome, which I know would disappoint you, I could not let the opportunity pass without giving you notice of this collection, which I know will please; and I have desired that no positive engagement should be made, or promise of refusals made, till I hear from you. I therefore beg you will tell me whether virtue is at present admissible with politicks."

ROBERT HOBART to the DUKE OF [RUTLAND].

[1785,] December 24. St. James's Square.—"I am happy your Grace received no hurt in the battle of Aglars; it could not possibly happen anywhere, except in Ireland, that a number of people should assemble to do honor to a great personage and so entirely mistake their object as to insult him. However, as you escaped unhurt, it is a matter of no consequence. I am exceedingly well pleased to find by your Grace's letter that you expect a quiet and short session, because I conceive it implies that the commercial adjustment will not be revived. I am convinced it cannot be long before the Irish call for it. But an attempt to cram it down their throats would only involve you in fresh difficulties. I wish your Grace joy of Mr. Eden's conversion. He is a great acquisition, and the fittest man in England for the appointment he has accepted; his example will, I make no doubt, be followed by as many of the Opposition as Mr. Pitt chooses to purchase; at all events, it is a pretty good specimen to the world of what a set of rascals the

Opposition is composed. I had the honour of seeing Mr. Pitt this morning, not to ask for anything, but to declare my unalterable attachment to you and him.

“Notwithstanding the *advantages* of my new connection with the Norths, I dined at Bushy the other day. However extraordinary it may appear, they seem to have totally changed their opinion of Eden.” I have heard from Lord Mornington, who is at Paris, and returns to the meeting of Parliament. “The lie of the day is that the Prince of Wales is to marry Mrs. Fitzherbert, but, I believe, totally without foundation.” I send you Mr. Cumberland’s pamphlet, designed, I suppose, to rescue Lord Sackville’s character from oblivion. It appears to me calculated to provoke a discussion, which the friends of the late lord will repent of.

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, December 28. Duncroft, near Staines.—I am obliged to you for thinking about my application relative to Ancrum; but only yesterday I received a message from the King offering him a lieutenancy of foot, which I was obliged to purchase. I am removed from Waverley to a small house here. I have just received a melancholy letter from Lord Cornwallis. I cannot conceive anything more distressing to so good a man than an elopement of the kind, as she is a mere child; nor do I think they have taken proper steps since to bring about a reconciliation.

ROBERT HOBART to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, December 28. London.—I have delivered your despatches to Lord Sydney. I was in the House of Commons on Wednesday, when Sheridan attacked Pitt on the commercial system. The speech is accurately reported in the *Morning Chronicle*. It did not provoke a reply from Pitt, nor had it much effect on the House. Mornington is prepared to speak the first time the Irish business is fairly before the House, which will doubtless be soon. “Pitt’s reply to Fox on Wednesday respecting continental affairs was wonderfully able, and showed a superiority I could scarcely have believed. Eden’s entry into the House on Tuesday was, I am told, one of the most tragi-comical performances that ever was exhibited, and too evidently proved that no zeal for the *public service*, however judiciously exerted, can in any degree compensate for the loss of private friends and old connections. Ireland, continental affairs, and the East Indies are the great objects of attack for this session; but, from what I hear, Opposition are at a low ebb indeed, which, by the by, I am sorry for, as I am going to dine with Lord North and fear the meal will be but scanty. Everybody here is surprized at the tranquillity of Ireland, but that surprize chiefly arises from their little knowledge of the Irish nation. Whenever they got more than they asked they become proportionately dissatisfied; now they have got no one thing of what they did ask, it is natural they shou’d be perfectly content. The town still talk of the Prince of Wales’ marriage; he has taken a box for Mrs. Fitzherbert at the opera, and constantly passes the greater part of the night with her. I do not hear of Prince Carnaby’s being yet arrived in town. Watt Smith appears already much elated with the honor that is intended, or rather the dishonor which has already attended his family. His Royal Highnesses’ new establishment is not yet named, but no doubt the Marchioness of Buckingham will be

first Lady of the Bedchamber and her aunt, Peg Nugent, necessary woman. If pride, arrogance, and self-sufficiency be qualities for a Popish Minister, the noble Marquis himself, by embracing that religion which he appear'd to encourage in his wife, may be at the head of the Papistical Court." "Colonel Manners tells me that your Grace's hounds have had great sport."

CAPTAIN A. P. MOLLOY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, December 30. Plymouth.—Returning thanks for exertions with Mr. Pitt on his behalf; and requesting his Grace to ask Mr. Dundas to confer on him the vacant office of Paymaster of the Navy.

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SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, January 4. London.—"I have begun the copy of Lord Mansfield for your Grace. He called on me and spoke himself about it. It is thought one of my best portraits, but he should have sat eight or ten years before; his countenance is much changed since he has lost his teeth. I have made him exactly what he is now, as if I was upon my oath to give the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. I think it necessary to treat great men with this reverence, though I really think his Lordship would not have been displeas'd if this strict adherence to truth had been dispensed with, and drawn a few years younger. However, being told by everybody what a good picture, and how like it is, he is perfectly pleas'd with it, and has order'd a print by Bartolozzi to be made after it.

"The next picture I take in hand shall be Lord Grauby with the Hussar, but I fear it will not be finished till the spring, as I am at present overpowered with business. However, I shall always take care not to neglect your Grace's commands."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, January 5. Fludyer Street.—Complaining of Mr. Pitt's neglect of applications made by the Duke in the writer's favour. "I fancy the coalition is too much scatter'd and out of spirits to make much head against us at the opening of Parliament, though the Emperor's edict, which I knew was intended when I was in Flanders, and which I believe was intended years ago, is now to be quoted, I suppose, as one of Mr. Pitt's crimes when Parliament meets, and as a novelty only ten days old."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, January 7. Whitehall.—The King's confidential servants have instructed me to acquaint you that "they do not find themselves sufficiently authorised by any information which they have yet received from Ireland to take upon them to advise the re-introduction of the Bill for the settlement of the commercial intercourse at present, much less the

proposal of any modification of that Bill in order to facilitate its passing. They see as yet no clear evidence of the deliberate opinion of the Irish nation upon the Bill, nor are they aware that any alterations or modifications could be adopted which might make it more acceptable in Ireland without rendering it objectionable in England, and departing from the principles on which it is founded. Therefore, the last of all measures to be adopted at present seems the proposal of modification.

"The King's servants find it difficult to judge here of the probable efficacy of any steps that might be taken in Ireland to lead the nation to consider coolly and think favorably of the commercial arrangement. At the same time it seems to them to be desirable that every method that could be used, without an appearance of anxious interposition on the part of Government, should be used to undeceive those who are led into error by incendiary speeches and publications.

"They think that every exertion ought to be used to defeat any of the partial questions affecting the commerce of this country or her colonies," and that every innovation, not making part of a general system of free trade between Great Britain and Ireland, ought to be strenuously resisted.

"The questions of the Militia and Volunteers appear to His Majesty's ministers to be in some measure connected together. If the Volunteers cannot be got rid of but by the introduction of a Militia, perhaps it may be a wise measure to give the latter corps the preference. At the same time it is evident to them that even that scheme is attended with several very serious objections. Suppose a Militia established without difficulty," an argument will soon be drawn from it to diminish the army, which, considering the situation of Ireland, would be by no means a desirable measure. But it is plain that there lie difficulties in the way of establishing a Militia, besides the jealousy of the Volunteers. The Militia, it is taken for granted, must be a Protestant one. The Roman Catholics cannot but be offended at being deprived of their arms, which will be put into the hands of Protestants. And though it is not advisable to allow the Catholics power, it is extremely inadvisable to give them offence and mortification.

"The step of a direct suppression of the Volunteers seems to His Majesty's ministers a very serious and hazardous one. The means of doing it, they think, ought to be fully stated and the probability of their success. The likelihood of their decline from their expence to individuals, and the fatigue of the attendance on them, and the loss of time as well as money by absence from business, are to be considered.

"His Majesty's ministers understand that a Police Bill is much wanted in the capital of Ireland, not much more than in that of Great Britain, and they hope that, as the capital is so much smaller, that the plan will in that proportion be more easy to accomplish."

"The plans of education, they think, may be desirable, but *that* with regard to the Roman Catholics the most so, if practicable. It must be an advantage to prevent the Irish Roman Catholic clergy having a foreign education." *Signed. Marked* "Most secret and confidential."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, January 7. Whitehall.—My official letter upon Irish subjects of importance, which have been under consideration since the prorogation of Parliament, goes with the messenger who will bring this. I hope that the opinion of the Cabinet will coincide with your own views, and those of your leading supporters; though I find from conversation

with Lord Hillsborough, as well as from what has passed between Mr. Pitt and the Archbishop of Cashell, that there is a desire of pushing the commercial propositions in Ireland at all events. I infer from your letter of the 18th December that your own opinion agrees with ours.

We are glad to find by your letters "that the country is quiet in Ireland, and that your Parliamentary friends are confident and resolute." There can be no doubt that the "Propositions, coolly considered by the Irish nation, present to them a prospect of much more certain and permanent advantages than are to be expected from the wild and undigested schemes held out to them by those who are the almost avowed enemies of all government whatsoever."

If any plan is judged necessary towards carrying the purport of the Resolutions into execution, it should be communicated to us as early as possible. Colonel Vallancey's demands of 1,000*l.* in lieu of probable profit from the publication of his map, and 200*l.* for every copy he may supply for Government use, are under consideration.

His Majesty entirely approves your scheme for reviews and manœuvres. He takes it for granted that the expense will be defrayed by Ireland. *Marked* "Secret and separate." *In the margin are pencil notes in Mr. Orde's handwriting.*

SIR THOMAS GASCOIGNE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, January 8. Parlington.—Asking the Duke to stand godfather to his son.

The EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, January 9. Stratford Place.—The danger to be apprehended from French spies in Ireland is not the discovery of our secrets, but that an artful man, having access to all the great people in Ireland, might become a dangerous instrument to foment disunion, and even to circulate French money. I thought it my duty to write to you on the subject, as I know that Monsieur le Baron means to revisit Ireland on the first favourable opportunity.

I infer from your letter that the session of Parliament in Ireland will be short and quiet; I shall therefore remain here for the winter, unless any occasion should arise on which you might think my presence in Ireland useful. You will understand that in such a case I am perfectly at your orders. Your letter seems to hint some intention of originating a question relative to the volunteers. I confess freely I think it imprudent to promote any such question on the part of Government; but if you and your advisers resolve to take strong measures, I am ready to attend and support you. My brother is also ready to obey your summons on any necessary occasion; and my friends who are in Ireland will, I am sure, give assiduous attendance. "I am extremely obliged to your Grace for your kind attention to my younger brother."

GEORGE Y. KENDALL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, January 10. Paris.—I have made enquiries concerning your intended purchases at the Bailli de Breteuil's sale. I had seen the pictures several times, but I applied to our two best painters and connoisseurs, Le Brun and Robert, whom I met by appointment at the late Bailli's house. "They assured me the portrait of Pope Innocent X. was drawn by Velasques, and a capital production; Robert [said] that when

he was at Rome, he had purchased for the Bailli there the small picture by Vander Meulen, representing a charge of cavalry, which is a real original by that master. The miniatures by Petitot are remarkably fine, particularly that of a woman, supposed to be Gabriel [le] D'E[s]trées; the man, Louis the 14th. The first of these the Bailli bought at the Duchess of Mazarin's sale for upwards of 1,300 French livres. Le Brun is charged with the conduct of the sale; he can have no particular interest in it, as the produce is for the benefit of the Order of Malta; he has promised to watch the four articles for me and to do his best. I flatter myself they will all come within your Grace's limits; if so, they shall be bought. I intend watching the object myself in person; the next week will decide the matter." Your gun will be finished this week. "The Duke of Dorset has preserved but a small relick of his accident, just in the corner of his mouth. It is something very extraordinary that the reciprocal ambassadors from England and France should have both met with the same fate, a stroke of the palsy." I cannot say if the Duke will remain here long in his present capacity. I am told he takes umbrage at Mr. Eden's high appointment.

The EARL OF HARRINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, January 10. London.—Owing to the importunity of the Duchess of Devonshire, and finding myself unequal to deny so fine a woman anything, I take the liberty of forwarding a request on behalf of Major Moore. The only circumstance that relieves the distress I feel at the impropriety of my interference in this matter is, that it gives me the opportunity of assuring you of my recollection of your kindness to me when in Ireland.

You have no doubt heard of Lord Macartney's arrival from India. He heard at Calcutta of his appointment to the supreme Government, but still persisted in his resolution of leaving that country. I am glad to find that the peaceful behaviour of Ireland, which you have brought to pass, continues unshaken by the opposition which their Bill met with last year, on this side of the water.

* WILLIAM PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, January 14. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence*, p. 136.]

W. W[ELLESLEY] POLE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, January 16. London.—Excusing himself from attending at the opening of Parliament in Ireland, but promising that he will if possible attend, if anything of particular moment is agitated, in the course of the session.

The EARL OF BELLAMONT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, January 17. Ranelagh.—Requesting an audience, in order that he may remove misconception in regard to a subject of "transcendent delicacy," which had been discussed between Mr. Orde and himself.

The DUKE OF BEAUFORT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, January 18. Badminton.—Concerning the purchase of a lieutenantancy in the 13th regiment of dragoons for his son Charles.

GEORGE Y. KENDALL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, January 20. Paris.—According to your order, “I have purchased for you the portrait of Pope Innocent X., by Diego Velasques; it was certainly done by that master, and reckoned a most beautiful picture. I attended the sale closely, and saw the instant the picture was knocked down to us at 500 livres, but a troublesome, headstrong fellow came in on that instant and pushed it something beyond a thousand livres. I equally bought the small Vander Meulen’s representation of a charge of cavalry at something about two hundred and sixty livres.” Concerning the prosecution of M. le Maitre for publishing a libel on the Controller-General of Finances, and his appeal to the Parliament against the proceedings of the Chatelet. I have got the gun, the best that could be made in Paris, and only wait for an opportunity of sending it to you.

The SAME to the SAME.

1786, January 22. Paris.—I was mistaken in the prices of the pictures; the crowd and squabbles were so great that my ears were deceived in the biddings, luckily on the right side, as you may see by Le Brun’s note. Last night I purchased the two snuff-boxes with the miniatures by Petitot on them at the prices in the enclosed note. I thought them dear, but was assured by the connoisseurs that they were very cheap—the one for 470*l.* remarkably so. At least, the purchases are much within your limits. The Velasquez is amazingly fine, and deadened all the other pictures at the Bailli de Breteuil’s, even those by Rubens. There is another picture of the same Pope, by the same author, at the Pamfili Palace at Rome, that would not be disposed of, as I am told, for an immense sum. The one at Rome is a full-length, sitting in a chair, but not better executed than this. Your gun, which cost five hundred and six livres, may appear dear, but it is remarkably well finished and a safe one, with a second double barrel to be changed at will. We have a number of “Polanders” at Paris, with several Russians. Gaming seems to be the general attraction. At Court the play is very deep.

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, January 23. Staines.—I most thoroughly approve of the education you mean to give your sons. There is only one part I think Granby should not be much flattered upon. I mean fencing, as I am convinced that great part of the “flippantcy of the Irish is owing to an early knowledge of that science.”

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786,] January 23. Fludyer Street.—“The Cockpit was very fully attended by those whom a minister is most solicitous to secure. At the same time the Speech appeared to some there—and I own myself one—too vulnerable in places which it was quite needless to expose, particularly in stating so fully the tranquillity existing at this time abroad, so notoriously contrary to the truth, and a declaration rendered completely ridiculous by Lord North’s having used the same expressions when France and Spain had determined on a war against us. I suppose we shall hear the Foxites—forty or fifty at most—very quarrelsome

with the expression which calls the Irish arrangement a salutary measure, and which the Speech says we can now make no further progress in. I am far from thinking Mr. Pitt was fully aware of the consequences, but I am every day more and more confirmed in my belief that the framer of the 4th Resolution meant, for the present at least, to put off the arrangement."

I hear the Opposition mean to bring in Sir G. Cooper for Richmond, "to make up for the loss of official knowledge in Eden; though I suppose, if it was worth while, Mr. Pitt might buy Sir Grey Cooper too, for an exciseman's place, before he had been elected a fortnight."

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786,] January 25. Fludyer Street.—In the House of Lords, "Lord Hillsboro' spoke in a very open manner respecting the present state of both countries and the necessity of renewing, some way or other, a more close connection than can exist at present between them. Amongst other expressions he said that the first step France would take in a future war would be in Ireland."

"Poor Eden, who took his seat on the Treasury Bench, was very warmly attacked by Lord Surrey and Fox; and I suppose they will not give him much respite whenever any of them can fall upon him, which I have some reason to believe is intended to terrify Lord Beauchamp from following him, which I hear he would do for the place of beef-eater if he could get it."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, January 25. Albemarle Street.—As the debate in the House of Lords yesterday touched upon Ireland, I must give you some details of it. "Lord Fitzwilliam, with more fluency than he used to have, made a general invective upon Mr. Pitt, and every measure which he had brought forward; he concluded—after triumphing in the defeat of the commercial arrangement with Ireland—with saying that 'Ireland had reprobated it, and the speech and address abandoned it.' In answer, I denied both these assertions. This was, in the course of the rest of the debate, endeavoured to be represented in many different ways; but at last, as those in Opposition chose in general to agree that what I had said related to the speech and address—which it certainly did—I thought it most adviseable to give no further explanation, the Chancellor having gone as far as was necessary upon that head. Foreign politics, East Indies, &c. made up the principal part of a very desultory and dull debate." I should mention that Lord Hillsborough spoke strongly in favour of the propositions, declaring that they had every benefit of a union without the objections: he seemed to regret that there was no appearance of immediately resuming them.

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, January 27. Hanover Square.—Applying for a renewed grant, for three lives, of the offices of Registrar and Clerk of the Reports in Chancery.

HENRY DUNDAS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786,] January 27.—You must take this not as a ministerial letter, but as a private request. "I wish Colonel Knight, of the 45th, to go to

Scotland to vote for Mr. Ferguson, of Pitfour, to be member for Aberdeenshire. He is supported by my friend the Duke of Gordon." "Our parliamentary campaign is begun. The Sinking Fund Bill, which is the great measure of the session, will soon be brought forward. I think they will try to make some questions about India; but I feel my ground very strong, and will, I think, very soon make them sick of that topik. So that, upon the whole, I trust we shall have a short and triumphant session of Parliament." *Marked* "Private."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, January 28. Whitehall.—Asking him, from the King, to arrange, if possible, that the troops for the Isle of Man should be supplied from the Irish establishment. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786,] January 28. Fludyer Street.—I suspect the Opposition mean to keep Ireland for some time out of sight, and to entangle Pitt as much as they can by drawing from him explanations respecting Hanover's accession to the German Confederacy. I am convinced the Emperor will never lose sight of his exchange [of the Austrian Netherlands] for Bavaria, "and that the Elector of Hanover's acceding to the league was the principal obstacle to the pursuing his plans last year." Under this condition of affairs it appeared to me too unreserved for Pitt to declare openly that the King of England's ministers had no interest in the transactions of the Elector, which, though strictly true, is too broad a distinction for a minister to draw, and by constructions upon it may have bad effects. The Emperor may infer from it perhaps that the ministry of England will not second the German confederates. The King may be personally offended with Mr. Pitt, and think himself exposed and deserted by him. The advocates for the supremacy of the responsibility of the ministers here for the whole Empire may be offended by Pitt's disowning any responsibility on a subject which, after all, would be sure to draw us in as principals; and I should not be surprized if some distinction should be taken by the Opposition between the King of England and of Ireland. I was surprized to hear Pitt hold such language, but he runs no risk at present within our walls, where they are always steady and united on two points, which are, to keep Pitt in and the Coalition out. I enclose a note from the East India Baring, to whom I sent some intelligence for his pamphlet, which I got in Flanders last summer. This pamphlet, written under the eye of Government, is shamefully defective, as I believe Government to be in foreign information. I congratulate you on the flattering language of the Irish Houses, which seems to promise you a quiet reign this session.

Enclosed is a note from Mr. Baring, dated Mincing Lane, 25 January, 1786, thanking Mr. Pulteney for information relating to smuggling.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD [SYDNEY].

1786, January 29. Dublin Castle.—The disposition to quiet which appeared at the meeting of Parliament still continues, and I have no doubt the session will pass smoothly. Many members in Opposition

have remained in the country on the speculation of tranquillity; and I hear that Mr. Flood is going to England to advance his objects in the British Parliament.

Adverting to your despatch of the 7th instant, it affords me much satisfaction to find that the sentiments of the Cabinet on all the important points of discussion entirely coincide with my own. Respecting the commercial adjustment, the reiteration of that at present seems to me inconsistent with true wisdom and sound policy. The main object of any settlement—the pacification of the country—would be thereby defeated, as time would not have been allowed for passion to cool and prejudice to subside. Lord Hillsborough's uniform principle is *perseverance* in anything once adopted, in spite of the changes which time and events may have produced. But the opinion of the Archbishop of Cashel appears to me to be different. Did you understand them to speak generally, or of their own inclination, to persist in regard to the suppression of the volunteers? I agree with you that it might now be unwise to agitate that question. I am persuaded of the wisdom of leaving this evil *for the present* to remedy itself, as I am informed by Sir Hercules Langrishe, who on revenue business had traversed a district of 300 miles in the north of Ireland, the seat of the volunteer dominion, that in the whole course of his travels he had seen none of them. Unfortunately, however, their arms are still in the hands of the rabble of the country. The Whiteboys continue to assemble in Munster, and from the county of Roscommon I hear that one Roderick O'Connor, known as the King of Connaught, has assembled *banditti* of four or five hundred armed men. I have had, as yet, no information of this on oath, and probably the report is exaggerated. I am glad the King approves of my plan of establishing reviews on a larger scale than has heretofore been practised. No part of the expense can possibly fall on England. The subjugation of Ireland would indeed be suspected if the troops on her establishment were to be brought out in review, as a new measure, at the expense of Great Britain. I am sorry there are difficulties about the rotation of the cavalry, but I hope they are not insuperable. I am so strongly impressed with the advantage of such a measure, that I hope particular and local objections will not prevail against it.

“Well digested plans of education are undoubtedly objects of the deepest consequence, and highly necessary towards the civilization of Ireland. That which adopts an extension to the Roman Catholics, being the most liberal, is without question, if practicable, the most desirable. However, that part of the scheme is of extreme delicacy, and requires the maturest consideration.” *Press copy, marked* “Secret and confidential.”

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO W. PITT.

1786, January 29. Dublin Castle.—“Our session has commenced with the most perfect good humour, which I trust will continue. The leaders of Opposition seem inclined to rest on their arms, and to wait for what time or accident may produce to give their malignity a subject to fasten upon. The great effort of the session will probably be directed to the limitation of the pension lists. But in this country it would be of very dangerous policy to yield on such a question, at least to any extent. Yet it has occurred to me that there might be a possible modification so as to give *éclat* to Government, and with little risk to its power and influence,—fixing perhaps a limit to the gross sum, without laying any restriction to the course and nature of its distribution. This is a loose idea of my own flung out for your consideration. Perhaps

it might not take here. But you will let me know what occurs to you upon it. The King's speech—which Orde has received from a private friend, and which came to me by the last packet from Lord Sydney's Office—is in my opinion rather awkwardly worded as far as it relates to Ireland, and will probably cause a good deal of conversation. We have always studiously avoided mentioning the twenty propositions; our language has been to treat them as waste paper, and to maintain the Bill alone to be only matter upon which Ireland could proceed. Now from the throne the King declares the twenty Resolutions of the British Parliament to be the basis on which the whole was to be grounded. You see how contradictory these languages are, and what an instrument of mischief is afforded for faction to work with. I hope, likewise, the present state of Europe will justify your declaration respecting its tranquillity." *Press copy, marked "Private."*

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, January 31.—Forwarding and adopting a letter from Captain Molesworth. *Seal.*

C. J. GREVILLE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, February 1. King's Mews.—Mr. Hamilton has sold his fine picture to Lord Lansdowne, and is going to Italy. I almost regret having mentioned to you the opportunities he will have of getting some capital pictures at high prices. I always wished you to be prudent, but when I have seen you determined to be otherwise, have preferred that your liberality should be directed to such things as would put you in possession of the first works of art; furniture, pictures, and such minor objects being within the reach of every one, and therefore not worth your attention.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786,] February 3. Fludyer Street.—The Opposition cannot yet muster forty, and are hardly likely to venture on a division during the whole session, unless a division can be made amongst us. A question was put to Pitt yesterday respecting the Crown lands by Rolle, to which he did not give an explicit answer, and on meeting Rolle and Bastard soon after, I asked them why they would embarrass the ministry when Fox and Company had given the House such a promise of a quiet session. Their answer was that if Pitt would not perform his promise, they would take up the affair and try to force him to it. "I went yesterday to Pitt's levée, where, in that sort of hasty conversation, I mentioned leaving a letter in Downing Street the last week, to which he answered Yes, or some such thing; and after receiving the levée civilities from him and Mr. Steele, I fear that is all I shall hear from them these twelve months."

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD [SYDNEY].

1786, February 3. Dublin Castle.—"I have permitted General O'Hara (who will deliver this to you) to return to England before the arrival of your answer to my application for that purpose. His situation induced me to grant him that permission. He goes to state his

misfortunes to His Majesty. I cannot forbear mentioning to you how much I feel for his difficulties, and how much I interest myself in their alleviation. His autient conuexion with my father, his gallantry, and his services, induce me to trouble you with this letter in his favour. He is not in the smallest degree apprized of its contents." *Draft, marked "Private."*

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, February 4.—His Majesty has expressed great satisfaction at your Grace's assurances of the almost universal disposition to quiet in Ireland. "The mention which you make of the disturbance occasioned by Roderic O'Connor seems to be the only exception to the general rule. We do not doubt but that your Grace has taken measures to ascertain the extent of this mischief, to prevent its progress, and indeed suppress its existence. I received last night an intimation that a person styling himself Count O'Gorman, and who is supposed to have married a sister of Mlle. D'Eon, is now in Ireland collecting accounts of Irish estates of which the Roman Catholic owners were dispossessed in the time of Cromwell, and at the Revolution. I was likewise told that he was to be in London in a few days. I should be much obliged to your Grace for any intelligence which can be procured concerning this gentleman, and you may depend upon my having him properly watched.

"Your Grace has omitted to mention Colonel Vallancy's business in your last letter. He tells me that he left copies of his papers with Mr. Orde, and he is extremely impatient for a decision, that he may receive his money and return to his occupation. To be sure yours is a singular country for jobs, where the office of Chief Engineer has been for a long succession of years a lucrative patent sinecure, and a subject of purchase. You might as well, as our friend the Chancellor said upon another occasion, grant a Greek professorship in fee." *Marked "Secret and separate."*

R. P. ARDEN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, February 5—Introducing the bearer, the Earl of Cavan, and recommending Dr. Allott for preferment in the Irish Church.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to ———.

1786, February 8. Dublin Castle.—Concerning official appointments. *Draft.*

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, February 9. Fludyer Street.—Mr. Rolle shewed me a letter from Mr. Pitt, promising to bring on the business of the waste lands, so our danger on that side is over; "and as your Grace has got rid of Mr. Flood, it is hoped here the Irish Government is as much at ease as this is." "I was told a day or two ago by Johnstone of the House of Commons, who is a relation of the Governor, that they were sure of Lord Mansfield and Lord Loughborough, who are trying Sutton's cause, and that they shall set aside the verdict. How far two Scotchmen may protect another in the exercise of arbitrary power I cannot pretend to guess, but if they venture to decide against four Barons of the Exchequer and two juries, it

will be a very strong case indeed, and if the cause belonged to a Wilkes or a Horne they would have made such an outcry as would have induced one at least of the two to think twice on his judgement."

[THE DUKE OF RUTLAND] to the EARL [OF HILLSBOROUGH].

[1786, February.]—Regretting that he was unable to comply with the request contained in his letter of the 27th January. *Draft, by Mr. Orde.*

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1786,] February 14. Fludyer Street.—“I was yesterday in a division of 100 only against 54, on a sort of previous question respecting the ordnance system which we put off last session, and against which we shall have a stronger opposition next Monday, I believe, than on any other question this year. I rather believe Lord Shelburne is against it, as Jervis divided against us yesterday.” If you were in England perhaps you might doubt a little “on this new extravagant idea of defending the kingdom by immense expensive works, which would swallow up so much money to support them, would increase so much the influence of Government for ever, and, above all, would require an increased standing army to garrison them.” If I were in a situation to venture on serving Pitt by voting against him, this is a question on which I should certainly do it, but in your absence I shall not venture on such distinctions. I know that some of our best friends may on Monday be in opposition. “Lord Mahon yesterday made a flaming speech against the Chancellor for throwing out an Election Bill of his last year, and as all his language was a mere echo to the doctrines of the Opposition, he was heard by them with greater shouts than they give their own people. He called the Chancellor an enemy to the House of Commons and to the people, and *Divide et Impera* he insinuated was the weak and only maxim with *some folks*. Whether this was a mere flourish of personal resentment, or whether he alludes to other divisions, I shall not pretend to guess; but he was heard with great attention by both sides, though a very disorderly speech.”

LODGE MORRIS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786,] February 18.—Acknowledging with gratitude the receipt of a kind message from the Duke, during severe illness.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, February 18. Fludyer Street.—Nothing passed yesterday which could in the least affect the Ministry. “Burke, whose plan of accusing Hastings was as wild as was expected from him, has, in my opinion, from his opening got into a scrape, and was trying to get out of the enquiry under pretence that papers were refused him. He has, however, been refused nothing, and has already required more dispatches than the India clerks can copy in a month, and means to renew his motions on Monday, to which day the debate is adjourned; and the ordnance business—on which there will, I fear, be a strong minority—is put off till Wednesday. If you ever read our debates, you will find a great deal of abuse passing between Burke, Dundas, and Fox, but I think, from what appeared of Hastings’ cause, it does not seem so bad as people expected, and, if the trial goes on, I foresee his easy acquittal.”

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, February 20. London.—“I shall take care to obey your Grace’s orders about the Velasques and Van der Meulen when they arrive. Lord Mansfield’s picture is finished, I mean your Grace’s copy. I am now about Lord Granby with the horse and Swiss servant, which I think will be finished in a week’s time, and if the rheumatism will give me leave, for I am very stiff and awkward at present, I hope in about a fortnight after to finish the children.

“I forgot whether I mentioned in my last letter that I have received a commission from the Empress of Russia to paint an historical picture for her, the size, the subject, and everything else left to me; and another on the same conditions for Prince Potemkin. The subject I have fixed on for the Empress is Hercules strangling the serpents in the cradle, as described by Pindar, of which there is a very good translation by Cowley.

“My nephew, Mr. Palmer, who is now with me, desires me to make an apology for him, as he came away whilst your Grace was on your tour in the country, and had no opportunity of asking your Grace’s leave, which he was in duty bound to do.”

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786,] February 20. Fludyer Street.—If you have leisure to read the debates of next Wednesday, the enclosed papers will make them more intelligible, especially as you must remember the nature of the spot at Plymouth. A great deal may be said against so expensive a plan, and so new to this country; we shall have some of Pitt’s best friends against us, “and perhaps (from Jervis’s dissent) another masqued battery against the Duke of R[ichmond] from Berkley Square.”

The SAME to the SAME.

[1786,] February 23. Fludyer Street.—The putting off the [ordnance] business until Monday next “was owing to the suspicious appearance of the House, in which were every one the Opposition could muster, and a considerable number of our best friends joining them.” I do not doubt that we should have carried the question by numbers, but Pitt will try, I hope, to reconcile the country gentlemen and convert the Duke of Richmond before next Monday. “The persons who will join the Opposition are, I really believe, some of the most independent men in the House, the most averse to the Opposition as a party, and the most attached to Pitt, in whose support they would be unanimous upon any point they thought affected his ministry. For fear of alarming such allies, the Opposition behaved with great temper, and affected to consider the question as no party affair. But if it offends the King that the fortifications are not agreed to; if it lessens his opinion of Pitt’s weight in the House, or of his sincerity with him; if it occasions a breach between Pitt and the Duke of Richmond, or if it increases the coolness between Lord Shelburne and Pitt; or, lastly, if it offends the country gentlemen to be outvoted, or lessens Pitt’s popularity out of doors;—all these are points of so much consequence to Opposition, that I am thoroughly persuaded they have this business more at heart than any other during the session, unless they bring on the Elector of Hanover’s treaty for the same purposes.” At present, there are but two of your Grace’s members, G. Sutton and myself, on whom Pitt can rely. Mr. Pochin probably

does not know his own mind; Lord Tyrconnell and Colonel Sutton have not been in the House; Mortlocke, who calls himself your member, will be against Pitt. In our scattered state, the constant attendance of Sutton and myself represents the whole of your strength in Parliament; though two such unplaced constant friends few ministers ever had before.

EARL CAMDEN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, February 23. Hill Street.—Informing the Duke that Mr. Dayrell, on whose behalf he wrote, had been excused from the office of sheriff for Cambridgeshire.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD [SYDNEY].

1786, February 27. Dublin Castle.—Our prospects in Parliament are highly promising and satisfactory. The most important money bills have passed the Commons without material opposition. The internal tranquillity of the country is disturbed by very alarming outrages. “The Whiteboys increase in the province of Munster, and their attempts have a direction and tendency of the most dangerous nature. Under the pretence of mal-conduct in the tythe-proctors, they beset indiscriminately the houses of all the neighbouring Protestants, whom they deprive of their arms, and a day or two since they attacked a party of the 20th regiment, who were convoying fourteen cars laden with arms for His Majesty’s stores in Dublin. They were driven off after they had wounded two men of the party, four of the Whiteboys being in the same predicament. The dangers arising from these outrages are not simply what result from riots and what affect individuals only. The Catholicks being once in possession of arms is a principle which, in its extension, your Lordship must admit would strike at the very vitals of the State, and would go to overturn the Constitution. This is a truth which must find a mirror in every man’s breast, and to which every bosom must return an echo. There are various difficulties to contend with on the part of Government. Every combination of men with arms is so entangled and concatenated with the volunteer system—and no Riot Act existing in Ireland—that it is difficult to proceed in the first instance without raising a jealousy in the minds of those men whose existence for the present it seems to be prudent not to impugn. I hope, however, the Police Bill which will soon be laid before Parliament will remedy this defect, and will enable us to proceed at once against every disturber of the publick peace.” The affair relative to O’Connor was exaggerated. I sent Colonel Dundas, the Quarter-master General, to enquire into the facts. It seems O’Connor has some plea of title to the lands of which he possessed himself, which, as it appears, were not forfeited, but sold by an ancestor. On the arrival of Colonel Dundas every place was evacuated and no resistance attempted. “The Roman Catholicks of Roscommon have since presented an address to me expressive of their loyalty and attachment, and asserting that they lay no claim to forfeited lands from which they [are] excluded by the Statute of Limitations, but only seek to enjoy what they now possess quietly, under the present laws and constitution.

“Another outrage still more extraordinary has recently happened, the account of which, I believe, is pretty accurately related in a newspaper which I inclose to your Lordship. George Robert Fitzgerald, the nephew to the Earl of Bristol, and the zealot of his rebellious principles, whose conduct has long branded him for a pest to society, a

violator of the laws, and an enemy to all government, has at length committed a murder of the most atrocious nature. The evidence, I understand, is very strong, and will be brought home to him, so that it is now more than probable he will no longer escape those laws he has lived only to violate and insult. The Chevalier O'Gorman, against whom your Lordship cautions me, at different times has frequently been resident in Ireland. His conduct has been regularly watched, and his correspondence from time to time intercepted, but nothing of any criminal tendency has ever been discovered against him. The survey of Ireland, which is in the possession of the King of France, would be an object very material to be procured. I hope, by your Lordship's interposition, the original or an accurate copy may be lodged in this country. While a work so valuable is in foreign hands, it is needless to be alarmed at the exertions of any individual to the same purpose."

Since the above was written, I have received accounts that seventeen Whiteboys in the county of Cork have been taken by surprise by some of the army. The captain escaped, but many important papers were seized. The prisoners are lodged in the gaol at Cork, which at present contains about forty. I hope this will have the effect of putting a period to their outrages. *Press copy, marked "Secret and confidential."*

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786.] February 28. Fludyer Street.—“The event of this day's vote has not by any means answered the expectation I had formed when I had last the honor to write to your Grace, but I am convinced 40 or 50 members were not decided in their opinion respecting the fortifications till within this week or two; but this day, after a debate till seven o'clock and a division of 169 each, the Speaker gave a casting vote against us.

“Barré made a violent attack, as was guessed, but it was not known, I fancy, he meant to proceed so far. Jervis, who sat next him, rose only once very forwardly to attempt convicting Pitt of a false statement. I conclude things are gone very far between Lord Lansdown and the Minister, but excepting the effect this division may have on the King and the Duke of Richmond or on deserters, I do not think Pitt has lost one of his independent friends upon any point in which his own Ministry could be affected. It is certainly unpleasant for a Minister to be outvoted on a point of the executive Government, but I really think many people who wish him well were silly enough to think they did him no harm at all by out-voting him this morning, such a wild, capricious, and unfixed body do we consist of.

“I thought at first—and am at present more confirmed in my opinion—that the new system was full of doubts and difficulties in whatever way it was viewed; but when espoused so warmly by so honest a minister, I really think if I had been member for Yorkshire instead of Bramber, I should have voted for it.” I hope you will recollect with pleasure “how much more readily this House, capricious as it is, supported your Grace's measures respecting Ireland, or would have supported them in any shape, than it would hear of the Duke of Richmond's scheme with Steele in the Treasury, and Pitt speaking for hours in his support. The fact is—what his Grace might have discovered long ago—the House of Commons here has no opinion of his candour or of his judgement, and the Ordnance will never do well under his care with the present set of members.”

SIR THOMAS GASCOIGNE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, March 1. Parlington.—Thanking him for letters of sympathy on the death of his wife, and promising an early visit to Dublin Castle.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786,] March 1. Fludyer Street.—In my letter yesterday I believe I only said in general terms what the division was, “and it may not be needless to add what appeared to me the case respecting Mr. Pitt and the House.” In opposition to a very general opinion, I am convinced Pitt was in earnest. “One proof, however, of the disposition of the House towards him personally was, that at six o’clock in the morning, when they were so clamorous they would not suffer Sir Robert Smyth or Wilberforce or any other to proceed for a single minute, on Pitt’s rising again, though he had before spoke for two hours, the House was as silent as ever, and heard him for almost another hour with the greatest attention and respect. Sheridan, indeed, was so fearfull of losing the country gentlemen by boasting of their having joined Opposition, that he made a sort of stipulation—very indiscreetly I think—by saying, ‘Let us be united upon this single point, and let us separate again to-morrow as usual to our respective quarters.’ I see some stuff in the papers of Elliot’s having divided against Pitt; for what purpose such nonsense is inserted I do not know, but I lost a guinea to him in the lobby respecting the event of the division, and in general I never saw Pitt’s confidential friends more in earnest.” I think I am able to give an impartial account of the matter, as I cannot with propriety feel or show much interest in disputes between Lord Shelburne and Mr. Pitt without having received instructions from you. After such a marked defeat, if the Duke of Richmond was to take some other place, such as Secretary of State, it would perhaps be more politic; but nobody dreams at all, from what I hear, that he will change his department.

The SAME to the SAME.

[1786,] March 7. Fludyer Street.—Mr. Pitt attempted yesterday, in a desultory debate, to collect what the House would wish to have done about the fortifications, “and the debate was just such a scene as might be expected when two or three hundred people are consulting upon a subject of which they have no idea.” The general opinion I hear in conversation is that a moderate system of defence against a *coup de main* was very proper, but not one so extensive as proposed. Pitt has lost no friends that I can perceive by this affair, many believing the question, if carried, would not only have hurt the country but the ministry likewise; but a very marked dislike to the Duke of Richmond—for whom Pitt seems always ready to risk everything—and his method of packing the Board of Enquiry, I saw not only in debate, but heard from many individuals.

“Mr. Hastings’ affair is become so complicated and voluminous that no one treats it but as a furrce, and it is impossible to keep 100 members in the House whenever it is brought on; and as to the remaining business of the session, I do not foresee any sort of difficulty Mr. Pitt has to encounter in the House of Commons. I do not hear any more of Hanover and the King of Prussia’s league, which I am convinced the

Opposition once intended to bring forward; and the affairs of the revenue are so very flattering that this subject will only bring additional credit to Administration."

The MARQUESS OF LANSDOWN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, March 8. London.—"I have the honour to send you enclosed the memoir of Count Caliostro, a famous adventurer, who furnishes conversation at this time to all Paris. I have just received two of them from Paris, and as they are not to be had here, though much sought after, I send it to you, thinking that if you have not time to read it, the Duchess may, and be interested in it, as it involves the next handsomest Queen after her Grace in Europe in a matter in which she is certainly innocent.

"I am sorry to tell your Grace that some friends of mine have been obliged to vote against Government in a question relative to a system of fortification, which the Duke of Richmond's activity would fain have forced on the Government and the publick. It has given me and many others very great concern to see Mr. Pitt take it up in so warm a manner; and I felt myself more personally concerned, as however unaccountable the conduct of Administration has been to me, I should be sorry to have it supposed for a single moment that it is capable of influencing my publick conduct. This apprehension has prevented my taking notice of several matters which in any other situation I certainly should have opposed, and it is my full intention to give every support in my power, except questions should occur again which militate against those fundamental principles which must govern the conduct of my life."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786.] March 9. Fludyer Street.—Asking for instructions as to the part he should take in regard to Bills for making canals in Leicestershire, which Lord Rawdon opposed. Lord Newhaven was "quoting to-day at the fire in the House of Commons, amongst three or four people standing round, what the Irish pension list amounted to, which I ventured by guess to say consisted greatly in mere additions, but I dare say my authority was as good as his, though I have no means of knowing anything on the subject. He told me Flood had a very good chance of his election, the Committee being still sitting. I cannot think it, from what I heard in an early stage of the trial; but wish it very sincerely, as he can do no sort of mischief here, and, I suppose, may be very well spared from Ireland."

The MARQUESS OF L[OTHIAN] to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, March 14.—I "thank you for the papers full of bloody news. Looking upon Barbary as infinitely safer to live in than most parts of Ireland, if I should come over you will be the more obliged to me."

I think "that notwithstanding the calm appearance of your Parliament, you will have great difficulty in managing that country. The Roman Catholicks had nearly overturned it even in your time."

"Pray send me a paper now and then, for people here, who have never seen an Irish paper, full of proclamations for all sorts of crimes, read them with astonishment, and cannot even then believe them to be true.

“Ministry have done wisely in their appointment of Lord Cornwallis. I hope he may be fortunate in India. He has felt adversity enough. But I doubt all his bravery, disinterestedness, and good sense will not save that country to us; and I am convinced that he will upon his arrival be thwarted in all his measures, the more honourable, the more opposition; and I think without we join the French in that country we shall be driven into the sea.

“You ask me my opinion respecting the Prince’s marriage. I think it has all the appearance of its being true. I believe when he has been spoke to about it he has been violent, and I cannot find out that he has denied it peremptorily. He has said to one of the most intimate in his family, when asked upon the subject, that he might answer, if asked the question, in the negative. But surely a report of the sort, was it not true, should be publicly contradicted, and I am amazed that some member of Parliament has not mentioned it in the House. Most people believe it, and I confess I am one of the number. Though I dined alone with him, and you know the general topic of his conversation about women, he never mentioned her to me amongst others. I am very sorry for it, as it does him infinite mischief, particularly amongst the trading and lower sort of people, and if true must ruin him in every light.”

THE EARL OF INCHIUIN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, March 15. London.—I hear that some marquises are to be made in Ireland, and I hope that my family, from its noble antiquity, its many services to the Government, and its steady allegiance to the King, his father, and family, may be considered entitled to that mark of favour, if it be given to others.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786,] March 16. Fludyer Street.—Concerning his exertions to carry Bills for making Leicestershire canals, which were opposed by Lord Rawdon, and which, it was said, would benefit the Duke’s property to the amount of 100,000*l*.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, March 16. Whitehall.—“We are much concerned here to be informed of the tumultuous state of parts of Ireland.” “It might reasonably be hoped that the horrid scene which has passed between Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. McDonnell and their respective adherents would alarm all ranks of people, and convince them of the necessity of using every means to introduce good order into the country. And, indeed, national pride alone, without any other motive, ought to have that effect, when the want of police in the country has produced transactions which disgrace the national character of Ireland in the eyes of all Europe.

“The behaviour of that spirited and judicious magistrate, Mr. Ellison, has attracted everybody’s notice here. He is represented in England as a curate of 50*l*. a year, and we think he deserves the attention and patronage of Government.”

Lord Cornwallis’s appointment cannot be a matter of indifference to you. “He accepted the offer with all that readiness and disinterestedness which characterise our friend. All parties agree in applauding the choice; at least, those who wish it had not taken place are wise

enough to be silent. He takes out only two or three of his own confidential friends with him. Colonel Ross is one." I do not doubt that you were surpris'd "at the event of the question of the fortifications. The truth is that the affair took a sudden turn among the country gentlemen, led, or rather *mis*-led, by certain naval men. Personal dislike actuated some. I believe many are ashamed of their votes, but if we were to lose it, it was fortunate that we lost it in an early stage. Mr. Pitt's friends here have been the more active and attentive from this defeat, and it has had in that respect good consequences. We have gone on very well ever since. In the House of Lords we have a most perfect calm. I can foresee a few debates upon Dundas's Bill for amending the East India Bill, and perhaps upon the alteration of the shop tax; the chief part in which will be borne by those modest and honest men whose counsels have brought the country into all its difficultys." *Marked* "Secret and separate."

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, March 21. London.—"Your Grace has made us all very happy by the dignitary which you have been pleased to conferr on my nephew; and, indeed, the manner in which your Grace has been pleased to communicate this intelligence so much enhances the obligation, that I don't know whether the kind expressions with which it is accompanied has not given me as much pleasure as the thing itself. I have not yet heard from Mr. Palmer, but I take it for granted he is the happiest of men.

"The only news of virtu at present is Lord Ashburnham's purchase of the collection of the late Humphry Morris, for which he gave four thousand pounds. Out of forty pictures he has reserved, I think, six only, the principal of which are two Salvator Rosa's, a landskip of Nicholas Poussin, and a Mola; the remaining part were sold by auction, which amounted only to four hundred pounds. He has made, in my opinion, a very bad bargain."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, March 23. Fludyer Street.—Concerning his refusal to vote for a new East India Bill, brought in to enable Lord Cornwallis, as Governor-General, to supersede in the field the Commander-in-Chief in India, General Sloper, a friend of the Duke.

* W. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1786,] March 24. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence*, p. 138.]

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, March 30. Fludyer Street.—"Pitt yesterday opened his plan . . . but the contest between the Reporters and Sheridan was put off till the Bill itself was in the House. Sheridan intends proving that there is not, at present, one shilling surplus, and the Report states the surplus 900,000*l*. As far as I can judge, the truth lies between them."

"Going by Nollekens' the other day, I called to see the monument for Westminster Abbey, which will be a very fine one. The medallion of Lord Robert Manners is, I think, very like, but at fifteen feet height

I don't think it will be sufficiently large to catch the eye as it should do, Neptune, &c., taking up too much of the work." Nollekens seemed to think it would not be finished these two years.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, April 5. Fludyer Street.—Concerning the Leicestershire Canals' Bills, and matters of personal interest.

The SAME to the SAME.

1786, April 10. Fludyer Street.—Mr. Fox has hinted in the House of Commons that if the King would do nothing for the Prince of Wales it might be necessary for the Prince's friends, however reluctant, to apply to Parliament. Hill seemed to think that in such a case you would support the Prince of Wales. I hope it is not likely to happen, "though as His Royal Highness has now taken *du Thé*, in addition to his wife, with building, racing, &c., his wants, I suppose, are very pressing."

Pitt's strength in the House is greater than ever; "not that many on our side are not very discontented, amongst whom are Lord Shelburne's friends, but because the Opposition is so broken with the Conways, &c., at market; and above all because the revenue is so productive, and no complaints from Ireland or India."

JOHN FITZGIBBON [Attorney-General] to the DUKE
[OF RUTLAND].

[1786; April 11,] Tuesday. Castlebar.—Everything is ready to bring Mr. Fitzgerald to trial. "The evidence against him is so full, that if we have an unprejudiced jury I do not think it is possible that he can escape. Scotch Andrew has made a very full confession of his iniquities. But although I have been much pressed to allow him to give evidence against Fitzgerald, I shall not do so unless I see the absolute necessity.

"Andrew proves that the different attempts which had been made upon McDonnell's life were all planned and conducted by Fitzgerald; that when he had got McDonnell and the other two men prisoners in his house, his first intention was to have shot them in the room where they were confined; that afterwards he had intended to suffer them to escape in the night, and to shoot them the moment they got beyond the hall door; but that, upon consultation with Brecknock, it was determined to station one of his men behind his park wall, who was to fire a shot as the party passed him, in order to give some appearance of a rescue, upon which the guard were to kill their prisoners. And in order to reconcile Andrew to this service, Brecknock and Fitzgerald produced a book from which they read what they said was an Act of Parliament authorizing the killing of any prisoner accused of felony in case a rescue was attempted. Andrew says that after Gallagher was brought back to Fitzgerald's house, he desired that two or three of his ruffians should take him as if to a magistrate and dispatch him on the way. He says, too, that Fitzgerald was determined to assassinate Cuffe and Ellison in the course of the summer. At present Fitzgerald seems determined to stand his trial; but whether he will or not, in my opinion, depends merely on his being able to suborn witnesses to make something like a defence for him."

“Martin came here yesterday in quest of Lord Altamont, whom he means to beat wherever he can find him. The noble peer, however, does not mean to give him the opportunity for the present, as he chooses rather to attend his duty in Parliament than to visit his Connaught friends. The gentlemen of the sword suspect that he has had intimation of brother Martin’s business with him.”

JOHN FITZGIBBON [Attorney-General] to the DUKE
[OF RUTLAND].

[1786, April 12,] Wednesday evening. Castlebar.—“Mr. Fitzgerald was brought into Court this morning in his bed. He acted the sick man most inimitably, and swore so hard that it was impossible to press on his trial.”

The DUKE OF BEAUFORT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, April 13. Blandford Park.—Expressing his sorrow for the accident which has befallen the Duchess of Rutland.

GEORGE Y. KENDALL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, April 13. Paris.—The objects you wished to have from the china manufactory at Sèvres have been sent off to Dublin. “The three trees are certainly the most curious piece of workmanship that was ever executed at the manufactory, and a quite new model.” The two pictures bought at the Bailli de Breteuil’s sale, and your double-barrel gun, are in the same case with the china. I have sent the Duchess a chocolate cup by Lord Chesterfield, who went hence on the 3rd of March.

“The Cardinal de Rouen’s (Rohan’s) business engrosses much the attention of the publick. He seems to be disculpated as to sharpening about the necklace, but his private conduct, with the species of society he lived with, have been too much exposed for his being reinstated at Court; therefore, in all appearance, the Cardinal will be exiled to one of his benefices, but not before the Parliament pronounces judgment, which ’tis thought will be about Whitsuntide. If Mr. de la Mothe should be apprehended between this and that time, the whole proceedings must be begun over again; consequently the Cardinal’s confinement may be lengthened.”

THOMAS THOROTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, April 15. Scriveton.—Concerning the Duchess’s recent illness, and a retrenchment of expenses at Belvoir. “I have been confined ever since my last by my sprained knee, and have not dared to hunt. It is very unlucky, as a prodigious tribe of Meynelites and Noelites and Lord Spencer’s hunt came to Burleigh, to Lord Winchelsea’s, to hunt with your Grace’s hounds. They had very fine sport, and their expectations have been thoroughly satisfied. As soon as I have an exact description of the runs I will send them to you. But all are in raptures with the hounds.”

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, April 16. Whitehall.—Concerning a new Navigation Bill which had just been introduced in the British House of Commons, and stating that it is absolutely necessary, for the interests of Irish traders, that a similar Act should pass in the same session through the Irish Parliament. *Signed. Marked* “Private.”

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, April 17. Fludyer Street.—Concerning the Melton and Leicester Canal Bills.

The EARL OF TYRONE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, April 19. Curraghmore.—“As your Grace is so good to desire to know my wishes as to the title I chuse in England, . . . I prefer Baron Tyrone, that I may write my name the same way in both kingdoms; and would rather add nothing more, unless there being no place in England of the name of Tyrone makes it necessary to be Baron Tyrone of some place, in which case I should choose to be Baron Tyrone of Haverfordwest, . . . of St. David’s, or Hubberston, these places being all opposite to the coast of this country.”

MAJOR J. F. CRADOCK to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, April 25.—Requesting to be allowed to purchase the lieutenant-colonelcy of the 5th regiment.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, April 26. Fludyer Street.—“From the sort of Committee struck yesterday on Flood’s petition, by means of unaccountable ignorance in Sir Peter Parker or his friends, I think if he has the slightest pretence in the world he is sure of being seated here. The accounts I have heard, without any sort of flattery, are that if your Grace chose to be King of Ireland it is now almost in your power; at least that public business was never before conducted so quietly these twenty years, to the astonishment of people here who remember their late heats about the Commercial Intercourse.”

The SAME to the SAME.

1786, April 26. House of Commons, Coffee House.—“Sir Peter Parker and the other member for Seaford have given up their cause, and Flood is seated here.” “As this man will attempt some mischief, I suppose, as soon as he can, if your Grace will give me any authority to acquaint individuals or the House with any state of a case different from his whenever he begins his plot, I will certainly attempt to do my duty in repeating it.”

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, April 26. Whitehall.—“I take the opportunity of the messenger’s departure with the Bills to press again to your Grace the keeping the Parliament sitting in order to pass the Bill corresponding with that now in our House of Commons for the regulation of the navigation of the British dominions.” This is of great importance to the trade of Ireland. By the death of our poor friend St. Leger, there is a vacancy on the Irish staff. We expect many applications, but I believe the King to be well disposed towards Lord Ross, if the appointment is still an object to him. *Marked* “Secret and separate.”

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786, April 27.]—Mr. Orde is not well enough to come to town. He thinks an attempt cannot be made to bring in the [Navigation] Bill.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786,] April 27. Black Rock.—“I am much obliged by your communication of your letter to Lord Sydney, which ought to be decisive, and I daresay will be so. It will, however, be proper to adjourn to give time for an answer to it.” *Marked* “Private.”

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1786, April 27. Dublin Castle.—I have received the Bill for the further increase and encouragement of shipping and navigation, which you recommend to be submitted to the consideration of the Irish Parliament during the present session. It would be a great omission of duty if I did not represent to you how we stand at present engaged, and how impossible it will be to agitate any new question without endangering the tranquility of the country and the welfare of the Government.

Mr. Orde in my name has declared in Parliament that no further public business would be brought forward, and most of our friends, considering the session as finally concluded, have retired to the country. “I am not a man disposed to raise unnecessary objections or to decline meeting measures fairly on account of their being intrinched with difficulty. But I feel myself impelled by every consideration of my duty to state the mischievous consequences of such a step, calculated to revive all those jealousies which have for some time past inflamed the public mind, but which are now happily and entirely extinguished. The greatest foe to Government could not suggest an idea more dangerous to its prosperity than the introduction of a great public measure at this late period of the session, without notice, without preparation, which must carry with it every appearance of artifice and duplicity, and of an intention to surprize Parliament into the adoption of an important system without having full time given for its proper investigation. My own personal character could not submit to give color to such an idea, and I am persuaded every principle of sound policy must militate against it. The Parliament has closed with triumph, the country is contented, and it can hardly be worth while to animate a spirit of dissatisfaction to pass a particular law on a sudden when an adequate though temporary expedient may be easily suggested. The trade of Ireland with the colonies can be secured by a provision in the English Act to allow the old registers granted in Ireland to have effect until the 25th of March next, before which time a Bill can pass in the next session here.”

Our friend General St. Leger died suddenly last Thursday. This affords a melancholy solution of the question of his appointment to a regiment, on which I was about to have troubled you. I send memorials respecting the succession to the staff, which your Lordship will have the goodness to submit to the King.

Fitzgerald's trial has been put off until the 7th of June. The Attorney-General assured me that the delay was unavoidable. “It seems impossible he should escape punishment. I have in my possession the confession of one of his instruments, which contains such a pre-meditated system of blood and of general assassination as would not have disgraced the savage machinations of a Nero. I am sorry to add that

we keep pace with England in the number of our criminals. In the jail of Clonmel there are a hundred and seventy prisoners confined for capital offences, most of whom, it is supposed, will be convicted." *Copy, marked "Secret and confidential"; also press copy.*

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, April 27. Albemarle Street.—Informing him that the Committee on the [Navigation] Bill is appointed for Tuesday next.

The SAME to the SAME.

1786, April 27. Whitehall.—"I find upon recollection that Lord Ross is a lieutenant-general, and therefore cannot succeed poor St. Leger, who was only a major-general." "Mr. Pitt will write to your Grace upon the subject of Mr. Jenkinson's Bill, and I hope his proposal will relieve us from all difficulties." "We approve of the topics of your intended speech, but are a little disposed to criticize some expressions in it." *Marked "Secret and separate."*

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to W. PITT.

1786, April 27. Dublin Castle.—"I have written to Lord Sydney on the subject of the Bill for the increase and encouragement of shipping and navigation, which he will probably communicate to you. He presses the introduction of the Bill during the present session, but I have represented the impossibility of its being complied with without confusion, in terms less strong than my opinion and feelings might have dictated. A very adequate expedient and a substantial solution of every difficulty—though a temporary one—I have suggested, and I trust you would not wish to impose on the present Government of Ireland the odium of supprizing the Parliament into the reception of a measure, which at the proper moment they could not hesitate to adopt. In the next session it may be passed without the smallest difficulty, whereas under our present circumstances, the business of Parliament being universally understood and declared by authority to be concluded, it could not fail of lighting up a flame. It would be considered that as all publick business was closed, the Irish Parliament continued to sit for the sole purpose of registering English edicts. Every exertion would be made by the partizans of faction to raise the antient jealousies, to inflame the publick mind, and to animate those principles of confusion which are too easily put in motion, but which are now happily subdued. I need not mention that by the grant of the colony trade to Ireland, it is provided that if the Irish Parliament should not continue sitting for four months after a British Act shall pass imposing new duties or restrictions on the colony trade, the old law shall continue in force with respect to Ireland till the ensuing session shall give an opportunity to pass a concurrent law. The proposed Navigation Act affects the colony trade, and it should seem that the like indulgence ought to be extended to admit of a concurrent law being passed in Ireland, as is allowed in the system of the Irish colony trade. I will trouble you no longer, but only to add that I am persuaded you will not urge the Irish Government to an unnecessary attempt which must involve their ruin." *Press copy, marked "Private."*

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, April 29. Fludyer Street.—“The public attention is at present wholly taken up with the expectation of Hastings’s defence on Monday next, and the Opposition are in high spirits, I hear, on the idea that Mr. Pitt will suffer the impeachment to go to the Lords, which I fancy would be very disagreeable to the King and to the Chancellor, and to the Indian squad. As nothing essential would be gained by this, I don’t think Mr. Pitt will let the affair take that course unless urged by Wilberforce, Banks, &c., in private, which, from what I have seen, may possibly be the case; and then the Lords will be joined with the Commons in the face of acquittal. The charges were so very voluminous I did not trouble your Grace with them, though as Mr. Orde had so much share in some of the reports on which they are many of them founded, I take it for granted he has got them from hence.

“No debate or division being expected on Wednesday, I paired off and dined with Sir F. Bassett, where were some of the Crown lawyers at dinner, and I don’t know why, but I find they are generally with Hastings and mean to defend him. On returning to the House at nine o’clock a division was over, and Lord Chatham, who gave me an account of the debate, abused both George Hardinge and Bearcroft as having made two very silly speeches, but I did not discover nor did he acquaint me if anything was decided on. It is thought a bold attempt in Hastings to defend himself, and very injudicious; and yet your Grace remembers how much greater effect Lord Clive’s speech had than Wedderburne’s.”

* W. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, April 29. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence*, p. 140.]

* The SAME to the SAME.

Same date and place.—[*Correspondence*, p. 145.]

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786,] April 30. Fludyer Street.—Concerning proceedings in Parliament relating to the town of Cambridge.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to W. PITT.

1786, May 1. Dublin Castle.—“In consequence of a letter I received by the last packet from Lord Sydney, I think it necessary to repeat to you my decisive objections to the introduction of the Bill for the increase of trade and navigation during the course of the present session.

“It would indeed be productive of the most mischievous consequences, not only to the personal credit of Government and to its public influence, but might be fatal even to the Bill itself, whose success would be extremely endangered by such a hasty and unseasonable manner of introduction. I could point out no step better calculated to inflame a nation, now quiet and contented, but all times prone to jealousy, or to urge them to the most violent and hostile proceedings, than an inconsiderate attempt to force a measure of such

importance through the Parliament, under every possible embarrassing circumstance. I trust you must feel in what an unpleasant predicament I should be personally constituted, after the declaration made by my Secretary in Parliament. The completest duplicity, or the grossest ignorance of the proceedings of Government in England, would be naturally and fairly charged upon me, who could direct Mr. Orde to declare to the House that all publick business was concluded, and four or five days afterwards introduce the most important measure of the whole session.

“What injury can arise by postponing the operation of the Act, with respect to the Irish registers, to the 25th of March next, or by following the principles, or rather the express provisions, of the Colony Trade Act, passed in 1780, allowing four months of the sitting of Parliament, from the passing any new law in Great Britain concerning that trade, for Ireland to adopt the regulations? In the proposed Bill, you admit that all the vessels enjoying the priviledge of British ships shall continue to possess them as long as those identical vessels shall remain. The law taking place with regard to Ireland immediately, or on the 25th of March, would make only the difference of so many new vessels [as may] in that interval become Irish ships, and I will venture to affirm that not two vessels will in that interval be added to the catalogue of Irish shipping, so that the object in continuing our session open for that purpose is a very trifle. In point of dispatch, little would be gained by holding the session open. Nothing even can be proposed here till the Bill has received the royal assent. Full notice must then be given; the members of Parliament must have time to assemble; they must have time to consider the Bill after it has been introduced and printed; and with the delays which, on such a very extraordinary procedure, the Opposition in both Houses would be enabled to throw in its way, the passing it here must be delayed to a very late season of the year, and through a continued scene of clamour, ill-humour, and dissatisfaction. Whereas, if it takes an ordinary course, the English Bill will be well known and understood, and our own may be introduced on the first day of the next session and passed in the month of February. I trust you will see all this in the light I wish you to do, and that I may be relieved from a situation of greater anxiety and embarrassment than any in which I was ever involved. I transmit you my intended speech, which I hope you will approve.” *Press copy, marked “Private.”*

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, May 5. Fludyer Street.—“Sheridan made his long-expected attack on the report of the revenue last night very ably, I thought, in a speech of three hours; he was answered by Greuville, the Chairman of the Committee, but they dared not call for a division, and it is now a decision of the House, without reserve, that we have, or will have, a million surplus. However paradoxical the first part of our doctrine may appear, it is pretty certain Mr. Pitt, by his vigor and industry in the reforms of collection, &c., will very soon realize the latter, and I think will lose no credit on the subject when he meets Parliament next year.”

* W. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, May 5. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence, p. 147.*]

* W. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, May 7. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence*, p. 148.]

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, May 6. Holyhead.—Announcing his arrival at Holyhead after a rough passage. “Sir Thomas Gascoigne is here on his way to visit your Grace.” *Marked* “Private.”

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1786, May 6. Dublin Castle.—I judged you had made a mistake about the military rank of Lord Ross, so did not communicate to him His Majesty's intentions. An official draft of my Speech has been transmitted to you, though it has not been the usage to transmit an official copy of the Speech made at the close of the session. Mr. Pitt's letter respecting the bill for the increase of Trade and Navigation has relieved me from extreme embarrassment. I trust your Lordship is satisfied that it would have been highly impolitic to have introduced such a measure after all public business had been expressly declared to have been concluded. *Marked* “Private.”

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to W. PITT.

1786, May 6. Dublin Castle.—“Your letter of the 29th relieved me from the utmost anxiety and embarrassment. Two opinions cannot rationally be formed on the propriety and justice and the necessity of Ireland's passing a law similar to what is now pending before the Parliament of Great Britain. I only objected to the precipitate manner of its introduction, to which you seemed rather to incline. No difficulty, as far as I can foresee, can exist in the way of its passing next session, and every proper regulation shall be adopted in the interval by the Commissioners of the Revenue to prevent any possible ill effects resulting from the delay.”

“I thank you much for your readiness to acquiesce in my wishes to visit England for a short time during the recess. I agree with you in the impossibility of effectuating such a scheme during Mr. Orde's absence, and indeed I almost doubt of the policy of taking such a step under any circumstances. I certainly should never attempt it without every circumstance concurring to render the moment propitious. I am sensible of the danger of innovating on systems, and I should be sorry to lay the foundation of restoring the government of Lords Justices, or of setting afloat any expectation of it. But indeed my idea was to have recommended the nomination of a Deputy, and the only person who occurred to me [to whom] I could have ventured to have delegated my confidence and authority was your brother, who perhaps [would not] have been inclined to have embarked in it. However, I waive the idea, and perhaps it is better that the Irish should not know [that the presence of] their chief governor can be dispensed with.”

“I rejoice to find your schemes of finance afford you such animating prospects. With regard to the treaty of commerce with the Court of France, I hope Ireland will not be forgotten in the negotiation; but I believe it will be difficult to point out in what way she can be benefited.”

Mr. Orde, however, who is now on his road to England, will discourse with you at large on this subject. Lord Mulgrave's application for the collectorship of Whitby has embarrassed me extremely. I am the last man to press you, except where my essential interests are concerned. My credit and weight in Scarborough must depend on the conviction which must be there entertained, that my influence with Government is insuperable. Any idea of a contrary tendency would be my ruin. I have put Orde in full possession of all my ideas on that matter, and have desired him ultimately to disentangle the perplexity. I am exceedingly concerned at the account you send me of the Chancellor's alarming situation. His loss would be severely felt, and I fear would be attended with some political embarrassment. No one occurs to me competent to fill the office, unless you resort to the purchase of a Loughborough.

"At the close of your session I shall write to you a letter on various subjects. I have much serious complaint, and many charges of neglect to make, with which, as I am at present in great good humour with your conduct, I shall forbear to trouble you." *Press copy, marked "Private"; also rough draft with differences.*

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, May 7, Sunday. Conway.—I have just met Kelly and Hyde on the Conway passage, and am writing this in the Ferry House. "I used the privilege your Grace allowed me of opening Mr. Pitt's letter, and I find it relates to a new matter, on which I am not competent to judge without more explanation. I cannot, however, conceive that any difficulty can arise from the continuance of a favorable extension of bounty to Irish vessels in this fishery." "I am surprised to find no letters about the speech, which Lord Sydney seemed to have intimated to your Grace was not altogether approved of."

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, May 10. Duncrofts, near Staines.—I fully intend to pay you a visit as soon as I can contrive it. It depends on my finances, which are in a fair way owing to the pains of my friend Major Drouly, who has found out all the mismanagement of my estates. I congratulate you upon the very distinguished address you have received from the county of Donegal.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, May 10. Fludyer Street.—Concerning the Canal Bills, of which the Leicester Bill had, the night before, been lost by nine votes, through the exertions of Lord Rawdon and Sir William Gordon.

G. A. BYRON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, May 13. St. Germain-en-Laye.—Acknowledging gratefully a kind answer to a letter which he had written to the Duke in favour of his mother.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, May 13. Sudbury Green.—I have written to Mr. Hamilton upon the Navigation and Fishery Bills. I hope that everything relating

to them may be pleasantly adjusted. I was received at St. James's yesterday with marked expressions of the satisfaction and favour with which your conduct and success in the government were viewed and accepted here.

I see clearly that the rotation of the cavalry will be a difficult object to accomplish. Parliament will not rise before the middle of next month. "Sanguine expectations are formed of a successful issue to all their proceedings, which are numerous, and many of them of a delicate nature." "Hastings has made his defence. I have not yet read it, but I perceive that he has made a strong impression, and has a sufficient force to laugh at his accuser. I do not, however, find that there is any idea of a speedy decision by some pointed question, but that in all probability, the half-finished business will be postponed to the next session.

"Lord Lansdowne staid in town yesterday that I might pass a quiet hour or two with him. We had much conversation, and upon the whole I was happy to find that he has no design of opposition, although his mind has certainly no favorable bias, in consequence of supposed neglect. He professes in the strongest terms a wish to be able to take a distinguished line in support of the King's Government *without office*, but I see that he would expect confidential communication. He assures me also, which I could have readily supposed, that very many people have endeavoured to tamper with him and to influence him to engagements as the head of a party, but he has indeed uniformly protested against it, and vows he has no political personal attachments except to your Grace, in which I believe him to be most sincere. I should be very happy to see him embarked in that very line he speaks of, but I perceive too many causes of mutual jealousy to allow the indulgence of any great hope in that way. He receives, I believe, a great deal of information, but much of it bad, and he is credulous. He interprets many appearances into designs which I believe never existed. He is, however, very sagacious in some of his surmises, and, I am convinced, judges rightly in general of men's characters and motives.

"His idea is that the Court was certainly against the Duke of Richmond's plan of the fortifications. He is rather singular in this notion, but I have not had an opportunity of finding out the truth in that respect. I am inclined upon the whole to suppose a cold neutrality. Something is to be moved again upon this subject, but I do not know the extent. Much jealousy, however, is created between the Boards of Ordnance and Admiralty. Lord L[ansdowne] supposes that Lord Sydney is negotiating a retreat, and that Jenkinson is pressed forward as his successor, but that Mr. Pitt cannot bring himself to complete the plan. Sudden arrangements take place without any apparent communication, and therefore something may unexpectedly come out." *Marked "Private."*

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO W. PITT.

1786, May 14. Dublin Castle.—"I have shown the clause proposed to be inserted in the Bill for the Greenland fishery to the Speaker, the Attorney-General, and Beresford, who cannot perceive a word exceptionable. You will, of course, be careful to avoid any expressions in the Bill which might imply a disposition to bind Ireland by any Act of the British Legislature. In the Acts of the 15th and 16th of the King there are some of such tendency as *authorising* and *requiring* the Commissioners of the Revenue for Ireland to grant certificates. But the circumstances of the two Legislatures being now wholly changed,

and this country not a little prone to jealousy, you will see the necessity of being extremely circumspect and delicate in the turn of your expression. I hope you will not omit sending me the Bill on the earliest moment." *Draft, marked "Private."*

The MARQUESS OF LANSDOWN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, May 15. High Wycombe.—This is to recommend no less a personage than Mrs. Abington to your protection. "I never before ventured to name her except to the late Lord Ashburton, who wrote, I believe, half a play for one of her benefits. She writes me word that Mr. Daly offers her everything to go over to play before the Duke and Dutchess of Rutland, but that whenever she has been before in Ireland she has been always particularly noticed by the Lord and Lady Lieutenant, even so far as to have been admitted to their table, and that she can't think of stirring from hence without a recommendation to their Graces." I shall be much obliged "if you will honour her with your protection in the line of her profession. The Dutchess, who has been in France, knows the great distinction made between *fille* and *fille des talens*. I was shocked to see Mr. Orde. He speaks in the most affectionate manner of your Grace's tenderness for him; but, if he does not get surprizingly better, the kindest thing you can do by him is to forbid his return to you." *Marked "Most secret and confidential."*

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, May 16. Sudbury Green.—"The reports about the Prince of Wales are full of contradictions. It is certain that many of the persons said to have been present were not there, and the clergyman who is supposed to have performed the marriage ceremony had, as Lord S—— assures me, no share in it. The P[rin]ce denies the thing, but has at the same time dropped hints of her belief in the connection, and has wished therefore that their happiness might not be interrupted by conjectures and rumours. This, however, gives reason to imagine that some ceremony had passed.

"His Royal Highness was present at the marriage of Lady H. W. with Mr. C., and after the ceremony the Duchess of B. unthinkingly turned to His Royal Highness and said that she supposed this to be the first marriage at which he had been present. The Prince assured her Grace with great energy that it *really* was the first. The Duchess hereupon recollected her *faux pas*, and was confounded.

"The conduct of her friends is very different. Some of them see and countenance her; others totally avoid her. The Hagerstons and Erringtons are among the first, and Lord Sefton among the latter. The Prince is very angry with the Duchess of Portland because the Duke will not suffer her to receive Mrs. F[it]zherbert. In the meantime the Duke of Orleans, &c., keep up the wild spirits of His Royal Highness, and indeed I am almost led to suppose that there may be some design in their apparently idle visit to this kingdom."

"I do not hear the report of Lord Walsingham's going to Spain contradicted. . . . The Board of Trade is, however, no longer spoken of, and Jenkinson's promotion to the seals and to peerage is all the talk." The Chancellor certainly recovers, but slowly. You must have been in alarm about Lord Earlsfort, who, I hope, is now out of danger. The succession would have been a great difficulty, "as there could be safety in sparing Fitzgibbon, and yet he ought never to be passed by." *Marked "Private."*

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, May 16. Fludyer Street.—You doubtless know that the rejection of the Fortifications Act has occasioned some differences in the Cabinet, which shew themselves in the House of Commons. “A Lord of the Admiralty having voted against the Duke of Richmond, Luttrell spoke and voted against the Admiralty Board last week, and Mr. Pitt was beat on an Admiralty regulation, though the attack was directed at Lord Howe. . . . I find the same men will oppose the Fortifications to-morrow, and we shall perhaps be beat again, with what consequences I cannot at all foresee, for on my telling Steele I did not think we were much hurt by being beat on the Fortifications, he told me it was more necessary to the quiet of Ministry than I seemed to fancy.”

The EARL OF CHATHAM to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, May 17. Berkeley Square.—I am glad to see you have dismissed your subjects in peace and contentment to cultivate their potatoes. It is impossible yet to foresee the exact period of the session here, but I think it must last another month. I then hope to be able to put in execution what I have much at heart, the seeing you in Ireland. The event of Mr. Hastings's business in the House of Commons will begin to appear before long. But at all events, I imagine it will not come to the Lords this year, if it should at all.

ADMIRAL J. GAMBIER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, May 18. Bath.—Asking the Duke's patronage for his younger son, who is anxious to obtain a commission in the army.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, May 20.—You have seen by the papers that the “second edition of the same plan of fortifications was treated so contemptuously in the House, that, if we had come to a division, we should have been beat by a large majority. Sir G. Howard speaking against it, every one considers the King as averse to it as the House of Commons; though I cannot say I think on the subject either with His Majesty or the House.”

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, May 20. Sudbury Green.—Your answer upon the Greenland Fishery Bill is so satisfactory as to remove all necessity of saying more upon it. “You will have heard of the event of a new trial upon the subject of fortifications. It seems to me to have been rather unwise to bring the matter again into question without a certainty of success, for, although I am told that the consequence is only a momentary exultation to the enemy, and will not at all weaken Mr. Pitt's administration, I cannot but apprehend ill effects in the general mind, as the public, or at least a great part, will only judge from appearances. These are the more awkward as several of the steady friends of the Court are found in opposition to this measure. Jenkinson told me that he could not rightly understand it. It seems, however, after all to proceed chiefly from the decided unpopularity of the Duke of Richmond. I believe that Pitt is very sore about it, and does not

well relish the warmth with which some of his best friends have engaged in running this business down." I saw Mr. Pitt on Thursday for a short time. He acknowledged the justice of your claims in regard to Scarborough, but lamented that he had been inadvertently betrayed into a promise to Lord Mulgrave. He finally suggested a new arrangement, in the hope that it may satisfy both of you. "The peerages for Lord Tyrone and Lord Shannon could not have any immediate answer. Many circumstances must be considered before it could be determined to accomplish that measure *so early* as your Grace wishes it to be done." *Marked* "Private."

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO THOMAS ORDE.

1786, May 23. Dublin Castle.—I am greatly concerned by the accounts of your health contained in your letters. "Lord Earlsfort is entirely recovered. His death would indeed have greatly embarrassed me. The Attorney-General mentioned his wishes to be his successor in the event of his dissolution, with all that delicacy which is so much his characteristic, and with all that regard to my affairs which he has so constantly demonstrated. In truth, should even a higher situation become vacant, I should feel [it] very unpleasant to see him superseded by an English Chancellor. But I sincerely hope that there is no probability of any event to open that situation till the objection of his too much youth could be done away. From personal inclination towards Fitzgibbon, my mind is entirely decided on that matter, and I protest I should take it to be for the real interest of my Government. I hear he intends to withdraw himself decently from the very young company with which he has too much mixed, and that he is inclined to marry, which will greatly contribute to advance his pretensions. The Chancellor is, however, in perfect health. But it is as well to be prepared against every human contingency." I have seen Sir Lucius O'Brien. His object was the Mastership of the Rolls. I told him there might be difficulties in regard to his obtaining that, "but that I would *become his pledge* that office should be proposed to him. He only hoped that at a proper period he might be informed what the immediate intention towards him might be, lest after Government having given themselves any trouble on his account he might wish to decline the particular office. To all this I acceded. You see by this conversation I am absolutely engaged as a gentleman to provide for him honourably." I shall ask you, when your health permits, to open some negotiation to fulfil my engagements. It occurred to me that the Mastership of the Rolls, could it become vacated, might be judiciously disposed of, for instance by naming Ponsonby to that office, and placing Sir Lucius at the Post Office. Turn this idea seriously in your mind, and consider whether it would be better to negotiate through Lord Chief Justice Paterson, who has authority, or with the Principal [Rigby]. As to Lord Bellamont's application, I am inclined to acquiesce. He came to me with the Duke of Leinster to clear up a matter, which he thought tended to asperse his character, relative to the commutation of his pension. I expect to hear of a vacant vice-treasurership. Should both be opened to Irishmen the Duke of Leinster must have one. Lord Mornington has, both from Pitt and myself, the absolute promise of the first.

"The state of the province of Munster, as far as relates to the clergy, is very alarming. Not a guinea will be received from any living. The combinations increase. The Whiteboys still are rising, and the bishops are considered by the inferior clergy to neglect their

interests. Something must be done to prevent the progress and growth of this evil. But it is a question of extreme delicacy, and requires the utmost attention. It might be as well to state the whole at large to Mr. Pitt, and to hear his sentiments on the disorder and its remedy."

"You will earnestly recommend to Mr. Pitt the performance of his engagements to Lord Shannon and Lord Tyrone in regard to their English peerages. It would be highly politic to make these creations at the time the vice-treasurerships are to be disposed of, as Lord Tyrone cannot in conscience clamour at the moment of receiving so great a favor."

"I have to trouble you with a request to Mr. Pitt for a small office in the Revenue, the waiter and searcher of the port of Aldborough, for the son of the present possessor, who is at the point of death. The person I wish to recommend is a Mr. Crabbe, the brother of my domestick chaplain."

"Pitt somehow or other, much to the detriment of his own solid interest, contrives to defeat my election purposes. I had, through the means of Mortlock, an intention of securing a seat in the town of Cambridge. But the persecutions that he has experienced from my enemies in Cambridgeshire have made him act very absurdly by taking a part hostile to Government, which he would not have done had I been in England. But I fear Mr. Pitt has listened to his enemies."

"I beg you will not fail to assure Lord Shelburne (Lansdowne,) whenever you see him, of the sincere regard which I most unequivocally bear him. I am sorry everything is not conducted towards him as it ought to be. He has undoubtedly every claim upon Government; and I am grieved they have not fairly acquitted themselves to him."

LODGE MORRIS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, May 24. Sackville Street.—Stating that as neither his health nor temper will allow him to persist in serving any other Lord Lieutenant with the zeal and assiduity which he now displays, he hopes that before the Duke's departure from Ireland closes his political career, his Grace will carry out a declared intention of conferring on him some mark of honour becoming a gentleman.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, May 31. Sudbury Green.—Concerning the state of his health. Sir Richard Jebb has so strictly ordered me not to stir from here, that I shall for the future carry on by letter such business as I may engage in. But I saw Mr. Pitt yesterday, and shall now state to you his ideas upon the several points you desired me to lay before him. I rejoice in finding you relieved from the embarrassment into which Lord Earlsfort's death would have thrown you. For though I agree with you that the Attorney-General has entitled himself by a uniformity of zealous conduct to a preference in the succession to the high office of Lord Chief Justice, yet the consideration of Fitzgibbon's use in the House of Commons, the only place where your Government can be seriously affected, must have pressed with heavy weight of regret upon you for the necessity of losing him in that most important quarter. But I am mistaken if Fitzgibbon would not himself rather for some years maintain his present station than make any even advantageous exchange. In point of emolument the King's Bench could not afford it to him, and the Great Seal itself could hardly be an object of desire to him for the next six or seven years.

Lord Lifford's present health and spirits seem to preclude the idea of any immediate vacancy in the office of Lord Chancellor, which would not entail considerable expense. But the nation might be reconciled to the expense, if the change were for the public benefit. Baron Eyre is the only man in England who might properly be selected for the office in preference to Fitzgibbon. And a wish has been expressed here that arrangements could be made for the appointment of Baron Eyre as Irish Chancellor, for a period not exceeding six or seven years; which might satisfy Fitzgibbon, if his succession could then be assured. Perhaps you could contrive to find out the sentiments of the latter in regard to such a project. You will not, however, have forgotten how Lord Earlsfort's jealousy was excited by the rumour of some such arrangement, during Lord Lifford's recent illness.

I wrote to Mr. Hamilton on the subject of Sir Lucius O'Brien. Your plan of bringing about a vacancy in the Mastership of the Rolls ought certainly to open new opportunities of patronage, and Sir Lucius ought to be exceedingly well contented with the Post Office. But I deceive myself if Sir Lucius does not dream of obtaining a grant of office or pension for life, and I am sure you will see the impossibility of gratifying him in that respect. I should imagine that a sinecure office of the description which has been held by persons of a certain rank, even though under 1,200*l. per annum*, might answer well for him. In regard to this particular object, there seem to be two very serious difficulties which oppose the success of Sir Lucius. In the first place, the want of pretence for putting the country to the expense of resuming the office of Master of the Rolls, without any public advantage, is an obstacle which Mr. Pitt seems to consider almost insuperable. In the second place, what is to be done with Lord Mornington, who would think himself entitled to the first offer of such a situation unless he had a certainty of succeeding to a vice-treasurership? But his prospects in this respect are very doubtful at present. "Mr. Pitt told me yesterday that he was much distressed upon this subject. There is a probability of an early vacancy in one of these employments, and he could wish to transfer the nomination of the successor to your Grace as Lord Lieutenant, but there are serious obstacles in the way of this plan. He could not part with the patronage from this country, unless upon the ostensible ground of introducing some equivalent, and that is not yet absolutely determined upon. But a more forcible impediment arises from this apprehension, that it would immediately be objected to him as a paltry subterfuge, because there would be no security against the grant of the office in such a manner as to increase the influence of the crown in the British House of Commons, unless a law should be passed or resolution of the House to disqualify any Irishman holding that office from sitting in the English Parliament, which would not be a very practicable or politic measure. I then suggested the idea of *his* giving it to Lord Mornington as the British Minister. Here he started the dilemma into which he would be thrown. Lord Mornington has certainly had strong promises, but fixed upon the Irish Government. He had taken no part in England which could justify his promotion to so high an office, for which so many claimants with better pretensions would enter the lists. I could not help reminding him of the manner in which Lord Mornington became fixed as an expectant upon the English Government; and I could not avoid adding, that his Lordship had not more distinguished himself in Ireland by any active zeal he had shown there. But after all, the engagement was the thing, and it must be performed in some way or other satisfactorily. He entirely agreed with me, and begged me to consider and suggest

to you some other means for his gratification by the grant or reversion of some patent place. He was aware of the difficulties, and hardly expected success, but wished it to be considered. I entreated him to think of means for obviating his own embarrassment, and for giving the office himself to Lord Mornington. He promised to do so, and that subject was dismissed."

I have given Mr. Pitt a full account of Lord Bellamont's conduct, and stated his present aim. Nothing can be more decided than Mr. Pitt's opinion of the almost certain hazard to which you would expose yourself by yielding to such an arrangement. He desired me to represent to you that neither Lord Bellamont's consequence, or character, or conduct would justify the gratification of so extraordinary a request. If, holding a pension of so large an amount *during pleasure*, Lord Bellamont could not be depended upon, how can you secure his certain support by putting it in his power to act as he pleases? Would it not give cause of offence to the tried friends of Irish government if you should step out of your way to obtain a precarious attachment from a person who ought to have been punished for his tardiness if not his defection? Mr. Pitt is strongly of opinion that it would be well to secure the Duke of Leinster, if that can be done *effectually* by the means you suggest.

"It is whispered to me by authority that the cause of Lord Luttrell's failure is solely to be explained by Lord Edgecumbe, who had certainly, on his account, declined to accept the recommendation of Mr. Pitt. . . . I received a letter from Mr. J. Luttrell, with enquiries into the cause of his brother's disappointment, which gave me the first intimation of any such event; for, in truth, I had concluded that he was already returned for Bossiney. I know not how it is to end. I have, however, strongly impressed the opinion of its being a wise measure to seek to attach Luttrell to the Government, on both sides of the water. At all events, he ought to be well satisfied with the attention which your Grace has really gone out of your way to show him.

"The subject of the Whiteboys, and all its appurtenances, must make up a separate letter." I have fully communicated all the information which I have upon the subject; and "there seems to be no hesitation in pronouncing the expediency as well as good policy of some accommodation upon some principle of commutation, for the real welfare of the Church as well [as] of its ministers."

"The peerages of Lord Shannon and Lord Tyrone are to be seriously considered. As yet, however, I can gain nothing but looks of uncertainty, I mean only *as to time*."

The place of wailer and searcher of the Port of Aldborough will be given, as you recommend, to Mr. Crabbe. My obedience to your instructions has saved Mortlock from much trouble. Mr. Pitt managed the matter favourably in consequence of it. I shall sound Mortlock privately.

I have urged Pulteney's claim for a provision in the proper quarter. "I have *very good* reason to believe that the first deanery or other good thing of that sort which may become vacant will be offered to Dr. Ekins."

I am sorry to say that your old friend Lord Mansfield is at last become incapable of further attention to business. His mind preserves its vigour, but the bodily frame is so shattered that "he cannot command sufficient steadiness of hand to direct his pen; and he could not officiate as Speaker of the House of Lords, because he was unable to raise it to his head to take off his hat upon occasional forms of ceremony." *Marked* "Most private."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, June 1. Albemarle Street.—Lord Errol, the son of a very old friend of mine, wishes to purchase a troop in Sir Joseph Yorke's regiment. He is a young man of an excellent character and figure, and has been six years a lieutenant. None of the lieutenants in the regiment will purchase. Lord Errol's promotion would be approved of *here*, and would confer a personal favour on me. There is to be a chapter of the Garter to-morrow. The King means that the Princes his sons shall be exempted from the number of knights ordinary, which decision gives him four Garters to dispose of. The Landgrave of Hesse, the Duke of Beaufort, the Marquis of Buckingham, and our friend Cornwallis are to be the new knights. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, June 2. Fludyer Street.—I have seen Mr. Hill, who read me a part of your letter to him repeating Mr. Pitt's intentions *forthwith*. Colonel Pochin, Sutton, and I have arranged to visit you in Dublin about the twentieth of this month, when Lord Chatham also talks of being with you. I have not been able to see Mr. Orde, as he only stays three or four hours at a time in town. He sent me a note conveying your sentiments respecting Mr. Mortlock, about two hours after the latter's business was settled. The note refers to intercession for him in other quarters, but I fear that he would have been censured or even expelled if Mr. Pitt could have carried on the enquiry, and that he would have done so if your own and Mr. Mortlock's friends had not actually beat him on the first division.

"We sat last night on Hastings till three o'clock, when the debate was adjourned, before any of the principal speakers had risen except G. Hardinge, who spoke very ably against Hastings and for the impeachment, better indeed than I could have ever imagined, as I have heard him very indifferent two or three times before. I suppose he is not pleased with some intended law arrangements, but we shall negative the charge by a great majority, so great that I shall be very indifferent whether to divide or no, as it is certainly Pitt's interest that these Indians should be kept under a little and not shew too great a strength in the House. The merits of the question are in spirit with Hastings, but very strongly against him according to the letter. There were several young speakers last night, but nobody worth notice except Lord Mornington, who made his *coup d'essai* here by a skirmish with Lord North, I suppose in order to harden himself a little, for he had not considered, nor did he speak at all to, the subject, though if your Grace knows any of his friends, they may be told he lost no credit, but much the contrary, by a very spirited manner that engaged the attention of the House. I sat by another maiden orator of this Parliament who was expected to rise, I mean Flood, but he did not venture to risk himself again on a subject where he at first floundered; indeed, he appears so languid that Lord Luttrell need not have a seat here, I fancy, this Parliament, to watch him."

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to [THOMAS ORDE].

1786, June 8. Phœnix Park.—I thank you exceedingly for your letter, which from its length may, I fear, have been prejudicial to your health. I shall at once go to the points referred to in it which have afforded me some uneasiness. "The opening a vice-

treasurership without a view to Lord Mornington's succession would extremely embarrass me, and would constitute me in the most awkward predicament. I enter not into what may or may not be the pretensions of Lord Mornington to the first office in the country, but he has a claim which I can never see superceded, my word and my engagement. Mr. Pitt must recollect that—in combination with Lord Temple—he pledged me without my private knowledge of it to give Lord Mornington specifick office, and which I engaged to make good. Various circumstances have since arisen to render him a candidate for the vice-treasurership, and Mr. Pitt is involved in the promise with myself. I never can bear to have engagements depend upon explanation and the nicety of distinctions. I understood that upon the first vacancy Lord Mornington was to succeed, and I must decide with him if a doubt can possibly arise. I wish, indeed, Mr. Pitt could open both offices at once; it would be grateful to the Irish, and would give permanent strength to the King's Government in Ireland. But if one only is to be conceded, I should in truth wish that Lord Mornington might receive it as an English member, and that Pitt would arrange upon that idea. But if he cannot do that, and if Lord Mornington's seat in the British House of Commons be urged as an objection—which the plea of its tending to increase the patronage there seems to imply—I should think he would willingly relinquish that situation. But at all events, if my faith, so strongly pledged as upon this point, be not preserved, I should not know how I could continue in my government with success. The certainty of engagements being rigidly fulfilled is the firmest stone upon which a government can fix its basis." Upon this principle, I must absolutely see Sir Lucius O'Brien placed in office before the meeting of Parliament. "I stated nothing to him specifick, but office at large. Yet at the same time I understood and probably conveyed to him that it was intended to be done previous to the meeting of Parliament. As for office for life, it never entered my thoughts, nor, from what I could collect, had he such a conception." Should Lord Mornington obtain a vice-treasurership, I think it would be advantageous to Government to give Sir Lucius the Mastership of the Rolls, or some office of equal importance.

I do not think it would be fair or equitable to consent to an arrangement in the first law department merely to accommodate English convenience. The present Chancellor has served fairly and unequivocally as a friend of Government, and gives general satisfaction for his integrity, patience, and substantial justice in his courts; so that without his distinct request it would be impossible for me to propose to him terms for quitting the seals. But I am not certain whether retirement upon certain terms might not be acceptable to him. This, however, would burden the country, which we cannot afford except for *Irish* accommodation. "Indeed, I could not with satisfaction see Fitzgibbon's pretensions even postponed. I love the man. He has stood by me, and I must stand by him." Lord Earlsfort, too, who is firmly attached to Government, would have reason to complain if terms were made to vacate a particular office superior to his own, within a given time, for a particular person so much his junior in life; although he must indeed be mad to sacrifice his present noble certainties for what must depend on the breath of Court favour and political protection. For all these reasons I cannot consent to see Fitzgibbon's objects superseded or even put backward. This opinion is final.

The state of Munster still continues to increase in outrage and violence. I have a meeting to-morrow of the confidential friends of Government to determinè on some plan to be adopted by the Council to

keep things tolerably well till Parliament at least can provide an efficacious remedy for the evil. I enclose you a paper transmitted by the Archbishop of Cashel. I have asked him to procure evidence of the truth.

I am concerned that the Order of the Garter should be increased. I think no necessity of political management should have broken into an institution of 400 years' standing, which derived its consequence from the chastity of its members and the paucity of their numbers. There will probably be an installation this year, but I absolutely waive every idea of attending it, which would interfere with your plans for the recovery of your health. I forgot Lord Tyrone and Lord Shannon's peerages. The delay will only embarrass Government with ill-founded applications from other claimants; whereas earliness of performance will confer the greater compliment. I shall write to Mr. Pitt myself. "Major Hobart is a candidate for the city of Lincoln. He mentioned it to Mr. Pitt, who was apprehensive of a prior engagement being given to a Mr. Bernard, a friend to Lord Buckingham. I wish to interfere with no prior engagements. But if . . . on a vacancy he should find himself disengaged, let him know that Major Hobart will have my utmost support, and that I am certain I shall have his. I hope Mr. Pitt, on all my election views, will not contend to prevent my ability of serving him." It is here universally reported, in consequence of rumours raised in London, that I am about to quit this country. You may easily imagine the effect that such a report has here. "Those who are living on expectation are coming to demand a completion of their objects. So that, like a banker reported to be in a bankrupt way, there is a run on my shop, and all my creditors are pouring in upon me." I have no view to abandon my station so long as I can fill it with honour to myself and advantage to the Empire, and while I possess the confidence of the Government with which I am acting. Would it not be prudent for Mr. Pitt to make some sort of declaration, either in Parliament or to some company, of the satisfaction which is felt as regards the Administration of this country? *Draft, marked "Most private."*

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, June 11. Fludyer Street.—"Your Grace has seen that Hastings is acquitted of the Rohilla war, which, though a very politic and successfull measure, Pitt would not rise to defend, from its extreme injustice and its disobedience to all orders from Europe. The case was; an indirect agreement had existed between the Indians and Ministry for Hastings' acquittal, and everyone knew his abilities alone had preserved India, but it would have offended the world if a very strong vote had passed in his favor upon the evidence before us, and the East Indians might have been too elate and mutinous, so, every-thing considered, I think the affair has ended in the best possible manner for Mr. Pitt." "Lord Camden thinks the impeachment should have taken place, and George Hardinge . . . argued very well indeed on the subject." I sat by accident next Flood, "who did not, I fancy, stay the division, and in talking over the merits of the question he seemed to wonder Ministry did not defend the Rohilla war from its policy, which he thought more manly."

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, June 14. Sudbury Green, Harrow.—"I am ignorant as ever of the arrangements, if any, which are to take place in the ministerial

body. It should seem, however, that some precautions would be wise for fear of misfortunes, especially in the House of Lords. The fresh attack upon the health of the Chancellor, although now happily subdued, ought to give an alarm, for as Lord Camden takes no active part, and indeed he appears to fail much in his strength, there would be a dreadful deficiency in that quarter. It cannot be supplied but by fresh negotiations, unless Mr. Jenkinson shall, as report has said, be advanced to the peerage. I hear now again of the Board of Trade, and of his intended establishment at the head of it."

"I am confident that Lord Sydney is little consulted or regarded in his department, and I have reason to believe him to be often rather indignant at the neglect with which he is treated. I doubt, however, whether he feels it so sensibly as to be provoked to resignation. As to treaty for new force, I see no sign of it. Lord Lansdown is certainly not in contemplation. Lord Loughborough and Lord Stormont seem to be the only quarter for trial. The K[ing] might perhaps wish for the latter. In the meantime people are not well satisfied. Complaints are made of dilatoriness and uncertainty, yet I know not with what reason. Many important matters indeed yet remain to be disposed of. I trust that your Grace's last letter to Lord Sydney will have taken off the embargo from one of them. I am very glad to have received from Mr. Hamilton this day the Speaker's opinion, coinciding with those of your Grace's other friends who met together.

"I am yet to learn how the questions respecting Mr. Hastings' conduct are to be all got rid of. I cannot imagine that the House will really listen patiently to the whole train of charges which Burke has, with a curious detail, conjured up against him. It is now evident that Administration is favorable to him, and if their countenance has been able to carry him through the business of yesterday—I have not yet heard the result of the debate—I think him clearly out of all hazard whatever. I will own, nevertheless, that the whole affair of Benares seems to me of difficult exculpation.

"I am very glad to hear of Fitzgibbon's disposition to marry, and to withdraw himself by degrees from the society of the young men, which has indeed been hardly consistent with his public situation, and certainly created prejudices against him here, which the vigor and zeal of his conduct towards Government could scarce efface. I hope that the choice he will make may be such as to render more easy and durable the execution of his prudent intentions with regard to the change in his mode of living.

"I suppose that your Grace has heard of Lord Fairford's match with Miss Sandys, by which, as I am informed, he will obtain a great accession of fortune and interest in the county of Down, besides a considerable estate in this kingdom. Lord Hillsborough means to return to Ireland in about a fortnight. He has written to me again about his Register's office, and I have again informed him how the grant was intended to be made to his son in conjunction with him, which was all that you could consistently do for him." *Marked "Private."*

[The DUKE OF RUTLAND ?] to ———.

[1786, June.]—"Lord Bellamont having expressed a desire to be informed if he was in the contemplation of Government for some honorable situation in His Majesty's service, was of course answered that his conduct in the last session of Parliament had inclined me to suppose that he intended to act in opposition to my administration, and that it had therefore been my purpose to have asked an explanation of his

sentiments and of the part he had taken in Parliament, and of that he designed to pursue. He appeared to be very anxious to acquit himself of any hostile disposition against my Government, and declared his firm attachment to His Majesty's service. He considered himself, indeed, as a neglected man, and not allowed to indulge his wishes to come forward as an active friend, because he could not appear in the character which he thought he was entitled to; that he had therefore resolved upon neutrality, and conceived that he was not liable on account of his present situation to be called upon for his support to the measures of Government. In regard to the last session, he had differed only upon the point of the Commercial Propositions, and really thought he thereby consulted the genuine interests of the Crown, the Government, and the public."

He insisted "that upon the subject of the succession to the Chair he had never interfered at all. A plan of opposition to Mr. Foster had accidentally arisen at his house, but he had taken no part in it, and, indeed, thought it from the beginning a very idle and ill-concerted measure."

The ARCHBISHOP OF CASHEL to [S. HAMILTON].

1786, June 14. Cashel.—The enclosed papers show that the White-boys are advancing into this neighbourhood. The paper No. 1 was delivered to the curate of Knockgrafford on Sunday by a man, who directed him to read it in church.

JAMES BYRES to [the BISHOP OF KILLALA].

1786, June 14. Rome.—On receipt of your letter, being in possession of the seven pictures, I had them carefully packed and sent the case to Leghorn, directing it to be kept in a dry place until further orders. I then set about getting the other picture, as the Duke wished for it. I had not intended taking it, thinking it—although an original picture—inferior to the others, and not necessary to complete the set. The negotiation and copying it required a considerable time. As soon as I got it I packed it up with the prints you ordered, sent it also to Leghorn, and directed both cases to be forwarded, as you desire, to Sir Joshua Reynolds.

"I am at a loss what to say about the eighth picture. It was not included in the value I put upon the others, and Lord Spencer, who is the only person to whom I have mentioned this affair, offered me, last November, two thousand pounds for the seven, and desired to have them if the Duke of Rutland did not take them. It stands me in near 200*l.*, and I have put it at that price in the enclosed note, as also in the bill of exchange, which I have this day taken the liberty of drawing on his Grace for 2,259*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* at three months date in favour of my brother, Robert Byres, Charterhouse Square, London, which I hope will be duly honoured. This transaction being now finished, I must beg the favour of your Lordship to recommend to his Grace that it should be never mentioned through whose hands he got them, for my name being mentioned might be attended with the worst consequences to me here, where we live under a despotic government who are more jealous than ever of fine things going out of Rome, and a fortnight ago was revived all the rigorous prohibitions concerning them; and I hope his Grace or you will be so good as to write Sir Joshua Reynolds cautioning him on this head. I thought it was best to leave this to you, and have said nothing of it in my letter to him."

I hear that the King of Naples has given liberty to everybody to dig, so that there is a chance of many fine things coming to light in that country. A value is to be put on everything found, and the King is to have the refusal of it. "Our friend Sir William [Hamilton] is well. He has lately got a piece of modernity [Emma Lyon] from England, which I am afraid will fatigue and exhaust him more than all the volcanos and antiquities in the kingdom of Naples."

I have often thought of the present you wish to make, "and can think of nothing from this country so elegant as three cameos for a pair of bracelets and a locket or medallion to hang at the neck. This, executed by Pichler on oriental onyx's and set in gold with oriental pearls, might be done for about 170*l.* sterling."

Enclosed is a bill for pictures by Poussin and engravings.

THE EARL OF MANSFIELD to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, June 19. Kenwood.—"To receive so kind, so affectionate, so invaluable a letter from your Grace is worth an illness. Mine is a painful rheumatism in both arms, and, what is worse, the return of a disorder which fell upon my nerves from the shock I felt two years ago, and not to flatter myself, *senectus ipsa morbus est*. The pride of my decline of life is the honour of your friendship. I shared with your Grace the successful conclusion of a session which shewed the prudence by which it was conducted. It must be a steady and skilful hand which guides so fortunately in so uneven a sea. I heard with pleasure your praise and gratulations from the Bishop of Killaloo, who told me how kindly your Grace remembered one who has long loved and esteemed you. I beg my best compliments to the Duchess. By not running after, or otherwise courting popularity, than by deserving it, I hear it now follows you both. Be assured the true popularity is that which follows."

THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, June 20.—Concerning his proposed visit to the Duke in Ireland.

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, June 23. London.—"I am very much flattered by your Grace's kind invitation to Ireland, and very much mortified that it is not in my power to accept of it this year, on account of the picture which I am to paint for the Empress of Russia. However, I don't despair of accomplishing this visit to Ireland before your Grace leaves it.

"In regard to the Augustus, I fear it is irretrievably gone. It was bought by the Duke of Portland for 125*l.* The Duke of Marlborough told me he bid as far as 120*l.*, but the Duke of Portland was resolved to have it at any price; he made the same resolution respecting the vase, which he bought at 900 guineas. The Augustus would have been worth double what it was sold for if it had been perfect. The lower part of the chin and the neck was gone; what remained was of the most exquisite Greek workmanship.

"I suspect the Pope's head of Velasques to be the same as is in the Pamphili Palace at Rome, and not the portrait of Leo Xth. The same Pope, who having disoblighed Guido, he made a caricatura of him—or, rather, made a devil of him—and put him under Michael's feet.

“At Chiswick there is likewise a head of the same Pope by Velasques, but not equal to that which is at Rome, which I think is one of the first portraits in the world.

“I have heard nothing of the Seven Sacraments. I hope no cross accident has happened. I wish they were safe landed.”

CHARLES MANNERS SUTTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, June 24. Canwick.—I have received an extraordinary letter from the Dean of St. Patrick's, who writes me word that the Bishop of Kildare lies dangerously ill at Bath, and adds that as I expressed some wish for his preferment in case of a vacancy on the bench of Bishops, he wishes to know if my inclinations continue the same. I have answered him that I never entertained the most distant view of succeeding to his deanery, and that my respect for your Grace, as well as the consciousness of my own insignificance, would not suffer me to interfere in the disposition of bishoprics.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, June 25. Sudbury Green.—I am very grateful for your kind purpose of denying yourself for my sake the satisfaction of personal attendance at a ceremony which would have many peculiar inducements to call you to it. Mr. Pitt, however, informs me that there is no thought of an installation this year. He desires me to assure you that he shall rejoice in finding you at liberty next, if not this year, to pay a visit to England. I took the opportunity of mentioning the idle reports of your being about to retire from the Government, and the confident manner in which these rumours were repeated in Ireland. I intimated also the great inconvenience to you from the solicitation of expectants, and to him from the suspicion which might arise of dissension and dissatisfaction on one side or the other. He promised to use proper and discreet means to put an end to such reports. It was impossible to use stronger expressions than he did to mark both his private regard and attachment for and perfect sense of public obligations to you.

“I perceive with much concern that your Grace had conceived uneasiness at some parts of my last letter, especially at that which related to Lord Mornington, as if Mr. Pitt had any idea of bringing you into the very disagreeable predicament of explanations and modifications after what has passed. He only had doubts about the means of opening a vice-treasurership to Lord Mornington, and wished to try if there might not be some other method devised for his gratification with which he should be well satisfied, Mr. Pitt taking upon himself the settlement of that point. He is very sensible that you can open no reversion to his Lordship, and he therefore gives up that object; but as he acquaints me of the almost impossibility to settle the vice-treasurerships at present, he shall take measures, which he is sure of making successful, for relieving you from further anxiety about Lord Mornington, by another arrangement to take place here. In short, I am to assure your Grace that Mr. Pitt will content Lord Mornington, and at a much less expence than by a vice-treasurership. This will probably be the good effects of ready payment. I do not know what peculiar employment he has in contemplation for him.”

I wish I could see as good a conclusion of Sir Lucius O'Brien's business. I was not aware that you had engaged to propose office to him before the next meeting of Parliament. I must confess I do not think

he had a right to expect such limitation of time. I fear embarrassment from the endeavour to hasten the settlement, but I will do what I can. "I am free to repeat my opinion about the Mastership of the Rolls, not because Mr. Grattan may make a momentary disturbance about it, but because it will afford an immediate ground for every [Irish] claimant to insist upon the resumption of every sinecure employment held by Englishmen, in order to give it to them, which will subject your Grace to infinite trouble and mortification. It is curious to observe that Sir Lucius, who was so delicate about a pension, because he would not occasion increase of public charge on his account, has no scruple to impose a heavier burden for no more usefull purpose; for I confess the transfer of a *sinecure* office does not seem to be a matter which should conciliate the public more than a pension, upon a mere question of expense." I will call upon Lord Clermont, and try to ascertain what course he might be induced to take. With regard to your idea of gratifying Mr. Ponsonby, I must call your attention to the enclosed extraordinary letter. I take for granted that you will not suffer his version of the contest for the Chair to remain uncontradicted, though you may not wish to make a hasty breach by strong expressions of justifiable resentment. "Your Grace will, I am confident, be induced to laugh, if you can, at the absurdity of the pretence; to make such an effect gently felt by the author of it, and to convince him that he could not adopt a worse method for advancing his objects, thereby giving him an opening to retract and amend his manners, if he is not so weak or so committed in some treasonable plot as to be past correction. Let the worst happen in that quarter, there would be good food for others in the spoils of the party, and I am convinced your Administration would be no less firm for the reduction to only a little, tight, well-fed majority, as Lord Shannon says. Sir Lucius would make a good easy Postmaster-General, and Sir Hercules Langrishe would be usefully removed from jobbing to the quiet perception of 1,200*l. per annum* in Mr. Burton's office, leaving to your Grace the disposal of a seat at the Revenue Board."

I had a short conversation with Mr. Pitt about the Chancellorship, but I see that he is strongly prepossessed in favour of an English lawyer holding that situation in Ireland; and seems to think it, therefore, advisable to make the arrangement as soon as possible, that Fitzgibbon may have the less reason to complain. I represented to him all the reasons which made you averse to any immediate change, but he was still rather fearful of the age and precarious health of Lord Lifford, and disposed to think that if a vacancy should happen within three or four years it should be filled by an Englishman, and that therefore it would be *wise* to settle the succession accordingly, without delay. The conversation was so short and interrupted, that I can hardly venture to report what passed as worthy of serious consideration.

I cannot help sending you my congratulations upon the event of Fitzgerald's trial. I as yet know few of the circumstances, but it would appear, from what I have heard, that this arch-malefactor lost his constancy and hauteur at the last, and was thrust out of the world with ignominious impatience by the officers of justice. His relations here had discontinued all intercession for a mitigation of his punishment.

I learn with very sincere concern that the disturbances in Munster do not subside. "The establishment of quiet and regular subordination to the laws can only be ultimately and permanently effected and maintained by the manifested determination of the principal gentry to risk their persons and immediate ease in preference to their property and their consequent distress. These are the alternatives, for if the gentle-

men will not by their presence and activity strive to repel the mischief at present, they will lose all power of influence for their own protection hereafter." It certainly behoves the Government to shew a vigorous resolution to crush the revolt against its authority, or at least to check it so far as to admit the interposition of more lenient measures. The army must therefore be employed, care being had to prevent the appearance of too much consequence in these disturbances, which might influence the malignant propensity of foreigners to interfere in our disputes. "This consideration should perhaps be remembered should it come in question to send a general officer with a force to impose obedience, and with that view probably to have the means of encampment instead of placing his men in quarters. I am glad to find that some exertions have been successful, and I have comfort also in the vigor of your Grace's mind and principles to strike a terror by a rapid administration of justice. But the discouragement is sadly great from the nature of the magistracy and the instruments whom your Grace has to work with. I cannot wonder, after what passed in Parliament at the close of the session, that there should be instances of insolent darings on the part of the insurgents. The manner in which the subject of tythes came to be mentioned, and was afterwards spoken of, must be taken as an earnest of the inevitable discussion in the next session, unless some prudent and commodious arrangement may be settled in the interval. This is surely, of all others, the most desirable event, because it would tend most to bring these embarrassments to a lasting conclusion, and, I am convinced, would be of benefit not only to the Ministers, but to the Established Church. The bishops must *on all accounts* take the matter into serious consideration for the purpose of serious settlement. Will it not be well for your Grace to talk with the Primate and with the Archbishop of Cashel—Metropolitan of the South—upon the subject? There would be little to fear from the Catholic prelacy, or even priesthood, if the cause, real or pretended, of quarrel with the Protestant clergy was removed by a fortunate alteration in the mode of their proper stipends. The demands of further indulgences might be laughed at, for it is to be remembered that the grant of these additional favors would affect only persons in a higher class, and that the lower order of that communion cannot be interested in the success of their superiors, against whom they have conceived already a jealous disrespect. I have talked with Mr. Pitt on this serious chapter, and he is very truly a friend to some adjustment of this kind. He is anxious for some commutation to be made *here* in lieu of tythes, but is very sensible that it would be still of infinitely more material good consequence in Ireland, and he therefore warmly recommends the employment of temperate and discreet deliberation for this purpose in this interval."

Postscript.—"Lord Mansfield most wonderfully recovered, and laughing at the reports of his unfitness for business." *Marked* "Most private."

(Enclosure.)

W. B. PONSONBY to [THOMAS ORDE].

1786, June 2. Dublin.—Concerning his pretensions to a high office which he heard was shortly to be vacated, and complaining of ill-treatment by the Government in their opposition to his candidature for the Speaker's chair; and also claiming the merit of having withdrawn from that contest in favour of the Government candidate, on which occasion his conduct was as friendly and handsome as theirs had been the reverse.

RICHARD, BISHOP OF CLOYNE, to the BISHOP OF KILLALA, at Killala.

1786, June 25. Cloyne.—“The importance of my subject must apologize for the trouble of this letter. The situation not merely of tithe property, but of the persons of the clergy, the service of the Church, the whole ecclesiastical establishment, and the Protestant interest on which the safety of the Constitution depends, is truly alarming. Facts are the best evidence.

“In the dead of the night of Saturday, the 17th inst., the house of Dr. Atterbury, a dignitary in my cathedral, constantly resident in his parish, was surrounded by armed men—to the number of two hundred—who knocked violently at his door, and threatened to break it open if he did not instantly come to them. On his coming out, a gun was pointed close to his head, whilst they tendered to him an oath—which he was thus necessitated, on pain of death, to take—to demand, and even to *accept*, no more than the rates of tithe set down by them—about one third of the usual composition. The following Saturday night was appointed for their visit to Cloyne; but the messenger who carried their summonses, being apprehended by a neighbouring magistrate, their plan was for the present disconcerted; and by his Grace the Lord Lieutenant’s goodness in ordering a part of the army to this place, I am relieved from all apprehension of personal insult. But, my Lord, there are now with me two of my clergy, who are dissuaded by me from attending the duty of their respective churches on this day, which otherwise, at all risks, they intended to have done. One of them is Mr. Percival, a relation of Lord Egmont, beneficed by him, constantly resident, doing the entire duty in his parish in the midst of his Lordship’s and Lord Arden’s tenantry, and, for want of a glebe house, resident in the mansion house of the family. Yet these circumstances, favourable as they appear, did not protect him. The White Boys made him two visits, and appointed this day—Sunday—for a third, by a message to him at Cloyne to return home—near forty miles—to receive them. Fearing they would force a similar oath on him, I persuaded him to send an express to a neighbouring clergyman, not possessed of tithes, to officiate for him till he could return with safety to his parish, and to return to Cork, where his wife, who is on the point of lying-in, had before taken refuge. The other clergyman is Dr. King, collated last year to a prebend in my cathedral, where he proposes to erect a glebe house. He attended my visitation, and intended to return to his parish yesterday; but his road home is so infested by gangs of these insurgents, that, from an apprehension that he might be intercepted and forced to swear, I advised him to leave the duty of this day at least to his curate. Mr. Stopford, another prebendary in this church, a clergyman of exemplary goodness, and constantly resident, has left in my hands a written message, delivered to him and signed by fictitious names, declaring *by God they will make a public example of him if he does not stick to their rules.* These may serve as samples of the case of individuals; but the evil extends still further. At the Chapter, held last week at Cloyne, for the renewal of leases, the whole œconomy—a mere trifle excepted—consisting of tithes, no renewals were proposed, though several leases were expired; one lease was formally surrendered, and the Chapter cannot expect the full, if any, rents of the subsisting leases to be paid till these disturbances cease. The income of the œconomy being barely sufficient to provide for the repairs of the cathedral and the salaries of the choir men, and other inferior officers, the service must of necessity fall, which was revived by uncommon exertions of the present Archbishop of Cashel, when bishop of this diocese, and brought to such a degree of perfection as to be justly

esteemed a considerable improvement in the church, and, of course, one link in the chain of national improvement."

Such facts require little comment. They ought to be known to Government; and, in Mr. Orde's absence, being at a loss for the official channel through which to lay them before the Lord Lieutenant, I have taken the liberty of putting you in possession of them, not only in your episcopal character, but in order that you may communicate them to his Grace, or else advise what mode of communication I should adopt.

Postscript.—Since writing the above, I have an authentic account that Mr. Kenny, Vicar-General of the diocese of Cork and Ross, was obliged to leave his parish immediately after service on Sunday, the 18th, owing to information that one of his Protestant parishioners had been sworn by the Whiteboys to force him to conform to their rules.

JOHN TOLER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, June 29. Dublin.—I have before, through Mr. Hamilton, communicated to you the wishes of the gentlemen of Tipperary in reference to the Whiteboy disturbances, and now forward for your perusal the letter of a very sensible friend of mine on the same subject.

(Enclosure.)

E. M[OORE] to [JOHN] TOLER.

[1786,] June 25. Mooresfort.—Having taken time for inquiry and reflection, I will now tell you freely my sentiments with regard to our disturbances and the remedies which should be applied to them. "In spite of all we have done, or shall be able to do, my opinion is that we shall not succeed so far as to prevent an universal combination among the lower order of people throughout the southern and western parts of Ireland from taking place in a very short time; by which they are binding themselves to each other by the most solemn oaths and engagements, not to pay more than certain specified sums as dues to the clergy of *either* Church. This spirit of combination, which began in the counties of Cork and Kerry, is now spreading like wild fire throughout this country, and I suppose will travel eastward. The gentlemen, at least in this neighbourhood, have come to a proper sense of the alarming situation in which the country stands, and universally discountenance those proceedings. We are associated, and are resolved as far as in us lies, to support the laws, but the cunning policy which seems now to direct the steps of the common people will, I am afraid, elude every effort till their grand object be effected—*universal combination*. To elucidate by example; the county of Limerick gentlemen, as you have read in the papers, assembled at Murroe to prevent the parishioners of Galbally from swearing the inhabitants of that district to conform to their resolutions. They took some riotous fellows, who were in arms, lodged them in jail, and may possibly substantiate evidence against them, but they did not prevent the parish of Murroe from being sworn, and those latter fellows were bound by a similar oath to swear, on the next Sunday, the inhabitants of the town of Tipperary. This you may conceive to be a bold undertaking, in the face of the army quartered in Tipperary, the volunteers, and the country gentlemen, who were determined to oppose them. The experience acquired at Murroe, and the force we had prepared against them, made the fellows change their mode of proceeding. They came in small bodies and unarmed, and although we took many of them, and argued with and frightened others, yet they had private opportunities to swear many amongst a people who were as ready to

take as they to offer the oath, and the people, the lower class I mean, of the town and neighbourhood have since that day universally sworn one another. They speak more violently against the priest than they do against the parson, and are deaf to the remonstrance of gentleman or landlord. There do not exist at present, at least in this neighbourhood, any open outrages against law, and we cannot procure any informations which signify against the tenderers of oaths. Of course while the present disposition continues, untill matters come to an issue, I do not see that much can be effected, although a *Government proclamation* should make its appearance, or a *general Police Bill* be established.

“ I have now . . . given you an accurate account of the present state of this part of the country, which is much more easy to do than to point out the proper remedies which should be applied to our disturbances. Were only a small part of the community to be leagued against the remainder, severity and example might operate in its full force; but I am afraid the punishment of an offender will be considered in the light of martyrdom, and altho’ justice should be fully gorged, that this country will only remain in a state of smothered war. Palliatives may relieve, but will not remove the evil. Corrosives may correct the part affected, but will not render the remaining parts of the body sound. I am at once for a cure which I should hope would prove radical—a commutation of tythes. Our clergy would be paid with satisfaction and certainty. Our peasantry would be eased of a burthen which lies too heavily upon their shoulders; and the kingdom would increase in agriculture and population. It may be said, allay the disturbance first and gratify the people afterwards. I should say so too were I not afraid of trying the experiment; for before, if ever, anything effectual can be done against this universal combination, the combiners must proceed to something further than they now propose. They are under oath to leave their tythes in kind unless a small value be offered for them; I take it for granted this will be done upon the same day in the several parishes. How can those tythes be drawn? Where will be the horses got to draw them? After they are drawn, may they not easily be destroyed, as happened lately to the Vicar-General at Cashel? In short, the contagion is spread very deep, and they have got upon such cunning grounds as will be very apt to baffle us, and, in the end, make us wish we had compromised the business at first. Concession, as Lord Chatham said upon the American war, comes with a better grace from the superior power. We are now that superior power, and concession will be considered in the light of a boon to the discontented inhabitants of this country. Do not think, my dear friend, that my ideas savour too much of despondency. I am inclined to think that we should eventually succeed by force, but I had rather, without having recourse to so disagreeable and dangerous an experiment, secure the affections of the common people and establish harmony throughout the entire kingdom by what strikes me to be a just and necessary step for Government and Parliament to pursue—the abolition of the tythe laws, and the substitution of some other mode in lieu thereof for the payment of the clergy.” I should be glad that the country gentlemen and the Government should act in concert, “as I am certain there is necessity for the union of all honest men to extricate us from our present difficulties, for fear we should experience the times of Jack Cade, when a Lord, *which might not be the case now*, was put to death for being able to speak Latin.” I had a letter sent me as commander of the Tipperary volunteers, in a style which proves that some other than a rustic hand composed its contents and directs the multitude. Do you think county meetings on the subject of tithes would be eligible to Government?

DR. JOHN EKINS to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, June 29. [London.]—You have made me the happiest of men by the appointment to the deanery of Salisbury. I came to town yesterday with the news of Dr. Noel's death, and Mr. Orde being out of town, I wrote myself to Mr. Pitt and informed him how eligible this preferment would be to me. I afterwards waited on Lord Sydney, who, a few hours after, informed me that the King had ordered my commission to be made out. The promptness with which the business has been done strongly indicates the Minister's zeal to comply with your wishes.

I am glad to hear from all quarters of the general approbation which your Government meets with. I hear from Lord Lothian that he hopes to see you soon in Ireland.

The EARL OF CHATHAM to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786,] June 29. Berkeley Square.—I hope to be in Ireland not many days after this letter. I am extremely glad to hear of your friend Mr. Ekins succeeding to the deanery of Salisbury.

M. E. COUNTESS OF CHATHAM to the DUCHESS [OF RUTLAND].

[1786, June.]—Conveying an application to the Duke of Rutland from Lady Camelford for leave of absence to Lieutenant Raleigh Gilbert, of the 20th Foot. *Enclosed is a letter from Lady Camelford to the Countess of Chatham.*

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD [SYDNEY].

[1786, June.]—Mr. Fitzgerald's trial "terminated in the clear conviction of that unhappy man, together with Brecknock, a Newgate solicitor, and five more accomplices. Fitzgerald, Brecknock, and one of his miserable instruments were executed on Monday night. Brecknock shewed the utmost fortitude, and preserved the originality of his character till the last. But all Fitzgerald's resolution forsook him, and he exhibited a picture of the most unmanly terror and the wildest despair that could be possibly beheld. He implored a suspension of his punishment from five minutes to five minutes till he delayed his execution for near two hours, and then passed into eternity with such indications of terror and dread as were the clearest evidence of his guilty conscience."

Your wishes in favour of Lord Errol afford me an opportunity to shew my readiness to oblige you. I hear a very good character of him, and shall be happy to promote his objects in his profession by recommending him for the purchase of a troop in the 5th Dragoons. "The quiet of the province of Munster still continues to be invaded by the outrages of the Whiteboys. I have stationed troops in the different parts which are most under their dominion, but without any great effect. But a very spirited exertion of an association of about forty gentlemen with their servants in the county of Limerick have attacked a body of above 2,000 of the insurgents, whom they put to flight, and took fifteen of their number. They are in possession of many arms, the happy effects of volunteering, by which the Popery and the beggary of Ireland are armed. I have called a Council, which is to meet to-morrow, in order to take the state of Munster into consideration; and I hope such

decided measures will be adopted as may restore peace and tranquillity to that extensive province. There is, however, in truth much oppression from the landlords to their tenantry, and the manner in which the tythes are collected is a real and substantial grievance to the poor." *Draft.*

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The EARL OF TYRONE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 1. Curraghmore.—Sending a present of a sturgeon, a buck, and a salmon.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 1. Sudbury Green.—“The business of the session is now nearly at an end, but, I am afraid, is not likely to terminate so agreeably to all the friends and servants of Government as might have been wished. I doubt that Mr. Pitt has got into an awkward scrape, which will be very probably followed with the resignation of a principal colleague in office. Lord Sydney has, it seems—this I learn and communicate most confidentially—perceived at last and taken violent umbrage at the slights which are constantly put upon him. A circumstance, however, has happened which has given him so much discontent as to force him to the resolution of resigning in disgust. Unfortunately the Chancellor is very much involved in this unpleasant difference, and his temper, a little ruffled by the strange turn of Hastings’s business, will, I should suppose, be blown up into rage and resentment on the present occasion. The whole of this is caused by so ridiculous a matter as Lord Stanhope’s Election Bill, which Mr. Pitt has strongly supported, and now carries through the House of Lords in spite of the remonstrances of the Chancellor and Lord Sydney, who had last year thrown it out. It is an unlucky additional grievance that a sort of advantage should seem to be taken of the Chancellor’s illness, and this measure hurried through in his absence with the single protest of Lord Sydney. I expect every instant to hear of his having thrown up his employment. I cannot tell into whose hands the seals will be transferred, but I suppose into Jenkinson’s. Yet it is whispered to me that Mr. Pitt does not chuse to have him in a situation to give him a seat in the Cabinet. I passed half an hour with them, however, three days ago, and they appeared to act with great cordiality, and Jenkinson with much good humor.” *Marked* “Most private.”

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 4. Whitehall.—I will ask His Majesty’s permission to-morrow to go to Ireland, and expect to leave London about the 13th. I suppose by this time Lord Chatham is with you.

EDMUND STEVENS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 4. Walton.—On private affairs.

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 5. Hanover Square.—Expressing regret that, being under medical treatment in London, he is unable at present to name the exact time when he can have the pleasure of receiving the Duke at Hillsborough, and asking that his patent of the Register's Office, with Lord Fairford's life added, may be passed. Requesting also that he may be allowed to nominate to various small offices vacant in the county of Down.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to [THOMAS ORDE].

[1786, July.]—I am very reluctant to trouble you with letters, lest the fatigue of answering them should in any degree retard your restoration to health. Your last, however, gives me confidence that you are beyond danger of a relapse.

Sir Lucius O'Brien talks of visiting England. I hope you will be able to arrange for him to his satisfaction. I cannot urge you to it by a stronger motive than that my honour and faith are pledged to propose some object with which he ought to be satisfied. If Pitt can settle with Lord Mornington, I have no wish to embarrass him about the vice-treasurership, but Lord Mornington also has a pledge which I cannot see broken. The grant of the two peerages is one which I have much at heart. I hope none will be created without the performance of the engagement which the King permitted me to make to Lord Tyrone and Lord Shannon.

“I must stand my ground on the subject of the Irish Chanceryship. Lord Lifford's health is very good. He is very competent and very zealous, and I am persuaded his loss would be felt in the Four Courts, and at the same time I cannot sacrifice Fitzgibbon. He deserves all I can give him, and I shall fling every obstacle in the way of any arrangement which is to preclude him. For the interest of my Government his succession is essential, and, in truth, I am anxious to establish a powerful and a permanent influence in this country, which may serve me even when I quit the Government; and this can only be done by attaching with essential favours, and by bringing into the most important offices, the best abilities and the most powerful connexions in the country. While I am in the Government, the Chancellor must owe his station entirely to me. This is a delicate thing to avow. But I have no secret that can relate to my situation here separate from you. Mr. Ponsonby's letter is very intemperate, and unpardonable. He certainly must not be allowed to establish his claims upon such pleas, or to hold a language—which we must for an instant acquiesce in—as if we had been the aggressors, as if he had received the injury; but I would not quarrell with him for *words* unaccompanied by *actions*. The good humour with which we have treated everybody, and which has had its effect, may still be preserved even in this case; and he may be told that this is an instance among many others, where people draw the *exact opposite* conclusions from the very same premises. I wish all our engagements could be done away before the meeting of Parliament, that we may begin on new scores. Beresford tells me that the revenue will be very productive. In that case, if we can go on without applying to Parliament, we need fear nothing. I am the last man to fling away the publick treasure wantonly, but we are not to be such rigid observers of œconomy as not to secure our ease and make good our private faith from the apprehension of an exceeding — so much for Ireland.

“Pulteney is here, stating his constant attendance, and thence he could be of to Pitt if he were employed. I believe it to be true. Pray press

Pitt to give him something to relieve me from importunity and from expence. He has talents and industry, and he might, I think, be turned to advantage."

I regret "the accounts you send me of the disunion among His Majesty's servants. I always conceived that Lord Thurlow would recoil at Mr. Pitt's vote in Mr. Hastings' impeachment, and if there be not the best understanding between the Chancellor and Pitt, it may have very fatal consequences. Nothing but such an event, [or] the King's death, or an unsuccessful war, could weaken the existing Government and give a triumph to its enemies. I have always supposed that the King's principal predilection is to Lord Thurlow, and if he could *do without Pitt perhaps he would* not scruple to sacrifice him. Personally, Lord Sydney's separation from the Cabinet does not weigh a feather, but from a single stone being pulled out the wall is always rendered the weaker. I suppose, in fact, Mr. Pitt cannot essentially be affected by anything; but I trust he will always inform [me] in time of his most secret intentions, as I can never have a thought or view in politicks separate or distinct from his interests and his fortunes. At a proper period you will say this to him. I can scarcely believe the King himself to be perfectly satisfied about Pitt's vote concerning Hastings. What is the real story of the diamond? Pray write me all you know of the matter. I trust you never see or write to Lord Lansdown without assuring him of my sincerest regards being ever invariably his."

COLONEL GEORGE Y. KENDALL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 9. Paris.—Informing him of the particulars of Lord Northington's illness and death at Paris, and expressing anxiety to know if the pictures, gun, and other articles which he had sent to Dublin Castle had arrived safely.

LODGE MORRIS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 10. Maryville.—I have "laid before you occasionally some sketches of men and things, which you have corrected and improved by observation into a system that I will be bold to say is superior to that of any of your predecessors or their secretaries, and will stand the test longer for developing the political history of Ireland.

"Whilst it shall be necessary to govern these countries through the medium of Parliaments, the interests and the desires and wants of the principal people must be a science of consequence and utility. That the same has been totally misunderstood is certain, but it has also been perverted. Little things have been done for men who could serve the Crown in Parliament and in the country, and great things have been done for those who could do neither."

Whenever I have addressed you, "I have uniformly acted on one principle, which has been to lay my heart upon the table and exclude every other consideration but your interest and honor. I have laid before you the knowledge I have been endeavouring to acquire for upwards of sixteen years, with advantages in the pursuit which no other man in Ireland could boast, 'that of being allied to and living with the principal people whom I wanted to study.' And I think I can now say that there is not one man of consequence who resides in Ireland whose connexions, fortune, and incumbrances, wants and foibles, parliamentary interests, estimation in the country, and public character with which (*sic*) I am not acquainted."

“I request you will cast your eye over the lists of the minorities of last session, and reflect that something should be done against our next meeting, either in the way of retaining those you have, in good humour and zealous support; or to cast about for auxiliaries. There is not one man about you who knows anything of the matter, and . . . I can assure you that dissatisfaction is gaining ground.”

The EARL OF TYRONE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 11.—Enclosing a letter of invitation for Lord Chatham.

VISCOUNT LIFFORD to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND]

1786, July 11.—As my sittings in Chancery afford me no choice in hours, I am obliged to call on you thus early. I should be proud if you and Lord Chatham would dine with me on Friday or Saturday, at Stillorgan.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to the EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH.

1786, July 12. Black Rock.—The opportunity I shall have of paying my respects to you is one of the principal objects of my intended progress in the North. I shall have the advantage of visiting improvements which reflect such credit on the judgment of the improvers, as well as afford a noble example of the best species of public spirit. I shall not set out until the middle of August. *Draft.*

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 13. London.—“In regard to the Venus, the Duke of Dorset is to have it, not for himself, but for a French marquis, whose name I have forgot; he is to give me 400 guineas for it. I have since done another with variations, which I think better than the first; but I am not fond of shewing it till the other is disposed of.”

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 13. London.—On coming to town yesterday to speak to Mr. Pitt about your letter of the 8th, I was not a little surprised to find that a sudden resolution had been taken to create a few peerages; but was mortified on being informed that Lord Tyrone and Lord Shannon were not to be included in the list. I urged in vain every argument I could bring to my aid against this decision. Mr. Pitt, though warmly disposed to meet your wishes, alleged in reply the difficulty caused by the recent great increase of the British peerage, and also that Lords Shannon and Tyrone had not been led to expect such an early fulfilment of the promises made to them. I have made another assault on him this morning, and I hope with better success. I represented the mortification which you would suffer if your engagements were to be postponed in favour of others less urgent, and the bad effect it would have on the persons you wished to oblige. *Marked* “Most private.”

The SAME to the SAME.

1786, July 14, Friday. Sudbury Green.—I cannot find instructions in your letters as to the titles desired by the two Irish noblemen on whom British peerages are to be conferred, but have ventured from

memory to tell Mr. Pitt that Lord Tyrone wishes to take his Irish title, and Lord Shannon that of Carleton. Mr. Pitt wishes you may be able to accommodate him by including two or three Englishmen in the next creation of Irish peers. I pressed hard for his dispensing at least with the condition of *next* creation; but he desired me to mention the matter to you immediately, and to inform you that it may concern you, "because one of the persons intended to be recommended may possibly make room for an arrangement in favour of Lord Mornington, which would relieve you from him. This is Mr. Aubrey, who is a Lord of the Treasury. The other is, to be sure, a more objectionable name, but being asserted to be as good and generous a Christian as any the best friend of his Government, Mr. Pitt is extremely anxious to gratify him, namely, Sir Sampson Gideon."

"I believe that any idea of change in Government is for the moment suspended. Lord Sydney and the Chancellor succeeded in despatching Lord Stanhope's Bill, and that triumph seems to have tranquillized the former of the two at least." The vote upon the Hastings business must have given displeasure in a certain quarter, but the worst effect strikes me as arising from the opinion of evasion which it has excited, and of a reserve for the purpose after all of relieving the delinquent from all punishment or censure.

"The story of the diamond I really suppose to be a very simple matter, which is, as any other possible subject would be, taken hold of to insinuate connection between the Court and Mr. Hastings by the means of corruption. I really believe that the packet happened to come at this unlucky moment, and that the contents or value of them were unknown, as the Nabob's signet had never been broken open till it was put into His Majesty's hand."

Another matter has created a great deal of rumour. "Lord Rodney has chosen to vapour in a most ridiculous manner about the disposal of papers which he had sent over upon the taking of St. Eustatius as containing *evidence of treasonable practices against certain persons*, and for the information of His Majesty's Ministers in a political light alone."

"With respect to our friend Lord Lansdown, against whom this was particularly directed, both by Lord Rodney and Mr. Knox, who, I have no doubt, was the great fomentor of the mischief, for the other could have no concern but about his own responsibility, Government has certainly been inattentive in suffering a matter of this sort to be introduced in such a way, contrary to all order in a House of Parliament, and to be quietly proceeded in without a remark or attempt at explanation. In fact, however, it is a contemptible business, and can only turn to the greater disgrace and ruin of Lord Rodney, and to the severest measures which may or ought to be taken with Mr. Knox. This gentleman has infallibly perjured himself—this, of course, is most confidential—for he has sworn that the new Ministry liberated Curzon and Gouverneur in 1782, against whom there were charges of high treason, and that on that account he—Mr. Knox—was aware all the papers would be given up, and therefore after *secretly* taking out of the boxes the most important, he abandoned the care of the rest to Mr. Pollock, without any intimation of what he had *dared* to do." The real history is this, and it is curious: "Curzon and Gouverneur were released from custody above a month before the change of Ministry, and the warrant for their discharge was signed by *Lord Bathurst* as President of the Council, so Mr. Knox's whole story is demolished by his swearing to a demonstrable falsehood. And again, Mr. Pollock can prove that Mr. Knox never had access to the papers from that time, so that they must have been secreted before,

and his insinuation of distrust of the new Government is merely an impudent lye." "Lord Lansdown is, however, very angry at the seeming dereliction of him by Government and their acquiescence under an implied charge against him." I perceive also that his mind is soured upon other accounts. I am sorry for it. I cannot think it wise to let such impressions take root. He has no desire for official employment, or to compete with anyone; but he expects attention, and, through the influence of jealous enemies, is exposed to slights. He wishes truly to be a friend to the present Government.

"I feel everything which you do about Fitzgibbon, but I must venture to say a word about the idea of establishing a powerfull and permanent influence in the country, with the hope of its being of use to you when you shall have quitted it. Knowing well that your Grace does not think of this with any personal view, which may possibly clash with the existing Government, I am afraid there are but few indeed who will retain a proper sense of particular favor whenever new systems and new intrigues shall be formed and pursued. I can conceive no advantage to be derived to your Grace hereafter equal to the conscious reflection of having acted with decided earnestness for the good of the country, the honor of His Majesty's service, and the just consideration for deserving individuals." "It must always be right to place the best abilities and most powerfull connections in the most important stations, but I hope your Grace will not hastily suffer yourself to *depend* upon other return than that of general regard and good report. The principle of self-interest is superior to all others in that country, and the conflicts would be few and weak between recollection of benefits and the necessary means to obtain fresh favor from whatever quarter."

Mr. Pitt listened favourably to your requests that Mr. Pulteney and Mr. Thomas Sutton may be suitably provided for. I will see the Chancellor about the living near Belvoir. I have confident hopes he will oblige you in a matter which affects you so closely, but you know "what an odd composition he is." *Marked* "Most private."

* W. PITT TO THOMAS ORDE.

1786, July 14.—[*Correspondence*, p. 149.]

THOMAS ORDE TO THE DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 17. Sudbury Green.—The enclosed from Mr. Pitt reached me yesterday, and I wrote an immediate answer, copy of which I also enclose. I perceive by the *Gazette* that no other peerage but Mr. Jenkinson's has yet been conferred. I am sorry that even one should have appeared before the wishes of Lord Tyrone and Lord Shannon had been gratified. I trust that what I have written to Mr. Pitt on the subject will meet with your approval, and anxiously hope for a favourable decision.

"The Prince of Wales's resolution is a striking measure, but if it was a scheme of party to throw reflexion on the King and to raise the credit of the Prince, at the expence of His Majesty, it has not answered." *Marked* "Most private." *Enclosed is a press copy of a letter from Orde to Pitt, dated 16th July 1786, pressing the claims of Lords Tyrone and Shannon to English baronies.*

THE EARL OF MORNINGTON TO THE DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 18. Brightelmstone.—I suppose you are thinking of your journey to the north of Ireland. "I hope you may not be called to the

south to command the army. If the papers do not exaggerate, I should think Captain Right's activity and strength had by this time rendered the interference of the army absolutely necessary. There is no news here of any sort. People talk much of the Prince of Wales' reform, particularly in this spot, which he has chosen as the place of his retreat. Mrs. Fitzherbert is here, and, they say, with child."

CAPTAIN A. P. MOLLOY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 18. Gilbury, near Southampton. — Concerning hopes, deferred during more than two years, of an appointment through the Duke's recommendations to Mr. Pitt.

* W. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, July 19. Downing Street. — [*Correspondence*, p. 50.]

THE EARL OF TYRONE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 20. Curraghmore. — Having written to Mr. Sheridan, at the desire of the High Sheriff and some of the magistrates at the west end of this county, requesting an order to the troops at Tallow to assist if called upon, I write this in order that you may not think the disturbances are getting to a greater height than they really are. "The fact is that people are alarmed; that there has not been any outrage, but that there have been meetings in some parishes and oaths administered and taken by the lower order of parishioners, and, I fear, countenanced by many of the better tenantry; that in other parishes they talk of meetings, and that members from a distance threaten to come and administer these oaths, but I have not yet found anything of that kind has been done. Certainly the ideas which have got among the people are of a very unpleasant nature, easily to be traced, and owing to a variety of concurring circumstances; and can only be got rid of by an uniform regular system, and will require time, vigor, and moderation."

[C. F. SHERIDAN] to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786, July.] — Concerning a letter from the Commander-in-Chief, General Pitt, objecting to carry out an order transmitted to him from the War Office to move two troops of cavalry from the north of Ireland to the town of Listowel. *Draft or copy.*

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to [THOMAS ORDE].

1786, July 20. Black Rock — *Draft*, marked "Most private." [*Correspondence*, p. 153.]

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to W. PITT.

[1786, July 24] — "I have received your letter with infinite concern. I can state nothing in addition to what I wrote to you last week. I cannot presume to controul you in an act which may involve your English Government. At the same time it is but fair to say that I do not see how I can conduct the administration of the King's Government in this country with any prospect of future success if this matter

be not accomplished. The principle of a strict observance of faith is what I have endeavoured to establish in spite of every obstacle, and in an instance like this, where the two most zealous and honourable supporters of my administration are concerned, I will not commence the breach of it. It is true no specifick period was mentioned for the completion of this object, but it was certainly understood that when any large creation was to take place these arrangements would form a part in it. You cannot, I trust, doubt of my zeal and my attachment to the welfare of your administration, and of my anxiety at all times by any concessions on my part to contribute to its ease and its prosperity. But there is a personal credit which must likewise be maintained, without which my power of serving you would be rendered useless. I will urge you no further nor enter more particularly into the question. I still hope this business will yet be happily accomplished, and that I may still continue in my station creditably to myself and usefully to the Empire." *Draft.*

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 24. Sudbury Green.—I have not heard again from Mr. Pitt on the subject of the peerages. I have done everything in my power, and have only to add that you must persevere, and I am confident you will carry your point. "I have been very earnest in my representations to Mr. Pitt about the great probable objects of the ensuing session, particularly the state of foreign treaties. I have also talked much with *Lord Hawksbury* to the same purpose, and I hope that no delay of consequence will be made before your Grace will receive a full communication upon these essential articles." My health has suffered from a fresh attack of nervous weakness. Sir Richard Jebb advises me, instead of going to Bath, to cross the sea and pass five or six weeks at Spa.

THE EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 25. Hillsborough.—On my arrival here, I found your obliging letter. I am much honoured by your intention of visiting this place, and will do all that I can to make it not disagreeable to you.

JAMES BYRES to [the BISHOP OF KILLALA].

1786, July 25. Rome.—"I am glad that the Duke has got a fine Velasquez. They are very rare to be met with. I do not recollect to have seen that which belonged to the Baillie de Breteuil, but shall perhaps be able to get some account of it, which I shall not fail informing you of. That you mention in Rome is in the Doria Panfilì Palace. It is likewise a half-length sitting; has been a very fine picture, but has suffered by the finishing and glazing being rubbed off in cleaning. I had about twenty years ago almost a duplicate of it, which came from Donna Olimpia's country house near Viterbo. It now belongs to Lord Bute, and is at Luton. It's a true picture of the master, and in fine preservation." "I have disposed of my collection of ancient gems to the Empress of Russia for 3,000*l.*, which I have received along with a most gracious letter. It was certainly one of the finest collections in that way I have seen, and I am happy to find that Her Imperial Majesty is sensible of it."

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786, July 26?] Wednesday morning. Dublin Castle.—I have just received a letter from two justices of the peace at Tarbert with informations on oath that a thatched stable, in which were ten horses of the 9th Dragoons, and a'so a house fitting up as a stable, were set on fire, and entirely consumed. This is believed to have been done by Whiteboys.

[C. F. SHERIDAN] to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786, July 26? Dublin Castle.]—Giving a detailed account of the outrage at Tarbert, and suggesting military precautions against a repetition of it.

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786, July 28,] Thursday morning. Holyhead.—I cannot neglect to return at the earliest opportunity my acknowledgments for the favours with which we were honoured in Ireland. "Lord Chatham's distinctions and honors at Dublin *were felt by him* during our whole passage."

The EARL OF TYRONE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 29. Curraghmore.—"I find with great concern that the inhabitants of Tipperary have come in multitudes to the chapels of this county to administer oaths, and are spreading further every week. I shall think myself fortunate if I can get sufficient evidence to convict some at the next assizes. It is difficult, but I do not despair. I thought it right to send the particulars of what passed last Sunday to Mr. Hamilton that you might see the exact state of things."

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, July 29. Sudbury Green.—"I saw Mr. Pitt yesterday, and again urged in the strongest terms the immediate performance of the engagements in favour of Lord T[yrone] and Lord S[hannon]. I hope that I left him in a perfectly good disposition to accomplish this object, although he still expressed much concern on the occasion, and much apprehension of the inconveniences which would arise from it. He said, however, that he would speak to the King about it, and entirely agreed that if it was to be done at an early period it should be done forthwith. Your Grace's letter convinced him of course of your determined adherence to the promise you had been authorized to make." "A vacancy has happened in the Treasury by the death of Mr. Buller. I should have supposed that it would have been filled up by Lord Mornington, but I now hear of an arrangement which is to make further provision for Mr. Jenkinson, to whom the peerage with the former possession of 5,000*l. per annum* for life from Government gives not sufficient establishment. I have often thought that Mr. Pitt wished to avoid the introduction of him to the Cabinet, and therefore still appeared reluctant to give him ostensible office. This went particularly to that of Secretary of State. The Board of Trade might have been managed without that consequence, but it seems to be abandoned. And now an office of mere emolument and no business is to be purchased for him," and he is "to have a seat in the Cabinet. He is to be Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster." *Marked* "Most private."

FREDERICK TRENCH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, July 30. Heywood.—Expressing his wish to shew the Duke the tablet of Portland stone bearing his Grace's arms, to be erected in the Public Rooms, and also referring to his designs for Rutland Square.

The EARL OF CHATHAM to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 1, Tuesday. Berkeley Square.—“The flattering prospect we had of a short passage to Holyhead soon vanished, and we were near four-and-twenty hours getting over. I arrived in town early on Sunday morning, having had full time in a tedious journey through Wales to do penance for all the hospitality of *sweet Ireland*. My brother came to town yesterday, and I had a good deal of conversation with him on the subject I left you so solicitous about. I found him, though very anxious as far as your wishes went to comply with them, yet very averse to creating the two lords in question peers of England, for fear of its opening the door to further applications from your country, and wishing that the idea of creating them marquisses should be renewed. I stated to him, however, the painful and difficult task that must be to you, and urged to him, in consequence of what you had said to me, the infinite advantage that would result from their immediate creation in their proper place in the present batch—which is not yet in the *Gazette* from some delay respecting the Scotch peers—and from doing *that* handsomely towards two men zealously attached, *now*, which probably must be done hereafter with half the grace, and most likely subject to greater inconvenience. I think upon the whole he seemed to feel the force of your sentiments on this business, and I hope I have left him determined to recommend their immediate creation. This I state as a *private* communication to you, and wishing sincerely you may hear of the resolution being taken from authority before this may reach you, which I send by the post.”

Buller is dead, and I rather fancy Lord Mornington will go to the Treasury. I am just setting out for Weymouth to resign my house to Lord Lansdowne, and shall proceed in a few days to Somersetshire to protect my woods.

R. ARCHBISHOP OF ARMAGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 1. Armagh.—Hoping to receive a visit from the Duke during his progress in the north of Ireland.

The EARL OF TYRONE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 3. Curraghmore.—I have an account that the Bishop of Derry is in so wretched and emaciated a state, that we shall hear of his death in a very little while. Let me mention to you that the transfereuce of my brother, the Bishop of Ossory, to the see of Derry is an object which, on many accounts, I have greatly at heart.

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 3. Hillsborough.—I shall be glad to know the exact time when you intend to honour my little cottage with your presence, lest I should be out of the way. I am sorry to hear that the Duchess does not accompany you in your northern tour.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF ARMAGH.

1786, August 3. Black Rock.—“I have received your Grace’s obliging invitation to Armagh with much satisfaction. The prospect of paying my respects to your Grace forms a principal object in my intended tour, where I am to view improvements which do honor to your Grace’s judgement and the magnificence of your spirit, and at the same time afford a national example and are of real national advantage. I propose to commence my journey about the 16th of the present month, unless the increasing disturbances in Munster should oblige me to defer it. It has occurred to me that the continuance of these commotions might even render it necessary to call the Parliament forthwith to pass some law for the purpose of suppressing them. I have directed Mr. Hamilton to write fully to your Grace on this subject. It is in vain for Government to temporize with an evil which is growing to a very dangerous and alarming size.” *Draft.*

FREDERICK TRENCH TO THE DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 4, Friday evening. Dublin.—Referring to his work in the improvement of Dublin, and asking for a vacant appointment in the Stamps Office.

(*Enclosed.*)

RUTLAND SQUARE.

An estimate of the expense actually incurred in forming Rutland Square, the principal sunk being 8,995*l.*

THOMAS ORDE TO THE DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 4, Friday. London.—“I can at last congratulate your Grace upon the success of your object in favour of Lord Tyrone and Lord Shannon. Mr. Pitt dined with me yesterday in the country, and acquainted me that he should speak to the King this day, and had not a doubt of being authorized to order their patents to be made out.” I am in town for the purpose of paying my duty at St. James’ on account of the extraordinary affair of the attempt to assassinate the King. I am very glad to find that after the strictest enquiry, there is no doubt as to the woman’s insanity. I hope the Prince of Wales will feel and obey an impulse to come to town and wait upon the King. There was a great concourse of courtiers, old and new, at the Levée this day, and the King appeared in unusual good spirits.

It seems that a custom has been permitted of allowing all persons to present memorials and petitions to His Majesty upon his descending from his carriage, and the crowd is sometimes so great as almost to obstruct his entrance to the royal apartments. This will be prevented in future, but I take it for granted that in other respects the King will appear in public as before.

I hoped that you would have been relieved of anxiety about the Whiteboys; but I assume that you will now carry your plan respecting Lord Luttrell into execution. I doubt not that he will succeed, as he will probably act with spirit and discretion. “I have hinted Saltash for him, but as yet have no answer.”

I am making progress towards recovery, but Sir Richard insists upon my going to Spa before returning to Ireland. *Marked* “Most private.”

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO LORD [SYDNEY].

[1786, August.]—I must add to my official letter a few private lines upon the late desperate attempt. “We cannot too much adore the divine Providence, who had compassion upon us and upon the State, in averting calamities so fatal, and at a period so critical, from overwhelming these kingdoms in the dreadful confusion which must have ensued. The personal attachment I bear my Sovereign, as well as the duty I owe him, renders me an anxious participator in all the horror which must have been inseparable from such an attempt; and I trust no part of His Majesty’s dominions can feel more devoted on this occasion than the kingdom of Ireland.” *Draft.*

HENRY DUNDAS TO THE DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786,] August 6. Edinburgh.—A letter from my nephew has conveyed to me your wishes that I should meet you in the north of Ireland. I regret I cannot do so, as I set out to-morrow on a long-deferred excursion to the ports in the north of Scotland; but I still hope to find an opportunity of visiting you in your own dominions.

GEORGE HAMILTON [Baron of the Exchequer] TO [S. HAMILTON].

1786, August 6. Hampton.—Hoping that the Duke will be able to visit him and see the works at Balbriggan.

VISCOUNT CLIFDEN TO SACK[VILLE HAMILTON].

1786, August 6. Gowran.—“We are all quiet as yet in this part of the country, but I fear will not continue so long. I had the priest of my parish with me yesterday, who told me they are rising and swearing whole parishes in the Queen’s County and at Carrick in the county of Tipperary. I have desired him this day to exhort his congregation to behave quietly and not to give into any illegal combinations, and that if they did, I had authorised him to declare I would enforce the laws against them. I shall go to Bushe to-day to concert means of keeping Thomastown and about that side of the country in order. By a little exertion we may check it, which it has not hitherto been with effect, but is running like wild fire from parish to parish, and if it is found practicable by the lower order of people that they can draw the whole kingdom into any combination on oath—let it be ever so trifling—it may have serious consequences. Those who have risen in the county of Tipperary, and indeed elsewhere, declare that they are encouraged by people of consequence. If I find they stir in earnest here, I shall write to you for an order for the army, but I will do all to prevent it, without troubling his Grace on that subject.”

ROBERT HOBART TO THE DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1786,] June [*i.e.* August] 9.—After various examinations and consultations in regard to Mrs. Nicholson, it seems agreed on all hands that she is insane. The difficulty is what to do with her. Some think she ought to be shut up for life and considered as incurable; others are of opinion that she must be first tried and that then a statute of lunacy must be taken out against her, when she may be confined without infringing the

liberty of the subject. "I am this instant returned from the Levée, which was exceedingly crowded. The Duke of Portland, Lord North, Burke, and all the leaders of Opposition in both Houses, Charles Fox excepted, were there—to congratulate His Majesty on the most providential escape which he and his Ministers have experienced. The Prince of Wales went to Windsor as soon as he heard of the attempt, and supped with the King and Queen; he has not been at Court since he dismissed his establishment. I heard this day that Lord Radnor is gone abroad, pretending that he is much distressed in his circumstances on account of the immense sum of money he has lent the Prince. My authority is not particularly good. Mrs. Fitzherbert and the Prince are at Bright-helmstone. Most people are inclined to think that the connection has been fastened by a ceremony which has quieted her conscience, but nothing sufficiently serious to affect his future situation. Mr. Orde was at the Levée to take leave on his going to Spa. He looks a great deal better, and appears in very good spirits. Mornington was also there; he told me that Lord Walsingham is appointed ambassador to Spain. A vice-treasurership therefore becomes vacant. Mr. Buller's death vacated a seat at the Treasury. Mornington is ripe for either. I wish your Grace joy of Lords Shannon and Tyrone's peerages."

"Napper Lord Tandy's protest against Lord Chatham's freedom was extremely comical. I supposed he protested as a sheriff's peer, which by the by he is not. I hope your Grace will have an agreeable tour, and as Bob Uniacke is not to accompany you, it will most likely be a peaceable one."

LODGE MORRIS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 9. Sackville Street.—Protesting that as the Duke was not favourable to the idea, all his wishes for the honour of being a member of the Privy Council have vanished.

COLONEL GEORGE Y. KENDALL to the [BISHOP OF KILLALA].

1786, August 9. Paris.—Expressing his regret that the biscuit china trees he sent to the Duchess of Rutland had been broken on the journey, and promising that Jones, the Duke's cook, should be put in the way of receiving the best instruction.

MEMORANDA [by Thomas Orde].

1786, August 10.—

Sir Lucius O'Brien.—I am satisfied he would have no objection to Lord Clermont's office, and I am also persuaded that he would not object to the Hanaper, if it were understood that in case of an opening he might exchange it for a better employment. He seems to think the Duke had given him reason to hope that no other person stood in his way to the Mastership of the Rolls. I showed him that this was impracticable. He will see Mr. Pitt, but I have prepared him to expect that Mr. Pitt will only carry out what the Duke may think proper to recommend. I left him with an assurance of the Duke's firm resolve to find him a situation; but he was a little impatient about time.

Vice-treasurership to the Duke of Leinster.—I have reason to believe that Lord Mornington will be provided for here, and will prefer a situation of less rank and emolument in this country to one of much higher in Ireland. In that case the vice-treasurership might be open

for the Duke of Leinster. But as no promise has been made to him, Mr. Pitt considers himself free in the matter; and the vice-treasurerships are wanted here for the remuneration of a Committee of the Privy Council for Commerce. I will, however, press the Irish object on Mr. Pitt.

New Geneva.—I thought these buildings had been finished long ago. I suppose Mr. Cuff must view them and report, and advertisements must be prepared, stating the tenure, conditions, and other essential circumstances. These should be first privately communicated to Lord Tyrone and Mr. Bolton.

Mr. Richards.—I am afraid we must grant him a pension equal to the emoluments of his office.

Mr. Cavendish and Mr. Jocelyn.—“If my Lord Lieutenant has no objection to the sum to be given to Mr. Cavendish, this may be settled, and a very good young man provided for, and a family deserving well of Government highly gratified. We shall, to be sure, be scourged for this extravagance, yet we cannot help it, and must only fight this battle and save ourselves in future from such necessity.”

Mr. Dawson.—I will try to see him to-morrow. *Marked* “Secret.”

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 12. Hillsborough.—Thanking the Duke for attention to his requests.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 12. Whitehall.—I laid your letter before the King, who commands me to express his gracious acceptance of your attachment and respect. His Majesty was much pleased with your letter. He is perfectly well, and in high spirits. “This is a private letter in every sense, and therefore I venture to say that the account in the papers of a certain visit at Windsor contains many falsehoods. The Queen pressed His Royal Highness to go to the King, and the King sent him word that he would see him.” *Marked* “Secret and separate.”

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, August 12. Sudbury Green.—To-morrow I set out for Spa; very thankful for your ready permission. I saw Mr. Pitt yesterday, and had much conversation with him upon several subjects. Lord Mornington “has accepted the vacant seat at the Treasury Board, and, as I learn, deems himself very happy in not having any longer the necessity of putting a constraint on his feelings by consulting and acting in concert with Lord Earlsfort and the Archbishop [of Cashel].” I take it for granted that he will write to you. I took occasion to lay a foundation for the disposal of a vice-treasurership to strengthen your Government. I mentioned your ideas about giving the office to the Duke of Leinster, which accord much with those entertained by Mr. Pitt, but he could not give me much encouragement to hope that this object would be accomplished. I told him, however, that he must expect to hear from you upon it. The new plan now adopted for the management of the business of trade and commerce is the difference and difficulty. “A Committee of Council is to be established for this purpose—of whom Lord Hawkesbury and Mr. William Grenville are to be chief members, and necessarily of the *quorum* in all proceedings. They are to have no salaries, and consequently to be provided with lucrative sinecure employments. The

vice-treasurerships, therefore, will be wanted here for this, or for the Board of Controul already established upon similar principles. Lord Hawkesbury is to have the Duchy of Lancaster—not for life. Lord Clarendon is to return to his old station at the Post Office, upon *the resignation* of Lord Tankerville. I am informed that this step is taken in consequence of a disagreement between the two present postmasters.”

“I thought it now advisable to say something to Mr. Pitt about the creation of Englishmen to be Irish peers, and particularly mentioned your objections and apprehensions about Sir Sampson Gideon. He said he was very much concerned at this information, and the more because he had *absolutely promised* Sir Sampson to recommend him, *if any Englishmen* should be advanced to the Irish peerage. I am afraid that Judaism will not be admitted as an obstacle to his success, for Mr. Pitt observed that *he* had never been a Jew, and that he *had been* member for a county, and of course a good candidate for the peerage. Sir Sampson has taken a ridiculous step to remove some part of the prejudice against him. He has applied for leave to change his name to Eardley, but has made it but a *half* measure, for the cloven foot is sadly exposed by the preservation of *Sampson*. I do not know what can be done. The great object must be to gain delay, so as to have one more *pure creation* of Irishmen previous to this *defilement*. This can be the better urged now, as Mr. Aubrey’s seat at the Treasury is not wanted for Lord Mornington.”

Sir Lucius O’Brien has seen Mr. Pitt, who “was very civil to him, and assured him of the satisfaction with which he should concur in any arrangement which your Grace should think proper to recommend for him.” I have sent to Mr. Hamilton, to be laid before you, my ideas upon the subject of provision for Sir Lucius, and I hope one of them may answer the purpose of relieving you from embarrassment.

Mr. Pitt will speak to Lord Howe in favour of Mr. Browne.

I have written to the Chancellor on the subject of the vacant living near Belvoir.

“Lord Luttrell’s letter for the Privy Council will be dispatched immediately.” Your measures to repress the Whiteboys are much approved of here.

“The Prince of Wales came up, I find, to Windsor. He has not appeared at St. James’s, being, as I am informed, indisposed in health. I hear also that he is very angry at not having received an express from the Ministers of the attempt against the King. It would have been well to have sent one.” *Marked* “Most private.”

The EARL OF TYRONE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 13. Curraghmore.—I have the honour of your letter informing me that the King has been pleased to create me a peer of Great Britain. I am much gratified with this mark of your esteem and regard.

The MARQUESS OF LoTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 13. Holyhead.—I landed this morning after a passage of twenty-four hours, for which I paid fifteen guineas, which is the only sickness I have experienced.

The ARCHBISHOP OF CASHEL to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, August 14. Cashel.—Concerning a letter of introduction for Captain Dobbins to the Lieutenant-Governor of Jamaica.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to R. HOBART.

[1786 or 1787, August.]—Mr. Orde's health is so much improved as to afford promise of entire re-establishment, and therefore the question of appointing his successor is not now entertained. Although I would gladly promote your views in life, I doubt my power to do so, as regards this particular office, even if it were vacant; and I may mention, for your *private* information, that some time since, when there was a nearer prospect of Mr. Orde quitting Ireland than there is at present, Mr. Pitt wrote to me recommending three persons for the post of Chief Secretary. To one named by him I objected; but I certainly informed him that, in regard to the others, I would take his recommendation, should Mr. Orde feel himself obliged to retire. *Draft.*

The EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 15. Brightelmstone.—Mr. Pitt has offered me the vacant seat at the Treasury Board, and I have accepted it. Pitt's conduct to me has been marked, as I have always found it, with kindness and honourable regard, and with circumstances more valuable in my estimation than the offer of the office. I understand that the vice-treasurership which Lord Walsingham holds is to be opened, but not the other, and that neither can be transmitted to Ireland. Although I have thus embarked in English politics, I still look to a settlement in Ireland as the final completion of my views, however remote; and during my absence I hope the cordial support of my friends will always be a pledge of my sincere attachment to your Government. My brother and myself will always be ready, on any extraordinary emergency, to attend your summons.

The EARL OF SHANNON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 15. Castlemartyr.—Yesterday I was honoured with your letter informing me that His Majesty had been pleased to create me a baron of Great Britain by the title of Carleton. I am very sensible of this high mark of His Majesty's favour, and it adds to my gratification to know that I owe so great a family object to you.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786, August 16,] Wednesday night.—Concerning Lord Luttrell's commission and instructions.

C. F. SHERIDAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786,] August 16, 11 o'clock at night.—In answer to your letter to Mr. Hamilton, I have to inform you that Lord Luttrell's instructions—as sent by the Attorney-General—are at this moment ready in my office with the blanks filled up. I did not leave town till this business was settled, so that Lord Luttrell may have them any time to-morrow. As to another meeting of the servants of the Crown, I humbly observe that I conceive it would answer no purpose. Everything that can be done by *advice* has been done already; *action* must now be attended to.

GEORGE Y. KENDALL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 17. Paris.—I received fifteen days since, by Jones, your letter of July 16. My utmost efforts have been employed ever since to execute your commands. This is the very worst season of the year for disturbing wine; nevertheless, I have written to Burgundy to have 400 bottles of the very best wine (of the year 1779 if it can possibly be had) directed to you in Dublin. Burgundy is of so delicate a nature that I dared not hazard sending a greater quantity of it at once. I have written also to Comte de Genlis, the present possessor of Sillery, to dispatch 500 bottles of his best wine with the same directions as for the Burgundy. I am endeavouring to obtain 300 bottles more of Champaign, of more delicate growths than Sillery, such as we drink here.

I wish it had been convenient to send your cook Jones two months sooner; most of our capital houses at Versailles and Paris are broken up for the summer. Nevertheless, he employs his time very well in the Duke of Orleans's kitchen, and in that of the Archbishop of Narbonne. I wished to send him as far as Brittany in Comte de Montmorin's family, for the holding of the States; but Jones prefers going to Fontainebleau with the Court, where I shall have him well fixed. I hope he may be spared here until the end of January. I am glad the coffee-cup pleased you, but am surprised that the chocolate-cup has not been forwarded. It was delivered to Lord Chesterfield with instructions to remit it to Mr. Sneyd, of the Secretary of State's Office.

Referring to [G. R.] Fitzgerald's trial and execution, and to the Duke's intended tour in the north of Ireland.

A. PYE MOLLOY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 18. New Forest.—I am grateful for the readiness with which you have promised to press Mr. Pitt for the speedy performance of his intentions respecting me. I would prefer a *small sinecure* to a place of greater profit that might hinder me in following the naval profession. The loss of my guard-ship and other unexpected reverses have reduced me to great distress. I have certain information, which I send you in confidence, that the Duke of Northumberland and his brother, Lord Lovaine, are highly offended with Administration.

R. HOBART to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786 or 1787,] August 18. Blickling.—“The re-establishment of Mr. Orde's health is a circumstance so much for the advantage of your Government that every well-wisher to you and your administration must heartily rejoice in it. My application arose from being informed that it was otherwise, and, so decidedly, that the nomination of a successor went beyond speculation, or your Grace would not have heard from me on the subject; and not even then had I not conceived the appointment entirely at your disposal, as from the specimens I have already had of Mr. Pitt's disposition to promote any objects of mine, I had little to expect from him but fair words, exonerated from the possibility of their being tortured into a promise of anything, however remote. From you I have ever experienced the warmest friendship, and can never sufficiently express my gratitude and regard.”

* W. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, August 19. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence*, p. 158.]

* The SAME to the SAME.

1786, August 19. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence*, p. 161.]

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 19. Hillsborough.—I am honoured with your letter of the 15th, and am very sensible of your kind attention even to the most trifling matters on which I have troubled you. My object in all of them is the support of your Administration. I am glad you continue in your resolution of visiting the north this season, notwithstanding the *increasing* commotions of the White Boys, and hope to entertain you at my little cottage.

SIR J. BLAQUIERE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1786, August] 20, Sunday. Carrick.—Submitting certain papers, the subject of which is not specified, for the Lord Lieutenant's consideration.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to the EARL OF MORNINGTON.

1786, August 21. Black Rock.—I sincerely rejoice in your appointment to be a Lord of the Treasury, and thank you for your early communication of the event. I am persuaded you will not find the duties so formidable as they appear to you. You have all the necessary qualifications for success on the stage on which you are now destined to act—talents, spirit, and perseverance, which will make the imaginary difficulties vanish before you. I shall watch with the greatest anxiety the progress of the next session, which will probably afford you frequent opportunities to distinguish yourself.

“The increasing commotions of the Whiteboys have obliged me to send Lord Luttrell into Munster with a large body of troops and some artillery under his command. I hope these deluded instruments will not occasion Government to act with a severity which, though necessary, is at all times distressing and repugnant to the feelings of humanity.” You may be assured your friends are left in hands which, for your sake, will afford them every possible protection. *Draft. On the other leaf is a draft of a letter to General [Cunningham?] assuring him of being kept in remembrance by Government, and of another letter to Lord ——— on a personal matter.*

GENERAL R. SLOPER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 21. Calcutta.—I am mortified at learning that none of my letters from India have reached you. Doubt as to what my situation will be on the arrival of Lord Cornwallis makes my present position unpleasant. I have done my best, and discarded self-interest in order to serve the Company, and ought not, as a result, to suffer either in military reputation or personal character.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, August 23. Spa.—“I hope that your Grace will have been able to spare the Attorney-General, who will be a great acquisition to us. Lord Luttrell must keep Whiteboys in order, and by that means give him liberty. I find poor Carleton extremely anxious not only to come away for a little temporary relaxation, but to push into harbour for the rest of his days. He is certainly a very good man and has deserved well, but I take it for granted you would wish him to have a little patience. . . . He would have an immediate bargain with Chief Justice Patterson for his resignation. This, although to be attended with expence, might be very justifiable and proper if Carleton’s succession could be accomplished as a single measure. But your Grace is aware that whenever there shall be a vacancy in either of the offices of Solicitor-General or Prime Serjeant, there must be contrived, to prevent embarrassment, a vacancy in the other, so that Serjeant Fitzgerald and Mr. Wolfe may both be promoted. This can only be effected during the present Prime Serjeant’s life by giving him a pension, and of course the expence of the two would be very heavy indeed. After the next session this may perhaps be managed very well.” In the meantime, if you would give some private favourable intimation of your intentions to the two successors elect, you might derive present advantage from their exertions, and Carleton would be in some degree relieved. There are many Irish here. “Grattan surprized us with his company two days ago. He is come on Mrs. Grattan’s account. He is himself quite recovered by Cheltenham, and is full of spirits and good humor.” The Duke and Duchess of Cumberland are not likely to quit this place before October; and the Duke of Dorset is expected here. The King of Prussia is dying. I hope you are enjoying your tour in the north. I trust the dissipation of a month or five weeks will restore me to complete power of work in your service. *Marked* “Private.”

GEORGE BUSHE to [LORD LUTTRELL].

1786, August 24. Thomastown.—“I would instantly wait upon you, but that I am doing more good where I am. I am collecting necessary evidence preparative to the expedition against the grand meeting of Right Boys which is to take place next Sunday at Killeagh. I am happy to inform you I have removed the principal difficulty as to having the law on our side. . . . I have proof of the meetings being to the terror of His Majesty’s subjects, and have positive informations of felony against persons who are to be at the meeting at Killeagh. . . . I pray to have fifty light horse and forty infantry for this expedition. . . . Let the light horse be at Thomastown on Saturday evening; it is near enough for them to be to the field of action in time, and [not] so near as to possess the Right Boys of certain knowledge of what they are to do. . . . In the whole course of your expedition you will not find a more effectual opportunity of exerting than on next Sunday, nor a more numerous body to encounter, nor more legal grounds to proceed upon . . . and, if your other vocations permit you, come and command in person.” I need not tell you to keep secret—except to Lord Clifden—that I have got this information as to next Sunday’s business. “Mr. Alcock is the magistrate I intend to take with me and no other; there is nothing I fear more than *bungling assistance*. Lord Clifden must guard his own neighbourhood on that day, otherwise I would wish for him, but for no other.” *Copy.*

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO W. PITT.

1786, August 24.—Yesterday I received yours of 19th, marked *most secret*, and had only time to acknowledge it, after dispatching your letters to the Speaker, Sir John Parnell, and Mr. Beresford.

In March last I wrote to Lord Sydney, giving my general idea of a commercial treaty with France, so far as it concerns Ireland; but I intimated that I could not enter into details or give a decided opinion without fuller information.

You have chosen the three fittest men in Ireland to consult with upon the interests of Ireland in the adjustment of this treaty; and having full confidence in their knowledge, abilities, attachment to the interests of their country, and loyalty, I am ready to submit my judgment to theirs, while I offer what occurs to me from the particulars mentioned in your letter.

Your leading principle in the treaty is the reciprocal adoption of the *most favoured nation* clause, reserving the rights of Portugal under the Methuen treaty. This will doubtless be generally agreed to in Ireland; but I do not know whether it should not be understood for Ireland that *by the terms on which the most favoured nation now stands* are meant those terms on which such nation now stands *in regard to Ireland*. There are some protective duties in favour of Irish manufactures on similar goods from foreign parts, which may possibly not exist in Great Britain. Another reason for this distinction is that, otherwise, there might be a cry raised here that the treaty inferred an obligation upon Ireland to impose the same duties on her trade with France as Great Britain does.

Let me ask, does the treaty extend beyond European dominions, and whether the American States are to be considered among the "nations?"

Your second principle is to enumerate certain leading articles of manufacture, which may be reciprocally imported at fixed duties. The British articles named are woollen, cotton, hardware, and pottery, at duties of from 10 to 12 per cent. This is the part of the treaty most beneficial to England, but of little immediate benefit to Ireland. No doubt, as regards woollens and cottons, there is a fair field in Ireland for commercial enterprise; but there is little prospect of success in regard to the others.

In return, France is to send her cambrics hither, at the same rates. This, I fear, will affect the linen trade in Ireland.

A reduction of the wine duties can be of no moment to Ireland, except in point of revenue; but the admission of brandy at low rates will affect the home manufacture of malt spirits, reduce the value of land, and damp the spirit of agriculture, besides leading to the loss of a source of revenue.

"You show very important attention to Ireland in saying that it may be easily settled that the rate to be fixed for lincens shall not extend to Ireland, if she wishes not to allow its importation."

I understand it to be intended that Ireland may waive the whole *or any part* of the tariff, and rely upon the most favoured nation clause.

Ireland may, but this is doubtful, have some advantage in leather manufactures.

I know it is here expected that some species of our fine linens may find their way into France, but I do not much rely on this.

I shall be glad to have from you any detail of the Spanish treaty, hoping that it may be of advantage to Ireland.

In regard to Portugal, your insisting that Ireland shall have the full benefit of the Methuen treaty, if it is to be preserved at all, will be extremely popular.

Your plan for introducing certain of the King's servants in Ireland into the Committee of Council for Trade must be of great service to Irish interests. "Whether that trust should be always conferred exclusively on men filling certain offices may be worth considering. You will take notice that it will be impossible to spare such men from hence during the session of Parliament."

I presume care will be taken of the glass manufacture, which is growing in importance here.

I think what I have said to you is consistent with the position in my Speech from the throne, that "the uniformity of laws and religion, and a *common interest in treaties with foreign states*, form a sure bond of mutual connection and attachment between Great Britain and Ireland."

Let me again say that whatever you agree to with Mr. Foster, Sir John Parnell, and Mr. Beresford, will, I am sure, be wise and fitting. *Copy or draft.*

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO W. PITT.

[1786, August 24-26.]—I was obliged to delay answering your letter upon the important treaty between England and France, until I could acquaint myself how far the interests of Ireland might be involved in any such negotiation. I do not pretend to enter into any detail, but have gathered a few hints in conversation with a very competent gentleman. I am glad you have called for the advice of those whose attendance you have requested in England. They are all men of very clear judgment, who fully understand the commercial interests of Ireland, but, at the same time, consider her close and inseparable connexion with Great Britain to be the great bond of her happiness and the guardian of her rising prosperity. I shall cheerfully submit my judgment to theirs, but trouble you with a few hasty remarks:—

(The letter of which this and the preceding, dated 24th August, are drafts, is among the papers of Philip Vernon Smith, Esq., of Lincoln's Inn, recently published by this Commission. The letter as finally written and sent is dated the 26th August, and adopts the passage above abstracted, instead of the passages abstracted in the first three paragraphs of the document calendared as dated the 24th. In other respects the letter substantially agrees with the first draft.) *Marked "Private."*

LORD LUTTRELL to the COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF [LIEUTENANT-GENERAL PITT].

[1786, August 25,] Friday. Gowran.—I am still of opinion that large bodies of people will not assemble in the counties near Dublin to enforce the taking of any oath, at the hazard of being opposed by the King's troops. Mentioning intelligence received from, and military movements in reference to disturbed districts of King's County, Westmeath, Carlow, Kilkenny, and Tipperary.

JAMES CONNELL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 26. Charleville.—Discussing the disturbed state of the country. I consider that it arises out of real grievances, and suggest that assurances should be given, on condition of a return to good order, that the grievances will be looked into on the meeting of Parliament.

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, August 29. London.—“I have the pleasure to acquaint your Grace that the pictures are in the river, and that I am expecting them in Leicester Fields every hour. I should have deferred writing to your Grace till I had been able at the same time to give some account of their merit, but my nephew setting out to-morrow morning for Ireland, and being very desirous of bearing a letter to your Grace, I thought it would be no bad news to communicate this intelligence; the bad part of the story is, that I insured the pictures for two thousand pounds, which cost thirty pounds. I confess I insured them with an ill will, but as I had received your Grace’s orders I had no business to consider about the propriety of it.

“I beg your Grace’s pardon for returning to the subject of my nephew. If I can do nothing for him during your Grace’s administration, I must give up all thoughts, or rather he must give up all expectations, from any advantage he is to receive from my interest with the great. We are not so ambitious as to think of bishopricks, but if Dean Marly succeeds to the next bishoprick, which according to report is probable, if your Grace would give to Mr. Palmer his leavings, either his deanery or the living of Loughilly, your Grace would make him at once what you was so good as to say you would do one time or another, *an independent gentleman*, and I shall never pretend to have any further demands on your Grace on his account.

“Your Grace some time since wished Marlow, the landskip painter, to come to Dublin, but he has, as I am told, quitted business. I have met lately with a painter of landskips and buildings that I think excells Marlow—Mr. Hodges, who went the first voyage of Captain Cook and has since been in the East Indies. He is now desirous of seing Ireland, and would embark immediatly if he was sure of your Grace’s protection. He is a very intelligent and ingenious artist, and produced, I think, the best landskips in the last exhibition, which were taken from drawings which he made in the East Indies.”

LORD (CHANCELLOR) LIFFORD to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1786,] August 31, Thursday evening.—Concerning the mode of taking an examination.

FREDERICK TRENCH to [C. F.] SHERIDAN.

1786, September 2.—I am certain these disturbers will never appear in force in the Queen’s County. We can manage them by *wholesale*, but in *detail* they will foil our General and all of us. On ecclesiastical intelligence I have little reliance. The collieries have been tampered with; the mode you will find from the enclosed copies. Luttrell has the originals. The map will inform you that the Barrow is the only line on which it [the spread of disorder] can be stopped.

We have at this moment two companies of the 61st at Ballynakill, and tomorrow we mean to put them to a little service. I have written specially to Mr. Butler to meet me in the colliery. "I fear our efforts may be ineffectual as to private swearing. Such a collection of outlaws, deserters, and criminals as inhabit the mountain that seems to border my lawn (and is not five miles distant) exists not elsewhere in Europe."

On Luttrell's information Pigot and I were on Tuesday evening on the look out for a large party crossing the river Nore to swear the colliery. We encountered no enemy, and the business was effected by two vagabonds from Rathdowny.

I applied recently to have the Rev. Mr. Stubber, my minister, placed on the Commission of the Peace. The appointment should be made at once, as the state of my health is precarious.

"Lord Luttrell has sent me seven troopers for garrison. I had as soon have seven virgins with their lamps; but we will make the best of them for a few days, and I do not complain. If anything worth notice occurs, I shall write; and if there should be any very unforeseen and absolute necessity, shall take a liberty I am certain is not according to military rules, of detaining one of the companies; but nothing but some *most urgent necessity* which will fully *justify the measure*, can make me, and you will—if necessary—represent it to General Pitt or the Duke."

(With this letter are, in the same handwriting, the copies of depositions above referred to.)

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, September 4. Spa.—I thank you for your letter of the 20th ultimo. I am glad to hear of progress in the very necessary military action against the Whiteboys. I trust Lord Luttrell will speedily put a stop to the active disturbances, but the great difficulty remains of dealing with the alleged grievance. You are right "in foreseeing that Government, if anything is to be done, must be early prepared in order to be beforehand with the certain meddling of Opposition." But, in answer to your expression of a hope that I have already conceived some method for our proceedings, I must acknowledge that I have not yet thought of any project which is not open to so many objections that I am hardly tempted to formulate it. "I have talked much with Mr. Pitt upon the subject, and although his sentiments are decided in respect to the right measure, he is embarrassed by a clear view of the difficulties and dangers which must attend the attempt of carrying it into execution. I will not here pretend to enter further into discussion of the point. Immediately upon my return I will urge His Majesty's confidential servants to assist your Grace by their opinions, and to confirm you in the uniformity of your proceedings by the assurances of entire support. In the meantime some necessary preliminaries must be arranged. Mr. Hamilton will have prepared a representation for your Grace's consideration, to be sent officially to the Secretary of State, of all the principal articles of complaint and outrage on the one side, and of the arguments adduced to confute, and the steps taken to check or punish them on the other. Experiments of innovation in such a country will be cautiously introduced, and the interested parties must be sounded, and indeed must be brought to a spirit of conciliation before the work of alteration and a sort of new establishment can be safely even commenced, so far as to declare the real wishes or designs of Government. It will, however, be no less necessary to put some limits to this reserve and management,

for an open part must be ultimately taken, and maintained with firmness and consistency without regard to subsequent clamour or remonstrance. I cannot think of this object without lamenting the truth of your Grace's observation about the temper and prejudices of a certain great necessary agent in this business, about whom the Attorney-General intimated his sentiments to your Grace. I have always had doubts and apprehensions about the propriety or safety of such an advancement in case of an unfortunate vacancy, but my remarks upon the latter instances of rashness, imperiousness, and impracticability, have convinced me that it would be almost political madness so to put in hazard the most delicate, and perhaps now the most important part of the whole machine of Government. FitzGibbon is arrived here, and full of health and spirits, seemingly delighted with his temporary liberty, but, like himself, warmly declaring the contentment with which he would have stayed had he conceived his further presence necessary. I have not yet had much conversation with him, but, as we shall meet daily, we shall of course consider every subject which requires present attention, or may be likely to be of moment in the next period of business. I learn from him that your Grace had not entirely determined upon the time of your northern expedition, or indeed upon the certainty of your going. He seems, however, to be of opinion that there is no reason for your changing or postponing your resolution on account of the troubles of the south. The season will not admit of much hesitation or delay."

I shall not fail to send you whatever information upon foreign politics I may be able to obtain; but I must be cautious as to what I write until I return to England. At this moment both action and opinion seem to be generally in a state of suspense. Yet in Holland principles and parties assert themselves with a bitter antagonism, which threatens serious disturbance. The apprehensions entertained of changes in the administration and the foreign relations of Prussia on the accession of a new sovereign, are somewhat allayed; but the peace of Germany seems to hang on the life of the Elector of Bavaria. In France, I conceive that the power of M. de Vergennes increases, while that of the Queen declines. The *Voyage de Cherbourg* is supposed to have contributed to this change. This little territory will not, I fear, be long at peace. We are not likely to have bloody battles, but amusement, the principal object of visitors, will probably be much interrupted by acrimonious disputes.

I am glad the two new English barons are well pleased. Mr. Pitt at last did the thing with a good grace, and was satisfied with the propriety of it. "I rather suspected that Lord Mornington would endeavour to keep open a door for resumption of claims upon Ireland, but I am confident that Mr. Pitt understands him to have accepted the seat at the Board of Treasury in England as a complete satisfaction of any pretension upon Irish Government. With respect to the arrangements for Sir Lucius O'Brien, I cannot still help thinking that Lord Clermont will be glad to commute his place for an equal amount in pensions to his nominees. If he should entirely decline such an agreement, General Conway's employment may be had. Perhaps it might be too much to open both at once, and I am afraid poor Lord Glandore must wait for a time, although such a thing as the Hanaper is exactly the situation for him, if your Grace should think fit to gratify him with it.

"Your Grace's reasoning about the exclusive disposal of regiments, so as to make it impossible for the Lord Lieutenant to assist His Majesty's service in Ireland by some successful recommendations, is unanswerable. I do not know what is intended for the two candidates for whom you

interest yourself, but I will not fail to make the knowledge of it one of the earliest objects of my inquiry, upon my return to London."

I have lost no opportunity of pressing your applications in favour of your private friends. Pulteney will probably be gratified soon. I have urged Captain Molloy's appointment, to the postponement of the claim of my own brother. FitzGibbon and your other subjects here send their sincere respects. *Marked* "Most private."

FRANCKLIN KIRBY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, September 7. Dublin.—Stating his claim for retiring allowance on being superseded in the employment of port surveyor of Derry.

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, September 7. London.—"I have the pleasure to acquaint you Grace that the pictures are arrived safe in Leicester Fields. I hang over them all day, and have examined every picture with the greatest accuracy. I think, upon the whole, that this must be considered as the greatest work of Poussin, who was certainly one of the greatest painters that ever lived.

"I must mention, at the same time, that (except to the eye of an artist, who has the habit of seeing through dirt) they have a most unpromising appearance, being incrustated with dirt. There are likewise two or three holes, which may be easily mended when the pictures are lined. Excepting this, which is scarce worth mentioning, they are in perfect condition. They are just as Poussine left them. I believe they have never been washed or vanished since his time. It is very rare to see a picture of Poussine, or, indeed, of any great painter that has not been defaced in some part or rather (*sic*), and mended by picture cleaners, and have been reduced by that means to half their value.

"I expected but seven pictures, but there are eight. The sacrament of Baptism is represented by Christ baptising St. John, but that picture, which does not seem to belong to the sett (though equally excellent with the rest), is St. John baptising the multitude.

"I calculate that those pictures will cost your Grace 250 guineas each. I think they are worth double the money.

"A few evenings since I met Lord Besborough at Brooks'. I told him of the arrival of the pictures, and asked him (as he remembered them very well) what he thought they might be worth. He said they would be cheap at six thousand pounds.

"I think Mr. Beyers managed very well to get them out of Rome, which is now much poorer, as England is richer than it was, by this acquisition.

"I have likewise made a great purchase of Mr. Jenkins—a statue of Neptune and a Triton grouped together, which was a fountain in the Villa Negroni (formerly Montalto). It is near eight feet high, and reckond Bernini's greatest work. It will cost me about 700 guineas before I get possession of it. I buy it upon speculation, and hope to be able to sell it for a thousand.

"The Boccapaduli Palace was visited by all foreigners, merely for the sake of those picture by Poussine, for I do not remember there were any others of any kind. Those Sacraments are much superior to those in the Orleans collection, which I thought were but feebly painted, tho equally excellent for invention. There is arrived in the same case a porto-folio with prints after the works of Raffiello in the Vatican, and

some colour'd prints after antient paintings. I saw this morning a very fine picture of Raffiello of a Madonna and Bambino, which Lord Cooper brought from Italy, which he carries back with him again. He sets off for Italy next week, and, I understand, does not intend to return."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, September 11. Windsor Castle.—"I have sent you the King's orders concerning the prorogation of the Parliament in Ireland, but I have His Majesty's directions to acquaint you that he is pleased to leave the execution of them to your Grace's discretion.

"The reason of leaving you this latitude arises from an expression in your last letter to me, in which you mentioned an intention which you once had of calling the Parliament together for the purpose of passing an act for the suppression of tumultuous insurrections. The King wishes that this power of assembling Parliament may not be put out of your Grace's reach, if you see it necessary or convenient to retain it."

"We wait with impatience for your account of Lord Luttrell's expedition, and are extremely anxious concerning the event of it." *Marked* "Secret and separate."

The SAME to the SAME.

1786, September 12. Tottenham Park.—Asking for the Duke's patronage on behalf of a meritorious officer.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to W. PITT.

1786, September 13. Black Rock.—"One complaint more I have to add, which is the total neglect of general and early communication, so that I am frequently informed in the street of matters of the utmost consequence being about to take place. I am now told it is decided that Eden is to be the Vice-Treasurer, which I deny stoutly, because, though I believe the fact, I have not had the least notice of it from England. You should have informed me earlier of the intention of making the Irish Privy Councillors, that the measure and the persons included in it might have been so decisively settled that I might have been enabled to have mentioned it to the gentlemen in question before they quitted Ireland. As you will allow, no communication should be made to individuals but from the Lord Lieutenant. I never can doubt your private affection. I have experienced your honorable public support whenever I have been pressed, so am convinced that this alone proceeds from the great multiplicity of business in which you are engaged. But unfortunately these matters have the same effect on the publick mind as if they were the result of want of confidence on your part and loss of influence on mine. I ought to have mentioned Mr. Hamilton's business, which is now before me, backed with your powerful recommendation. I think, on the ground on which Mr. Orde contends against him, his claim to be a valid one; but it will be attended with much political difficulty, and perhaps some hazard. I will, however, make it the subject of a future letter, which shall be ostensible, after I have been enabled to give all parts of the question a thorough investigation.

Postscript.—"I enclose you a letter from a voter of yours in Cambridge. I have so many demands on the Chancellor, that I cannot weaken my own applications by troubling him for Mr. Waterhouse. But you may oblige him by what seems a trifle.

"You mentioned the Secretary of State and the Chancellor of the Exchequer to be within your idea of being called to the Privy Council. The latter is, I hope, with you in London. But I must request your permission to write to the former, to communicate to him His Majesty's gracious intention."

Draft. (*This extract forms the last page of a letter, of which the preceding part is printed in Correspondence, pp. 162-172.*)

THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, September 18. Farnham.—Reminding him of his promise to recommend Major Drouly for promotion.

R. HOBART to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786,] September 28. London.—I had intended to write to Mr. Pitt requesting an audience, but the death of his sister obliged me to defer it. Meantime, I return you many thanks for your letter. Those Right Boys must be a desperate set. I saw Lord Mansfield at Tunbridge. His eye is particularly lively; but I am told he is very infirm, and not likely to live long.

GEORGE Y. KENDALL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, September 29.—Your cook is fixed for two months in the Duke of Orleans's kitchen, which is the best school of his trade in France. They are to go in a few days to Fontainebleau, where he will be well exercised; and as the season for variety shall then have set in, I have obtained a promise that he shall be present at any extraordinary effort of skill in any other kitchen. He has been employed in the Prince de Condé's family at Chantilly, but was shut out from the Controller-General's by the Duke of Dorset, who placed an apprentice there. He wishes to finish his present course of instruction so as to join you in the beginning of January next.

"The handsomest shoe-buckles possible to be had at Paris shall be sent by the cook (diamonds apart), but, before I order them, it will be necessary to see the most fashionable buckles that are worn at Fontainebleau."

The death of the old King of Prussia has not, as yet, led to any extraordinary movement in the political world, in consequence probably of the habitual caution of the Court of Vienna.

The affairs of the Dutch Stadtholder are in a desperate position. He has not hitherto received the support that might have been expected from his brother-in-law, the new King of Prussia.

"I am assured that the treaty of commerce was signed yesterday." "Lord Chesterfield's banker here has wrote twice to him about the chocolate-cup he carried from hence for the Duchess."

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

[1786, September.]—This letter is accompanied with a detail of the events in Munster since my last dispatch, and of the progressive effect of the appearance of Lord Luttrell and His Majesty's troops in the suppression of disturbances in that province. I am now to return thanks to His Majesty for the confidence he has placed in me by giving me discretionary

powers of assembling Parliament if necessary. But as the exertions of Government have put an end to open and avowed combination, the consideration of those disturbances may, unless any new occasion arises, safely await discussion in Parliament at its usual time of meeting. I am glad to express my sense of the zeal of the gentlemen named in the enclosed papers. Their exertions in their several counties seem calculated to establish and preserve tranquility. I must also mention Lord Kenmare in terms of the most pointed and honourable eulogium.

The state of this country affords an opportunity for recapitulating my favourite idea of a rotation between the cavalry of the two countries. Not that the cavalry here have been backward; on the contrary. But heavy dragoons are useless for the kind of service in which they have to be employed here, and I should like to have them exchanged for light dragoons. I have also to urge that general officers who are colonels of the regiments perpetually stationed in Ireland should not consider them as sinecures, but should visit this country and inspect them periodically, after the example of General Hodson. *Draft.*

GEORGE PONSONBY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, October 2. Shanbally.—Recommending strongly Mr. William Barton for the appointment of British Consul at Bordeaux, in case of the commercial treaty with France being concluded.

* W. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, October 3. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence, p. 173.*]

The EARL OF CHATHAM to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786,] October 3. Burton Pynsent.—Referring to the death of his sister (Lady Harriet Eliot). “My mother supports her affliction as well as can be imagined. I expect my brother here every day.”

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, October 4. London.—“I am very well disposed to fill this letter with expressing the happiness which we all feel from your Grace’s kindness towards my nephew; but as I am sure you would rather hear about the pictures, I shall only say we feel it with all the gratitude we ought.

“Everything relating to the pictures has hitherto turned out most prosperously. They have past through the operations of lining and cleaning, all which has been performed in my own house under my own eye. I was strongly recommended to a Neopolitan as having an extraordinary secret for cleaning pictures, which, though I declined listening to at first, I was at length persuaded to send for the man, and tried him by putting into his hands a couple of what I thought the most difficult pictures to clean of any in my house. The success was so complete that I thought I might securely trust him with the Sacraments, taking care to be always present when he was at work. He possesses a liquid which he applies with a soft sponge only, and, without any violence of friction, takes off all the dirt and varnish without touching or in the least affecting the colours. With all my experience in picture cleaning, he really amazed me. The pictures are now just as they came from the easel. I

may now safely congratulate your Grace on being relieved from all anxiety. We are safely landed; all danger is over.

"The eighth picture, the Baptism of the Multitude, does not belong to the set, nor is it engraved as the rest are. The figures are not upon the same scale; they are of less dimensions. This picture is the only one that has been in a picture-cleaner's hands, is more damaged, and has been painted upon, but it is equally excellent with the rest.

"As to their originality, it is quite out of all question. They are not only original, but in his very best manner, which cannot be said of the set in the Duke of Orleans's collection. Those latter are really painted in a very feeble manner; and, though they are undoubtedly originals, have somewhat the appearance of copies.

"Wellbore Ellis Agar told me they were offered to him some years ago for 1,500*l.*, but he declined the purchase by the advice of Hamilton, the painter, on account, as he said, of their being in bad condition.

"It is very extraordinary that a man so conversant in pictures should not distinguish between mere dirtyness and what is defaced or damaged. Mr. Agar dined with me a few days since, with a party of connoisseurs; but the admiration of the company, and particularly of the good preservation of those pictures, so mortified him at having missed them, that he was for the whole day very much what the vulgar call *down in the mouth*, for he made very little use of it either for eating or talking.

"Lord Spencer tells me that he stood next, and was to have had them if your Grace had declined the purchase. One of the articles, he says, between Beyers and the Marquis was that he should bring the strangers as usual to see the copies, and which he says he is obliged to do, and, I suppose, swear they are originals; and it is very probable those copies will be sold again, and other copies put in their place. This trick has been played, to my knowledge, with pictures of *Salvator Rosa* by some of his descendants, who are now living at Rome, who pretend that the pictures have been in the family ever since their ancestor's death.

"The connoisseurs—or, rather, picture dealers, who are better judges of the prices of pictures—value the *Sacraments* at 5,000*l.* Vandergnecht, who is both a painter and dealer, says that if he had any idea of those pictures being to be sold, he would have sent out to Rome on purpose to purchase them. All these circumstances, I think, may help to make your Grace perfectly satisfied with your bargain.

"Lord Mansfield's copy is quite finished, but, I am sorry and ashamed to say, the other of the children is not. However, I am about it, and do every day a little to it. I hope within a fortnight to be able to send them both together. I cannot conclude this long and, I am afraid, tedious letter without again thanking your Grace for your last very kind and obliging letter."

On the back is a list of pictures in the Duke of Rutland's hand.

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, October 4. Fludyer Street.—"I have not neglected your Grace's orders respecting the truffles, . . . the only *emporium* for that article being Covent Garden, and the time they will keep so short, that I believe none were ever before exported to Ireland. The person, however, whom I have employed promises to send once a week sufficient for two days, and to continue for three weeks or a month his supplies to Mr. Jones and company, with which I hope they will render themselves very popular amongst the Irish ladies. In the exports to Ireland laid before Parliament I see no mention of truffles,

but 48 lbs. of dried morelles were entered in 1783, so that this species of corruption was probably introduced by Lord Northington." The French treaty will facilitate negotiations for free trade between England and Ireland. So far as I can learn, there will be no objection in the British House of Commons to a renewal of the scheme already proposed. You would confer an obligation on me by letting me know if you have received any answer from Mr. Pitt to your repeated applications on my behalf. I do not think that Mr. Orde's advocacy of my claims is much to be depended on. Mr. Pitt dare not trifle with a direct request of your Grace, in favour of a staunch political adherent.

"I beg of you to present my most respectfull compliments to the Duchess of Rutland, whose Laureat's verses (Sir H. Langrishe's) I desired Mr. Dodsley to give to the Conductors of the *Annual Register*, which is the best work of the sort. Having the original in a very tattered state from being wetted in travelling, and from some repetitions of rhymes and ideas where Sir Hercules was full of his subject, I took the liberty of altering a little, which I will enclose to her Grace in the next letter I have the honor to send to Ireland; and if too much freedom has been taken with the original, there will be time enough to restore the whole."

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, October 7. Fludyer Street.—Let me ask for a copy of your Police Bill as a guide for discussion relating to ours. I enclose the copy of verses as left with Mr. Dodsley.

JAMES METCALFE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, October 7. Fordham Abbey.—"I want you should have a portrait of King Charles the 2nd by Vandike, which hangs up in this house, a full length, and the prettiest brown boy I ever saw. The canvass at the bottom is a little soiled, but the figure is compleat. It is too large for an house I have built and am going to live in, in Bedfordshire, next year. I desire you will accept of the picture, and I will send it anywhere you like when I leave this place."

"What think you and your friends of Eden's job? I think it will be popular here. . I can assure you, from authentic accounts I have had from a private person at Liverpool, that their trade is so increased they paid double into the Custom House this year, and a few hundred pounds more than ever they did before the war."

The EARL OF SHANNON to ———.

1786, October 10. Castlemartyr.—Concerning the appointment of Mr. Townsend as Surveyor of Dingle; and that of Captain Thomas Townsend as Deputy Governor of Kinsale, in exchange for his office in the Battle Axe Guards. As the English Parliament is to meet on the 20th of November, I hope, previous to taking my seat, to pay my duty to his Grace in Dublin the first week in that month.

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, October 13. Poyle Court.—I thank you for your readiness to comply with my request concerning Drouly. I am glad the disturbances in Ireland wear a calmer aspect. Also I am truly glad you have

put off your expedition to the north. I find through Fawcett that your project of rotation for the cavalry will not be carried through. The King and he are apparently at one upon this. But I hope your artillery scheme may take place.

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to [the] LORD [BISHOP OF KILLALA ?].

[1786, October 14. London.]—"In consequence of your letter I immediately wrote to the Duke, and wish that what I have said to him may have the weight with him you seem to think probable. I believe that he knows that . I never say anything to him but upon mature consideration for his advantage and honour; and I cannot help thinking that from the insidious principles of the Presbyterians he might have been drawn into some difficulties upon his tour."

"My own opinion leads me to think that nothing that Government, will satisfy the insurgents in Ireland, and am convinced that nothing but the sword, or more sanguinary laws, can have any proper effect. If once you submit to what may appear their humble and even submissive prayers, I know them well enough to pronounce they will rise in their demands, and greater mischiefs will ensue. It gives me pleasure to hear that my worthy friend Colonel Pigott has acted with so much vigour."

"I saw Mr. Orde yesterday at the Levée, and I cannot flatter you that—from his looks—he has been much benefitted from his excursion." Tell the Duke if I am rich enough I will pay him another visit next year. Pray remember me to Lord Earlsfort.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, October 14. London.—I am returned to England, improved in health, though not recovered so completely as I could wish. Sir Richard Jebb gives me hopes of entire re-establishment, but speaks of sending me for a fortnight to Bath. I shall, however, from the present moment begin to prepare for active employment by attending to what has to be settled here. His Majesty yesterday expressed the highest sense of satisfaction and confidence in your attachment and proceedings. Mr. Pitt is much affected by the loss of his sister, and I had little conversation with him. He is sanguine about the satisfaction which the foreign treaties will give in Ireland. I took occasion to press the views of General Cunningham and Lord Luttrell to him, and also to Lord Sydney. I think things promise well for your gratification in these respects. I wish I could say as much about the exchange of the cavalry. Fitzgibbon is here, but I have not yet met him. I dare not enter upon the sad and endless theme of Whiteboys. *Marked* "Private."

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to W. PITT.

1786, October 15. Phoenix Park.—Requesting information in regard to the duties payable under the recent treaty upon wines imported from France. *Draft, marked* "Private."

D. PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, October 16. Fludyer Street.—Let me ask your directions before the meeting of Parliament as to the part I am to take in regard

to the Leicester Cauual Bill, which I hear is to be again proposed. Your colt at Newcastle, although defeated by Honeysuckle, was not disgraced. If our Parliament ratifies the French treaty before your Parliament is met, I suppose some good patriot will make an outcry in Ireland that this is realizing the fourth resolution, and renew the *constitutional* idea of appointing ambassadors from the Irish House of Commons. Let me know if you have any instructions to give on this subject.

GEORGE ROSE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, October 16. Great George Street.—Concerning an application from Captain Thorne to be sent in charge of convicts to Botany Bay, and some small appointments in the port of Whitby. I am sorry to say Mr. Orde's appearance is not so favourable as might have been expected from his excursion to Spa. It is almost certain Parliament will not meet until after Christmas. "Mr. Pitt is returned from Somersetshire in perfect health, and his spirits are surprisingly got up."

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to THOMAS THOROTON, at
Screveton, Newark.

1786, October 18. Phoenix Park.—Concerning small purchases of land, and a new arrangement for the management of his racing stud. "You know I have purchased the Seven Sacraments of Poussin, and they exceed all expectation. Sir Joshua [Reynolds], who has them in his care, offers me a 1,000*l.* for my bargain. After a certain time they will be sent to Belvoir, there to remain, I hope, as long as the name of Manners and its splendour endures."

The MARQUESS OF CAERMARTHEN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, October 20. Whitehall.—I am earnestly desired by Lord Hopetoun to ask you to promote his brother, Mr. Hope, an officer in the Irish army. *Marked* "Private."

GEORGE ROSE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, October 21. Great George Street.—Concerning fresh difficulties that had arisen in connexion with the Collectorship of Whitby, which Mr. Pitt hastily promised to Lord Mulgrave, without advertising to the Duke of Rutland's political interest at Scarborough. My reason for writing to you is that Mr. Pitt himself is exceedingly embarrassed about it, and I mention this to you without any directions from him to do so. I do not think Mr. Orde's health so bad as to prevent his returning to business in Ireland. Mr. Pitt is in perfect health and wonderfully good spirits. All the particulars of the French treaty have been communicated to Sir John Parnell and Mr. Fitzgibbon.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, October 24. Bath.—I desired Mr. Hamilton to communicate with you upon a subject by which I was really too much affected to write to you directly. If I had consulted my own selfish wishes

only, I should have hastened back to your service and the resumption of my public duty. But I felt I ought not to do so without apprizing you of my real condition, and intimating the possibility of my insufficient health. I desire to lay the case fully before you, in order that you may judge and determine whether my return would be of advantage for the King's service. Having done this, I place myself entirely at your disposal.

"I passed the night of yesterday and this morning at Bowood with Lord Lansdown. . . He is much out of humour with Ministers, who, he thinks, have neglected and even slighted him; yet he will, I trust, act a dignified part, and not suffer his private displeasure to influence his public conduct. I find him full of alarms about the Whiteboys and the security of his property, and earnest to have some early measures adopted for composing, if possible, these unpleasant disturbances, which he constantly suspects to be too much mixed with foreign politics. He is, however, at a loss what sort of proceeding to recommend, but agrees with me that the best event of all would be, although it is hardly to be hoped for, to induce the bishops, in the name of the clergy, to *ask* for some plan of commutation, . . . which Government might then fashion and produce for the discussion of Parliament. It will surely be dangerous as well as fruitless to let the question be agitated there upon any other motion than that of Government, according to some predetermined system. It will also, I conceive, be of great hazard and difficulty to introduce anything without, at least, the warm *concurrence* of the clergy, which either their interest, their discretion, or their fears, must afford to your Grace as their only protector. The entire suppression of tumult and insurrection ought naturally to precede everything; yet, in that case, there is not a moment to be lost, for, if once a regular form and consistency are given to the meetings and operations of these banditti, they may soon have a leader from—God knows what quarter—and a real rebellion be the speedy consequence. The sword alone can be used out of doors. Argument plainly works only a momentary and deceitful effect with these people. They must be chastised into reliance upon the Legislature, unless it be thought wise or practicable to make an absolute promise of deliberation or redress. The language of meetings at the different assizes must have weight in directing the choice of difficulties; but the choice, once made, must be supported with steady and inflexible vigor and consistency. . . Fitzgibbon and Parnell will have conversations with Mr. Pitt, &c. upon this serious object before my return to town, and I will assuredly know the decided sentiments of the Cabinet immediately after.

"Fitzgibbon and Parnell have put much of the business respecting our Commercial and Navigation Bills in forwardness. I will not trouble your Grace upon further matters by this hasty dispatch, except to hint the possible propriety of considering whether some compliment of private communication and enquiry should not be paid to the merchants and manufacturers in Ireland (if any such can be found there) in the same way as has been done in England. The Speaker and Beresford, as of the Committee of Council, might advise upon the subject." *Marked* "Most private."

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to [LORD SYDNEY].

1786, October 27.—Lord Luttrell having requested permission to return from Munster, and represented the country to be in general reduced to tranquillity, I consented to his application. I have had

much conversation with him since his return. He represents the province where these commotions originated to be nearly restored to a state of quiet and submission to the laws; and, except in a few mountainous and unfrequented parts, he does not apprehend that the White-boys will again appear. During the present season the repressing of acts of outrage ought to be within the compass of the civil magistrate. Lord Luttrell has severely cautioned the magistrates against any neglect of their duty, and many of them have engaged to be more active and vigilant. It is probable that during the continuance in Munster of the troops whom Lord Luttrell has left to answer the demands of the magistrates, the tumults will not be renewed, and that the insurgents will patiently await the determination of Parliament on their complaints. But if Parliament in dealing with their grievances should not meet their views, if it be found on minute investigation that those grievances are imaginary, or (what I believe to be the case) that the clergy have not been unconscionable in their demands, but that whatever real ground of complaint there is arises from the pressure of tithes in the hands of the lay impropiators, and if from these considerations Parliament shall not think it proper to make any alteration in the present established provision for the clergy, I cannot say that similar commotions may not arise at a later period. I cannot as yet offer an opinion on the question whether a modification is wise to prevent the repetition of a state of little less than war, which, if renewed, may be carried to a very serious length; or whether any modification can be adopted which will not endanger the establishment of the Church, which must be supported. I have written to Mr. Pitt on the subject, and hope you will possess Mr. Orde with any ideas which may suggest themselves to the Cabinet on this point. When the subject shall have been fully considered, whatever may be the opinion of His Majesty's servants, I shall be ready to give it the most decided and unshaken support. I cannot omit stating that many arms are dispersed in the hands of the popery and the beggary of the country. In the county of Kerry, a small district were frightened into giving them up to an active magistrate. Lord Kenmare would willingly give his assistance to disarm his estate. I think it appears that no encouragement has been given from foreign powers to these disturbers of the public peace. They, in general, went to their trials unassisted and without a shilling to fee the counsel in their defence. In the county of Cork they had some pecuniary aid; but this must be attributed to some of the neighbouring gentlemen who are supposed to be well-wishers to their cause. Owing to the lateness of the season, and the necessity of my presence at the seat of government, I have laid aside for the present all intentions of my expedition into the north of Ireland.

Draft.

CAPTAIN A. PYE MOLLOY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, October 27. Gilbury, New Forest.—Requesting that John Lewis Bruncker, stepson of his friend Mr. Stanley, M.P. for Hastings, may be allowed to purchase a vacant ensigncy in the 62nd Regiment, in accordance with the recommendation of General Mathew.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, October 30. Frognaill.—“Having received a private intimation that Colonel Vallancey has expressed some uneasiness that no progress was made to procure Sir William Petty's survey of Ireland from the

French king's library, as likewise a degree of jealousy that the credit of discovering and procuring so valuable a document might be given to some other person, I made a fresh inquiry into the state of that business. I find that the Duke of Dorset has obtained leave to have a copy taken, but that the original will not be delivered.

"Upon mentioning the matter to the King, His Majesty was of opinion that no one could with more propriety be entrusted with taking this copy than Colonel Vallancey himself, if he can be spared from the work in which he has for some time been engaged." But if any reason occurs to you against employing Colonel Vallancey in this business, the King leaves it to your discretion to choose any other person whom you may think qualified.

Concerning an irregular application of Major Dalrymple for additional leave of absence. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

Vol. XXXV.

THE DUKE OF BEAUFORT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, November 2. Blandford Park.—Thanking him for a promise to recommend Lord Charles Somerset for the purchase of a troop of Dragoons on the Irish establishment.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, November 4. Froggnall.—Recommending Lord Hopetoun's request that his brother may be allowed to purchase a troop in the Royal Irish Dragoons.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, November 4. Fludyer Street.—Concerning commissions from the Duke to recover various unpaid wagers. As regards my situation from your recommendations to Mr. Pitt, although I have lately held conversations with Lord Chatham that might naturally have led to the subject, he did not hint at any intention to give me an appointment. "According to Oliver Cromwell's remark, '*On ne monte jamais si haut que quand on ne sait pas ou l'on va,*' I should expect something great from Mr. Pitt from the total ignorance in which he has kept me respecting his intentions;" but within the last year he has disposed of so many vacancies and new created places of all descriptions, that I am quite in despair of your Grace's system of attachment and attendance ever doing me the least service. Your pictures at Sir Joshua's are much talked of, particularly the Extreme Unction. The prints of poor Lord Robert appear to me very well executed, from two I have seen in a shop, but on application to the engraver I find they are not yet ready for delivery to subscribers.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, November 6. Bath.—You will have received before this reaches you my message through Mr. Hamilton of the most cordial offer of such services as my zeal, however weak my ability, can perform.

Your letter of the 27th confirms me in this election, and I am deeply impressed with the sense of your indulgence. I wish I could say I was entirely recovered and secure against a relapse, but I can safely assert that my improvement is very great. I at all events hope to get through the business of next session, which I look at in a less formidable light than many do, even upon the subject of the late tumults. The report of Lord Luttrell in regard to the clergy is certainly a great relief. Whatever protection may be given to the clergy should be extended only to those who reside. Perhaps the middlemen and proctors might be got rid of by some plan of general valuation, especially upon potatoes, or by an obligation to offer the tithes in the first instance to the possessors of the land, and after their declining to draw them. But until I have the whole matter before me I will not hazard an opinion on points of it. Quiet and submission must at all events be previously established. Fitzgibbon had, at my desire, some conversation with Mr. Pitt, which he will have reported to you.

I am sorry to find that General Pitt has raised a dispute with you on a mere matter of punctilio. *Marked* "Most private."

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, November 6. Bath.—Concerning the appointment of a lieutenant-colonel, and other military promotions. *Marked* "Most private."

The EARL OF TYRONE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, November 7. Curraghmore.—Asking for advice about taking his seat as Baron Tyrone in the British House of Lords. "I find that the combinations of Right Boys are proceeding quietly; the swearing goes on in a gradual progression and without any outrage; their strength and union increase from week to week."

The EARL OF CHATHAM to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1786,] November 7. Berkeley Square.—Your kind letter crossed mine, and was a great consolation in my distress. My brother is gone into Somersetshire with Mr. Eliot to see my mother. I expect him back in a few days. I am glad on his account, as well as my own, that Parliament does not meet until after Christmas, as it will give him more relaxation in the present, and enable him afterwards, for the first time, to meet Parliament with all the business arranged, without which there is no hope of ever seeing a short session. I think of going to Lord Westmorland's, whence I shall probably go on to see your hounds, which I hear from everybody are extremely good. The death of the Princess Emily has afforded the newspapers a fine topic for abuse. It is certainly hard that her money should go to Germany, and I hoped she would have left it to the Prince. But I then thought it a very immense sum, whereas it does not turn out to be more than 50,000*l.* stock, which would have been a mere breakfast, and no solution of the present unpleasant state of things.

* W. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, November 7. Burton Pynsent.—[*Correspondence*, p. 173.]

The EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, November 7. Treasury.—"Since I had the honor of seeing your Grace, I have had occasion to consider the case of my brother

[*sc.* Arthur Wellesley, afterwards Duke of Wellington], to whom you were so good as to promise a commission in the army. I fear it would not be easy to negotiate the matter here in the mode which I suggested to your Grace, and I now wish to offer another proposal to your consideration. If a commission was purchased for my brother immediately, could your Grace give him your promise that you would promote him in a year, or a year and a half, and do you think this would be more speedily done and with less difficulty than the present scheme? Your Grace will understand my intention to be that you should give him the second step instead of the first. If you are pleased to honour this proposal with your approbation, your Grace will oblige me by returning an answer as soon as may be convenient to you."

"Pitt is gone to Somersetshire, and will, I believe, return next week."

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO [LORD SYDNEY].

1786, November 8. Phœnix Park.—Colonel Vallancy is very competent for the employment of copying the map of Ireland now in the library of the King of France.

"There is come to reside in this metropolis a young man of fashion, who derives his title from this country, Lord Aughrim, the son of Lord Athlone. His father . . . is a native of Holland, and a subject of the States-General, but . . . the cause of the Stadholder, to whose party he is attached, declining, he has sent his son hither to be absent from the scene of disputes." "It occurred to me if the Stadholder's affairs should become desperate, and if his friends should be obliged to seek a foreign asylum, that could Lord Athlone induce a number of his countrymen to seek a retreat in Ireland, he would establish a solid claim on the liberality of the publick. This would add weight to the Protestant interest, and bring a number of useful and industrious inhabitants who might be employed with effect in the infant fisheries of Ireland, and might settle under the protection of this Government. At the same time I should by no means recommend to put this country to any expence, should such a scheme at any time be deemed wise to be adopted. My idea only goes to afford . . . a secure establishment to those who will venture at their own hazard. The country felt the burthen of a similar scheme in regard to the factious Genevois, about whom such animating expectations were formed, . . . which terminated in delusion." The scheme I have described would be composed of persons who abandoned their country because they could not stem the torrent of a republican faction, who endeavoured to blot out the only resemblance of monarchy which existed in their constitution; whereas the other scheme was to introduce a body of men into Ireland whose notions of liberty were so unlimited, that they could not endure any form of government, any control, or any subordination whatever.

"I am sorry to say that partial disturbances have arisen in Munster since Lord Luttrell's return, and which have only afforded to the magistrates fresh opportunity of demonstrating their inactivity and their inattention to their duty. I fear nothing but a resolute determination in Parliament to enact effectual and vigorous laws, to which Government must give a vigorous execution, will put an absolute period to these disgraceful commotions." *Draft, marked* "Private."

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO THE EARL OF TYRONE.

1786, November 13. Phœnix Park.—I cannot yet answer your question relating to your visit to England, but will make inquiry,

and give you the earliest intelligence on the subject. "I am sorry that the disgraceful commotions in Munster are still continued in violation of the publick tranquility, and in defiance of the laws and of good government. I have it in contemplation to make a very secret and sudden exertion and to disarm all the popery and beggary of the province of Munster. Secrecy and celerity are absolutely necessary to the success of such an enterprize. The blow should be struck before it is perceived, before any preparation can be made to ward off its effects. When I have finally decided upon the measure and have digested any plan, you shall hear from me again. But I beg you will consider in your own mind of magistrates in your county whose zeal and address will point them out as proper persons to be entrusted with such a delicate commission." *Draft, marked* "Private."

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, November 15. Bath.—I can hardly express what I feel upon the receipt of your flattering and encouraging letter of the 7th. I can only endeavour to justify your confidence. It is truly delightful to me to recommence my active duty under these impressions and with such prospects. I shall not allow myself to be detained here beyond Monday next. I must employ one day on private business in Hampshire, and mean to be at St. James's on Wednesday morning. When I have conferred with Ministers upon the points which remain to be considered, I shall set out for Ireland.

In regard to the dispute between General Pitt and the Military Office, on the subject of an inquiry into the circumstances of an affray at Kinsale, in which some soldiers were concerned, I think the General is in the wrong even in the ground of his complaint, but unpardonable in his manner of treating it towards you. I think there is no way of adjusting the matter so as to save General Pitt from ruin, but by a good-humoured conversation with him and an oblivion of many of the proceedings. I shall undertake the management of this affair whenever you shall honour me with your commands upon my return.

I am concerned that you should apprehend that the revenue will fall short this year; but, so far as I can judge at this distance, and without exact information, you over-rate the political difficulties that may arise in consequence.

I think your proposed adjustment of the claims to the Collectorship at Whitby a reasonable one, and cannot think Lord Mulgrave would be justified in throwing difficulties in its way.

"I perfectly understand your Grace's wishes about the promotion of Bishop Watson, and will feel my way accordingly. I am, however, sensible of the very just discontent entertained against him for his more than equivocal conduct."

You have now full authority to inform the Provost that he is at liberty to claim a seat at the English Privy Council Board. *Marked* "Most private."

The EARL OF CORNWALLIS to the MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN.

1786, November 15. Calcutta.—"You will, I am sure, be glad to hear that I have not yet had an hour's illness since I left England. You need not be told how disagreeable a scene I have engaged in. I have, however, made up my mind to bear it, and I hope, although we labour under great difficulties, which have been a good deal glossed

over by my predecessor, that application, firmness, and real integrity may save us. How it will answer to my private affairs I can as yet form but little judgment.

“Had I brought out more people with me I should have been ruined. Without entering into jobbs, I cannot pay Haldane, my private secretary, and am obliged to solicit the Court of Directors to do it; and I see no prospect of giving my nephew Madan anything more than the appointment of aide-de-camp, which is only 700*l.* a year, and which in this country is not more than equal to 200*l.* Having a number of hungry dependents was the rock that Sloper split upon, who, I sincerely believe, came out with very upright intentions.”

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, November 16. Whitehall.—I was unable last week to see the King, owing to the death and funeral of the Princess Amalie. I cannot therefore answer your dispatches by this messenger, who is charged with copies of the commercial treaty. In confidence I must tell you that I see difficulties with regard to some of the military promotions you recommend, owing to the claims of other officers of longer service. For instance, “an officer in the King’s family and on the Irish establishment, and of long service, declares himself ready to purchase a lieutenant-colonelcy, and the Majors Coote and Howe were hardly in the army when he was first a captain. The officers on this establishment complain that there is no chance of their purchasing here, as those who wish to sell will wait for their being on the Irish establishment.” Much ill humour is expressed on the subject. You will, however, believe that I personally should be inclined to forward your views. *Marked* “Secret and separate.”

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, November 17. Farnham.—I enclose a letter from Drouly. I do not press you to ask the lieutenant-colonelcy of the Royals for him, but should be glad if you would write him a line enclosed to me to prove your wishes to serve one whom I have so warmly recommended to you.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, November 18. Whitehall.—I have laid before the King your letter (private) of the 5th inst. His Majesty was very reluctant to extend the leave of Major Dalrymple, and I believe nothing but his wish to gratify you would have made him comply with your request. Three months additional leave will be granted to enable Major Dalrymple to sell out, but His Majesty expects that in this, as well as in every other transaction of the kind, his regulations in regard to the price of commissions shall be strictly adhered to. His Majesty has not yet come to a decision upon your last list of promotions. *Marked* “Private.”

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, November 20. Hillsborough.—Although you are unable to comply with my recommendation of Major Johnson for the vacant lieutenant-colonelcy of the Royals, I feel grateful for the kind manner in which you express yourself on this as well as on other occasions when

you are unable to comply with the many requests I am obliged to make to you. I ought to mention a matter which has by chance come to my knowledge. "A number of clergymen, chiefly Fellows of the College of Dublin either now or heretofore, have formed themselves into a society or committee to defend the clergy of this kingdom against certain ealumnies which they pretend have been published against them, and to propose a Bill or Bills to be laid before Parliament for the preservation of their properties, rights, and privileges, and they have written circular letters to the archbishops and bishops desiring them to assemble their respective dioceses in order each to appoint a deputy to join their committee. These gentlemen seem to have much more zeal than understanding, and meditate the most probable method to render the southern attempts to foment discord and confusion of real and important consequence, which, if allowed, will probably die away of themselves, with a little spirited interference of Government."

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to [LORD SYDNEY].

1786, November 25. Dublin Castle.—Stating the grounds on which his recommendation of Major Coote and Major Howe was based, and his general attention to the interests of the army; but strongly disclaiming any wish to insist on military promotions which His Majesty may not approve, and submitting himself absolutely to the King's judgment. *Draft.*

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, November 28. London.—I have been alarmed by an attack of illness on my way from Bath, but am so well recruited that I mean to go to St. James's to-morrow, and immediately return to business. Sir Richard Jebb encourages me to feel secure against a return of danger.

I am sorry to find the unpleasant subject of the Whiteboys in your letter of the 14th instant. "Your Grace does not absolutely agree with me as to the *facility* of the approaching session. I must have strangely lost all recollection of my own conceptions if I could have represented them as in any wise confident of an easy session. I indeed ventured to hope . . . that there might not be so much difficulty as I had at first apprehended, and chiefly because I was led to suppose that the clergy would appear in a most favourable light in the report of any distresses which the poor might be found to labor under, or to have in some degree a right to complain of. It has always struck my mind that the great impediment to any accommodation would arise from the opposition of the clergy to such arrangement as a demonstrable proof of present hardship and oppression in the mode of collecting their tythes might, perhaps, require for the reasonable alleviation of the suffering poor. I did, however, likewise believe that the outeries against the resident clergy were ill-founded, and consequently the outrages against their persons and properties more unjustifiable on that account. This turns out to be the case." "But I look in the one case to the little real probability of any tendency to conciliation while so much mistaken pride, prejudice, and impracticability influence the minds and tempers of even the most moderate chief ministers of the Church. In the other case, I consider the impossibility of suffering the clamor or violence of insurgents against the laws not only to have any weight in producing propitiatory measures, but even to pass without controul and chastisement. What, then, is to be done?" "I conceive that, at all events, an apparent

submission to the laws must, in the first instance, be accomplished, so as to justify any measure of conciliation. I can hardly see a prospect of such an event in time for the operations of this session. In that case, the only object to look to will be our force out of doors to execute the more penal laws which we must make within."

"I am sorry to hear of any complaint of the clergy against Lord Luttrell. I had not supposed that to be the case. The Primate held rather a different language. But I ought to have declared at once my opinion in entire concurrence with your Grace that the Primate must be *here* to talk with Mr. Pitt, and then *there* to act with your Grace. I had much conversation with him, but to no great purpose except to agree that the nature of our measures must be resolved upon *here*, and for that reason I had thought of desiring Mr. Pitt to send for him before I received your Grace's commands to suggest it. He will certainly attend, and I cannot doubt of his going over to Ireland. He has received several petitions from the suffering clergy in a style of complaint and demand of redress from Parliament. I entreated him to concert with Government any answer he might make, or other steps he might wish to take upon this matter. I wish it were possible to prevail upon him to give up some of his prejudices and to talk with his brethren upon the only wise part which they can take, of manifesting their moderation and desire of smoothing such difficulties as arise from the partial consideration of their interests in a question, wherein the peace of the kingdom and the security of the whole Protestant Establishment is involved. I really believe it to be true, although almost impossible to persuade him and his brethren of it, that both the private interests of individuals and the general welfare of the Church might be advanced by their relaxing in some degree from their bigotted horror at any alteration. But then it must seem to come from themselves, and would befit their character as ministers of peace. I have hardly any hopes even from Mr. Pitt's eloquence, which, however, it must be advisable to try upon the Primate, and may have good effect on several accounts. Upon the whole, in my present notion of the business, there will be no possibility of doing anything during the ensuing session. At all events I see the force of your Grace's earnestness to have the Primate in Ireland, and I am confident that Mr. Pitt will make a point of it. I wish that the Archbishop of Cashel was here that he might be a little cooled as well as the Primate encouraged."

The report of the judges upon the general possession of arms, which the Popish poor make their great object, is extremely alarming. I can only suggest the idea of keeping on foot, in such counties as require it, a sort of police guard of horse and foot, to be paid by the county.

I will follow your instructions as to the succession to regiments of dragoons. I understand it to be decided that Cunningham will have the first; Lord Luttrell's present engagement will aid his pretensions to the next. You may be assured that I will, in the strongest possible way, press on Mr. Pitt your private requests in favour of Captain Molloy and others.

Lord Bellamont's pension has not yet been sanctioned. Notwithstanding my earnest solicitations that it should be granted forthwith, Mr. Pitt wished to write to you about it. *Marked* "Most private."

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, December 2.—"I did not receive your Grace's letter till to-day, though dated so far back as the 13th November, kept back by contrary

winds; ten packets arrived at the same time. The picture has been finished some days and waits only for the frame, which the frame-maker says will require eight days longer. Mr. Burke gives me such an account of the young ladies that I dread the comparison of the originals with my copy. Mr. Burke is very much pleased with his tour to Ireland, and speaks much of your Grace's great politeness to him. The voyage did not agree so well with his son; he was sea-sick in his passage over, and has continued ill ever since.

"I sent to Mr. Hill to enquire about the prints and books, which I find were sent away some time since. He supposes they are arrived by this time. I looked at the prints before they were packed up; I was mortified to see such trifling ornaments published with so much pomp, rarerly because they are antique or painted by some of Raffael's scholars in the Vatican. An indiscriminate admiration for everything that is antient appears to me full as prejudicial to the advancement of art as a total neglect of them would be.

"Prince Rezzonico was much mortified, he said, to see the Sacraments of Poussine in England, and for the same reason that you (speaking to me) may be glad; 'But I must write to my brother,' said he, 'who is Secretary of State, that he should reprimand the inspectors for suffering those pictures to come out of Rome.' Some time after this, Lady Spencer told me that in consequence of this smuggling it is now death to attempt sending pictures out of Rome without being first examined."

EDMUND STEVENS to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, December 3, Sunday. Newton Toney.—Communicating in confidence the circumstances which have led him to refuse the post of equerry to the King; and soliciting the Duke to obtain for him a more suitable appointment.

Enclosed in this letter are copies of (1) one from the Prince of Wales, dated July 7, informing Lord Southampton of the necessity to which he is reduced of dismissing his household, and (2) correspondence in the following November between Colonel Goldsworthy and Mr. Stevens, in regard to the proposed appointment of the latter as Royal equerry.

THE MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, December 3. Farnham.—Concerning the purchase of a commission for Lord Ancrum; and aides-de-camp's batons.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, December 6. Fludyer Street.—Adverting to the neglect of his claims shown in the disposal of Government patronage, and to Mr. Orde's omission to press them on Mr. Pitt. It is reported that Lord Mansfield will soon retire. The Bar and the Bench wish for Buller as his successor; but I do not see how the claims of Sir Lloyd Kenyon can be put aside.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, December 6. London.—We are considering the operation of the French treaty. I wish Beresford or Parnell had been here. Eden will return to Paris next week. I send Hamilton some queries which should be answered fully.

The Primate has at last consented to come to town, and will be here on Tuesday next. We shall then take into consideration the question which is of chief importance to your Government. I must be furnished with all the projects which have been laid before you. Lord Luttrell, the Bishop of Cloyne, and others, have, I believe, made their reports to you. I shall put together a short statement upon the subject for the Cabinet. Lord Camden told me at St. James's to-day that he had received a very alarming letter from the Chancellor [Lord Lifford] upon those commotions. He had particularly expressed his apprehensions account of the arms in the hands of the Catholic rabble. I find by a letter from Mr. Hamilton there is some doubt of this fact, as Lord Luttrell had asserted the contrary. The Chancellor also wishes his son to be a Serjeant; Lord Camden said *Prime Serjeant*, but that was certainly a mistake. I ventured to throw out a hint of your good dispositions towards the eldest son in the Church, and to express a hope that this might prove a satisfactory compromise, as you had so many claims upon you in the Law. Lord Camden thought this very reasonable, and advised it to be the answer to be given to the Chancellor.

"Lord Sydney acquaints me with the very great satisfaction with which your Grace's letter was read in a certain quarter on the subject of military promotions. He means to try his address in carrying through Major Dalrymple, and the ensigny for Mr. Beresford.

"I should almost suppose that your Grace had not read a letter, which you sent in your former despatch, from Col. White, as some expressions in it cannot be shown without creating much risk of displeasure." He writes to Sir William Boothby that the captains in the regiment cannot purchase because *they are not able to come up to the price which your Grace is determined to obtain for Major Dalrymple*. I need not make any further remarks on such a passage, and on its probable effects. *Marked "Private."*

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, December 11. London.—I have not yet had Mr. Pitt's ultimate decision upon the subject of Lord Bellamont's pension, but I can hardly doubt of his being resolved to carry its through as an object of anxiety to you. I am glad to learn that you approve of the idea of a general Police Bill, or such a one as may be put in force in Munster. It has always struck me as preferable to a Militia. I shall be impatient for your orders to talk to Lord Pery and Lord Earlsfort upon the subject. I am anxious about the conduct of business in the House of Lords in the next session. The situation does not admit of entire confidence in the Archbishop of Cashel. Lord Earlsfort in his wantonness threw away his consideration and consequence. The Chancellor is not well circumstanced for directing the business of Government. Lord Carysfort will appear in the ensuing session. I have seen him, and doubt not of his support, but he has felt himself slighted by not being recommended for promotion in the peerage. I gave the Provost clearly to understand that he owes his seat at the English Council Board to your recommendation. "I will not suffer Mr. Pitt to be ignorant of your Grace's sentiments about Pulteney and Molloy. He has assured me that he will take care of them. He does not think that he has neglected any opportunity where he could consistently have provided for them. I will, however, obtain as specific an engagement as possible from him."

“The Primate will, I trust, be here tomorrow, and we shall proceed forthwith on the consideration of the important subject. I sent to Mr. Hamilton a sketch for your Grace’s consideration, of the principal points upon which information and instructions are wanted.”

“It will be of great consequence to have a full meeting of friends at the opening of the session. Your Grace will, of course, speak to Lord Shannon, Lord Tyrone, and others, and desire letters to be written to such as may be prudently addressed.”

Postscript.—“I have enclosed to Mr. Hamilton a sketch of a Speech for your Grace’s consideration.” *Marked* “Private.”

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, December 16. London.—I called upon Lord Mansfield, in obedience to your instructions, but have been unable to see him. He, however, sent me the enclosed note. I hear that his life is drawing to an end. I write this in Downing Street, where I am waiting by appointment for a long conversation with Mr. Pitt upon all subjects, public or private, which concern your Government or interests. I expect the opinion of the Cabinet upon some points to be submitted to it, on Tuesday or Thursday, and *fix* my departure for Saturday next. I feel much confidence about my health.

I am well satisfied with your opinion, conveyed in Mr. Hamilton’s letter, upon the Whiteboys. I have put down my thoughts upon an extended scheme for police; and if this can be carried into effect, you may determine at ease the propriety or expediency of any measure tending to settle a better means of income for the clergy. *Marked* “Private.”

The SAME to the SAME.

1786, December 18. Sudbury Green.—I now enclose the note from Lord Mansfield which I omitted in my last. “Mr. Pitt is gone to the country to talk with Lord Camden and Lord Chancellor upon the subject of the commotions in the south. He returns to town on Wednesday, that he may, in the Closet, mention the result of the different opinions previous to my going in. He has on that account desired me to postpone my day of taking leave till Friday, still, however, engaging that a Cabinet will be held on Thursday so that I may yet be enabled to accomplish my intentions of beginning my journey on Saturday. I was not sorry to seek a quiet retreat for one day before my departure. I have been rather hurried for some days, and my foolish nerves are put into awkward agitation by it.

“I have yet nothing of decision to communicate to your Grace upon any matter of importance. I find Mr. Pitt more anxious than usual to have the support of other opinions than his own, and I think I perceive some doubt mixed with his solicitude in regard to the sentiments of the Chancellor. The Chancellor is a great champion of the Church, and being no œconomist of his words, he declaims most wrathfully against any attack upon that sacred order and their fullest rights. I perceive, on the contrary, that Mr. Pitt has encouraged himself to hope that some alteration may take place *at a proper time* upon the subject of tythes. I take for granted that the meeting on Thursday will be very serious, and I shall, of course, seek to make it decisive.

“Rumors again prevail of changes, but I can discover no certainty of the arrangements so much talked of. Lord Carmarthen is better, and

Lord Sydney seems to be as fixed as ever in his seat, yet Lord Hawkesbury is said to be on the eve of obtaining the seals. I cannot believe it. I am convinced that it would occasion a great convulsion. Eden is gone upon his return to Paris, and, since I have seen him, I do not wonder that he should have refused the vice-treasurership, because he really seems to have lost all temper and decency in the wildness of self-complacency and pretensions. I cannot, however, suspect great encouragement in a certain quarter, as I know him to be no favorite with Lord H. Yet his greatest chance of success and consequence seems to be from his supposed influence with Lord Carlisle, Lord Loughborough, Lord Stormont, &c. They are confidently spoken of as in treaty for offices. They have been lately much at Court. But it is to be remembered that this is the usual season of pretended changes and new arrangements in administration.

“Mr. Pitt has promised to press the approbation of the pensions on Wednesday, and hopes to succeed with Lord Bellamont’s.” *Marked* “Private.”

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, December 19. Dublin Castle.—Concerning the Lord Lieutenant’s speech at the opening of a new session of [the Irish] Parliament.

HENRY DUNDAS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, December 19. Wimbledon.—It having been rumoured to me that your friendship for my nephew is likely to make you do in his favour what would be rather disgusting to an officer of merit in another corps, let me beg you not to do it. Besides, would it not be as well for him to join his regiment on service for a season or two?

The EARL OF TYRONE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, December 20. Curraghmore.—I shall, as you think it right, sail at the end of this week for the opening of the English Parliament, and shall return with all possible expedition. I trust you will forgive my having forwarded a memorial from a particular friend, as to his agreement with the Barrack Board.

GEORGE Y. KENDALL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, December 20. Paris.—Concerning a shipment of wines for Dublin Castle. There are 500 bottles of Sillery Champagne of the very best quality in the proprietor’s possession; 300 bottles of Hautvillers Champagne, the growth preferred in Paris to any other; I had it directly from the prior of that convent by the Archbishop of Narbonne’s intercession; if it is not perfect of its kind, the prior must be damned for perjury, for he has solemnly declared it to be so; 100 bottles of Chambertin from le President de Grosbois’s own cellar; 300 bottles of St. George from the very cellars of the Chapter of Nuits; and some bottles of Morachais, the very first growth of white wine in Burgundy.”

“Baron Power has charged himself with your shoe-buckles; they cost seven louis.”

Accept my thanks for the beautiful print you kindly sent me. I imagine the treaty of commerce will be severely criticized by Opposition both in England and Ireland. I am convinced the Ministry here have acceded to it more from a desire of preserving peace than any other consideration, as the measure is far from being universally liked here.

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1786, December 22. Hillsborough.—Enclosing a letter from Major Johnson, in reference to his application for a favour which the Duke had been unable to confer.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1786, December 22. Dublin Castle.—I enclose the copy of a letter which I have assumed your authority to write. Shall I ask Mr. Ryves to enquire into the condition of Dunn's wretched widow and children, that, if they be in poverty, an allowance may be made to them?

With this is the press copy of a letter from S. Hamilton to Mr. Ryves, in answer to a letter giving an account of the murder of Dunn by Whiteboys.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to [W. PITT].

[1786, December?].—Concerning the proposed Bill for carrying into effect the French treaty. "You will give me great pleasure by enabling me to communicate the first intelligence to Parliament of the favorable conclusion of the Portugal negotiation. Forward it to me as soon as you can, and do not let it be published from newspapers or made known by votes of your House before the Government here can have the credit of announcing it." *Unfinished draft.*

[The Speaker] JOHN FOSTER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1785 or 1786].—"I will not trouble you with waiting upon your Grace, but beg leave to take this mode of returning my most grateful thanks for your great kindness and allowing me to alleviate the miserable feelings of a very worthy woman with twelve children. No pension was ever better timed."

The EARL OF BELVEDERE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, January 15.—Urging his claims to the consideration of the Lord Lieutenant, and requesting a pension for his wife.

The EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787,] January 16. Hertford Street.—By an account I have received of your visit to St. George, I am glad to find my friends at Trim so well understood their duty to you. As a burgher of Trim I must thank you for the honour you have done to the corporation by accepting the freedom of the borough.

"I should some time ago have returned my thanks for a very kind letter from your Grace on the subject of my brother's commission, but that I have been under the necessity of waiting for my mother's decision

before I could trouble you. My brother is to return soon from Angers; untill his return, I should wish to give him the chance of any ensigncy or cornetcy falling in your Grace's gift, according to the first proposition which I had the honour to submit to you. And therefore, if you please, he will stand on the same footing that he has stood on hitherto till he comes home, when I will take the liberty of informing you in what manner you may execute your kind intentions to assist him according to the tenor of your letter, if he should not be so fortunate as to find some commission open for him at his return."

Stating the case of Captain Fortescue, a naval officer, who laid out his savings on an annuity, and endeavoured to cover the investment by an insurance, which had become void by an involuntary misstatement as to the age of the life insured; and suggesting an arrangement of pensions to meet the case. I hear from my friend Mr. Pomeroy (Lord Harberton's son) that disparaging statements have been made as to the circumstances of my acceptance of office in England. As you know the circumstances, I mention this to you that you may, if you think fit, take an opportunity of counteracting the slander. Mr. Pomeroy has asked me to express my good wishes for Mr. Carden, whom he has recommended for a baronetcy. I wish you a shorter and more quiet session than we are likely to have here. "Your own firmness will prevent you from yielding one inch on the subject of tithes. I own I feel no mercy, not a drop of compunction, for the savages of the south; the sword is the best reformer of such abuses. I have often thought it would be a favourable moment for an augmentation of the army; you must have a constant force in that part of the country for some time to come."

"Eden is to return for the discussion of the treaty, which I suppose will not be till about ten days after the meeting [of Parliament]. The Bishop of Durham is at the point of death. Lord Carysfort is to be married to Miss Grenville, Lord Buckingham's sister. This, I think, is all the news of this week, excepting Colonel Hotham's having left the Prince of Wales. The cause was that Hotham, being the Prince's treasurer and responsible for all his money, did not chuse to take the money from a banker in whom he had great confidence, to place it with one of the Prince's naming, with whom Hotham had no connection. The King has provided for Hotham. I suppose you know that Lord Carmarthen's motley dinner is really to take place; his line is *all* who have been secretaries in his department, and all who have been Ministers abroad—this composes a curious list."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, January 16. Fludyer Street.—I am returned to town in obedience to Mr. Pitt's circular, but I have little expectation that he will confer any benefit upon me, unless in response to a serious personal application from you. "The conversation I hear at present is that Opposition propose to themselves some mischief from the treaty, but are not at all decided respecting the Prince of Wales; Fox, as I conceive, pressing it of all things, and the country gentlemen being very shy about it, though probably if Fox was really in earnest he would find some means to bring over the others."

MEMORANDUM [by Mr. Orde].

[1787,] January 17. Wednesday.—Concerning Lord Belvedere's request of a pension for his wife. "By giving the pensions to the

ladies, their husbands become in a great degree liberated from the bond of attachment to the King's Government, and hitherto, therefore, *very few* have been granted to them." Lord Arran has written a foolish letter in answer to mine. I shall lay them both before you. Lord Carysfort wants to be recommended for an earldom, without the previous step of viscount. If this would bring on other claims, he is probably not of consequence enough to involve yourself on his account. As to Sir Lucius O'Brien, I am afraid of 1,500*l.* as encouraging other claims. But his case is of a very special character.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, January 18. Fludyer Street.—I enclose to you an extract from a pamphlet against the treaty, entitled, *A Review of the Commencement of 1787*, which has been *overlooked*, I think, by Sheridan, as the inflammatory insinuations respecting Ireland will, I suppose, be abundantly aggravated there. Stanhope says the Prince and Fox were yesterday puffing it at Lord C. Fitzgerald's. I should think the Prince will try his question this year, as his emissaries are using all methods to swindle votes; but he is so very weak from the company he lives in, and probably from the jealousy of the Duke of Portland and others of that family, that nobody of consequence will be much inclined to support him. Hotham's resignation was, I hear from pretty good authority, occasioned by a suspicion of the Prince's connexions with Hammersley not being quite consistent with his trust deed. The Prince offered him 1,000*l.* a year, and he accepted the same sum from the King as a pension of more propriety; though I have not heard a word on the subject from his successor, who, whenever I meet him in the streets, only shakes his head and shrugs up his shoulders.

Until personal reflections are thrown out against you, or I have any communication with the Treasury people, or authority from you, all my eloquence will be damned up in canals and turnpikes; though if you would give me any commission, I think Mr. Flood is so low that I might safely enough abuse him, if ever he introduces Irish subjects in an English House of Commons.

I know it to be the case "that the French admire beyond all things the fineness of the Irish linen, which I daresay will have an immediate sale there. They are so nice on this article that a *blanchisseuse* of credit will not send home an Englishman's linen under a fortnight or three weeks' whitening; and on my complaining of it to a Norman servant, he said he believed she made a show of it."

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, January 22.—Thank you for thinking of Drouly. "I left London the day after the birthday, and heard no news but what you must have heard. There was, however, one particular ministerial dinner that His Majesty wished me to dine at, and I overheard him say to several people that it must be brought about by some means or other. I could not at first comprehend his *royal* meaning, but after the *Levé* he let me into the secret, for he told me Lord Carmarthen had invited Mr. Fox, Lord Stormont, Colonel Fitzpatrick, Lord Lansdown, Lord Buckingham, the Duke of Richmond, and part of the Administration to dine with him. I confess I should have liked to have dined there. Most of them sent excuses except Lord Stormont, Fox, and Fitzpatrick, who

dined there. I have heard nothing more about it, but conclude Lord Carmarthen must be rather out of his senses, and perhaps will be soon out of his employment if he goes on so *commically*."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, January 22. Fludyer Street.—Sutton and I commenced our attendance in Parliament this evening. I hear no murmur amongst any of our own people against our main object, the treaty. Sheridan means, I understand, to move for papers, and if Pitt thinks necessary to grant them we may have a tedious, but not dangerous, session. Lord Tyrconnel, whom I saw in the House, says there has been a most partial mortality amongst his supporters at Scarborough. People were discussing the pamphlet I mentioned to you *as pleasing the Prince exceedingly*. There are various guesses at the author. Wraxall, on whom I fixed with certainty, assured me he knew nothing of it, but I was not quite convinced. Scott, who is supposed to have employed the author, proved from two or three passages that he is not an Englishman, and guessed De Lolme. Others guessed Hamilton; others Jekyll. The consequences of it will be favourable to Ministry in clearing up objections to the treaty and preparing people for Hastings' acquittal, which was always necessary, but which Pitt hardly knows how to bring about.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, January 24. Whitehall.—Concerning certain military promotions. *Marked* "Private."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, January 27. Fludyer Street.—Everthing is quiet in Parliament. There is no serious opposition to the treaty from any class of manufacturers. The pamphlet of which I sent you an extract was written by O'Bryen, with some hints and corrections from his employers. A constituent tells me it is the opinion of the borough at Bramber that you are so liked in Ireland that the King cannot let you come home any more. From a supposed resemblance to the Duchess of Rutland, added to her singing, "Mrs. Billington is making the town distracted."

The DUKE OF BEAUFORT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787, January or February.]—In the interest of Lord de Clifford, to whom Lord Vernon and myself are guardians, I must ask your concurrence and assistance to have the ports of Strangford and Kinsale added to those which are permitted to import goods by the Revenue Bill now passing in Ireland.

C. F. SHERIDAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787, February?] Sunday morning. Hillbrook.—I have been employed in putting the plan respecting tithes into a form to lay before you, and hope to wait upon you with it to-morrow morning.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, February 2. Fludyer Street.—Mr. Pitt's levée yesterday was much crowded, but more, I think, with clergy and lawyers than with members of Parliament, and the East Indians were all absent to a man. If it were not for such steady supporters as Sutton and myself, the friends of Mr. Hastings in Parliament, who amount to about 40, and who are always in town, would be more open in their enmity, and might make the Minister uneasy. "Mr. Pitt inquired when I had heard from your Grace; said you was prepared to meet Parliament in great spirits, he had heard, but had suffered a little in preparing for it at Colonel St. George's."

The SAME to the SAME.

1787, February 6. Fludyer Street.—"Yesterday's debate having occasioned some degree of attention, not so much from the importance of the subject as from the Opposition having mustered all their strength for a previous tryal on the treaty, I have troubled your Grace with the numbers, which were 213 to 89. I know not whether the papers will mention it, or whether it is unknown to your Grace, but Mr. Pitt, in answer to some teasing questions from Fox, said the Portuguese Minister here had received full powers to negotiate at London everything respecting a continuance of the Methuen treaty. I hear from others, and see by his notices of motions, that the interruption to the Methuen treaty and the Portugal trade is the point where Fox means to make his stand; without, indeed, a shadow of authority from a single manufacturer, it would be difficult for him to pick up a pretence of objection here; and even upon that subject, and though he gives out in private that he could almost impeach Lord Carmarthen for neglect in office if he had not been bribed, I suppose, by the dinner, his commercial arguments will not be worth much attention if Brook, Watson, and others' data are true, which I heard yesterday during the division, and which, when the main question is argued, I shall very minutely report to your Grace. The question itself really appears so advantageous on our side that I should certainly think it a good one to take some part in if I was not sure I should get into some invective against Fox. Though this is perhaps the best and only service I could do Mr. Pitt, I really do not know that it would be approved of by your Grace, against whom, in all their libels, the coalition people have been very cautious, and having received many civilities from Fox, and having no connection by place as yet with Ministry, it would appear perhaps offensive even to our own friends. But though I have received many civilities, I never received any obligation in my life from any of that set, and if your Grace was attacked, or I had any justification from office, I have certainly no other restraint from being as abusive as they are whenever I thought it would be usefully introduced in argument, according to their present manner of debating all sorts of questions."

Amongst the news of last week was Madame Polignac's disgrace with the Queen of France and expected arrival in England to form a female treaty of opposition, I suppose, with the Duchess of Devonshire. An old acquaintance and an old rival of yours (Topham and Andrews) have set up a newspaper called the *World*. Stanhope tells me Tickell was employed to answer the Review, and has done so in a pamphlet called *The People's Answer*, an unequal reply to Wraxall's attack on the Prince of Wales, but in some parts lively enough. I have no doubt

now of the review being *Wraxall's*. I should not have taken the trouble to mention this review twice if Stanhope had not told me he heard from Lord Chatham that I had been mentioned as the author.

The EARL OF CHATHAM to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787,] February 8. Berkeley Square.—Recommending an officer for some appointment in Ireland. “Everybody is full of Sheridan’s speech on Mr. Hastings’ business. I really think it, without any exception, one of the most wonderful performances I ever heard, and almost the greatest imaginable exertion of the human mind. The very fair part taken in it by Government seems to give very general satisfaction. I never expected it could come up to our House, but I now begin not to think it impossible. The commercial treaty is likely to pass triumphantly, as all the efforts, which have been made with wonderful zeal and industry, to raise a clamour against it have proved most completely abortive. I am as yet uncertain as to the time it may take in its progress, and of course undecided how soon I can get out of town, but I am very anxious to get a little more hunting this season.” I hope it will agree with the plan you have laid down for your expenses to continue the hounds. There has been some very great sport with them since Christmas.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, February 8. Fludyer Street.—“To give your Grace as good an account as I am able of yesterday’s business I have done myself the honor to write this day, though we are not yet come to a vote on the charge conducted by Sheridan for Hastings’s conduct to the Begums. With respect to the merits of the case, Hastings had certainly been both very precipitate in his conduct in India, and very hasty and unguarded in the account of it he delivered into the House. I conceived very early that Sheridan must succeed in his attack, and hearing from Lord G. Cavendish how much he bragged of what he would do, went down so early as to hear the whole. In a speech of five hours and a half, the longest they say ever delivered in Parliament, he never received any signs of inattention, and fully confirmed me in what I think I mentioned to your Grace last year, an opinion that he is, in point of *speaking*, superior to Pitt and of course to Fox, though as they have both so many other superiorities over him, they did not scruple yesterday to allow that it was the ablest speech ever delivered within those walls, which was Pitt’s expression; and Fox said all that he had ever read, ancient or modern, vanished to nothing on a comparison with it; though I think at the close, which he had apparently studied, he was a little too theatrical, and did not conduct his flourishes as well as he did his arguments.”

I must explain to you the embarrassments Pitt appears to be in respecting these East Indians. “I believe it is his own opinion that Hastings should be at least charged by the House of Commons; and, if it was not, he is surrounded by so many Wilberforces and Bankss of all sorts in the House that he cannot entirely guide it without much previous consultation and management with them at any time, and perhaps, in the present case, where his situation as Minister is not affected, he cannot influence them at all. On the other side, the King is an eager favourer of Hastings, and Hastings’s friends in the House amount to 30 or 40. Dundas, at the same time, was attacked yesterday

by a General Court of Proprietors, and this opposition to the Board of Controul is supposed to be underhand fomented by Hastings, both here and in India. Under all these circumstances I believe Mr. Pitt was yesterday a little embarrassed how to act, not fully knowing what impression Sheridan's speech had made on the votes of the House. I heard P. Arden say he had promised to answer Sheridan, but a new member, Mr. Burgess, in a long, insignificant speech of an hour, for which he was coughed down when people returned from dinner, furnished Pepper with a very lucky escape, and left Pitt a little time to consider what to do. As nothing could serve Mr. Pitt so much, I proposed to Mr. Hungerford and Mr. Bellingham to join with me and cry out to adjourn, as it was then past 12 o'clock; even Lord G. Cavendish, who was near us, joined in the cry, which brought up Fox, and then half-a-dozen babblers, and at last Pitt himself, to discuss the question of adjournment, which they talked upon long enough to make it absolutely necessary. Pitt will of course have all this morning to decide finally what he will do. Dundas told Basset in my hearing, on coming out of the House, he did not know what Pitt's opinion was, but his own was neither entirely with Sheridan nor entirely against him; and I conclude from appearances we shall have as curious a scene of acting this evening as most other Ministers have exhibited on India delinquents, however uniform they have been as to the delinquency itself." Although Mr. Pitt is under a temporary embarrassment as to the precise line to take, the question itself in no way affects the stability of Ministry; nor, if Mr. Pitt is at last obliged to a junction with Opposition on the subject, will it be for any other purpose than to frighten the East Indians, and to employ Burke, Sheridan, and their friends as the scarecrows for that purpose. My own line of action shall be determined by Pitt's speech.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, February 9. Fludyer Street.—“We yesterday voted the fourth charge, and of course I think the impeachment itself against Mr. Hastings. Mr. Pitt's conduct is rather mysterious, but I suppose he knows his own business; he had, as I hear, made a sort of guarded promise that if Mr. Hastings appeared to deserve protection he would not join his prosecutor, and with this the East Indians affected to be very much pleased. During the first debate, as well as yesterday, Wilberforce was perpetually besieging him, and several of our own people clamouring at times with Sheridan from different parts of the House. I believe he really gave up a *part* of his first intention, which seemed to be to lessen the charge to little or nothing, and then give way to it in such a manner as to reserve to himself a right to oppose the impeachment itself. But urged by the opposition at the India House the same day, and by so many of his friends, he yesterday rose amidst the most profound silence I almost ever recollect, and though he spoke with great apparent candor and gravity, did really add some of the weightiest aggravations to what Sheridan had said, and rejecting as great a part of his premises as he well could, he very flatly joined in the conclusion, on grounds a little, though not widely, dissimilar. The real fact was that almost every man in the House could have made out a different argument against Hastings from his own words (as far as his proceedings against the Begums were unauthorised by absolute necessity), Sheridan omitting at once sometimes 40 or 50 different quotations. He had indeed told me at the Bar a day or two before that he could not take less time than seven hours; and though many people in the House might be convinced by Sheridan's speech

merely, it is not to be supposed it gave any new light to Pitt, so I suppose the refractory conduct of the Indians has occasioned an impeachment, so entirely unsuspected by Hastings and his friends. Pochin is come to town, and though several of our friends divided with Hastings, I believe *we* all divided with Mr. Pitt, thinking that if he concurred so openly and unequivocally, it was more to the credit of the Minister that his weight should be quite decisive.

“Hearing nothing from your Grace, till we are honoured with your Grace’s presence in England, or your particular instructions, we occasionally consult a little with each other, and can only act for the best. From our constant and harmless attendance, Mr. Pitt ought to know our present value, but if he wished any of us to be more active, and your Grace concurred in it, I suppose we should hear of it in some shape or other. I am sure he is almost every day assured of my attendance by being obliged to draw in his long legs, when anyone passes, that commonly reach from the Treasury Bench to the table.”

On Monday we shall proceed with the commercial treaty, and carry it by a large majority.

If Flood knows anything about trade, his best opening for a mischievous speech will be on the treaty, as he may drag in Ireland, and nobody will know whether what he says is true or false.

The political tranquility of Ireland leaves no hope for the Opposition, unless it be in a new coalition with the East Indians, or the King’s disgust with the House of Commons leading to an early dissolution.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, February 10. Fludyer Street.—I paired with Adam yesterday, so heard nothing of Fox’s allusion to the Irish dispute with Portugal. I find, however, Pitt declared himself resolved to effect what Fox bragged he would have done, namely, compel Portugal to receive the Irish goods.

I was canvassed yesterday by Mr. Beaufoy, who is a Dissenter, and has been applied to by the Dissenters of England “to move for a repeal of the Test Act.” His argument with me was that the Irish Dissenters, although not subject to the same disabilities, have an intimate connexion with the Dissenters here, and it would render Government more popular in Ireland if such a favour were given to their brethren in England. Let me know whether it is any object to you to be distinguished with the Irish Dissenters as a favourer of their brethren here.

On Monday the commercial treaty will be debated.

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, February 13. London.—“I will not trouble your Grace with the various causes of the pictures of the children and of Lord Mansfield being delayed so long, it would take up the whole letter; I can only say they were inevitable; however, they are now on their way to Dublin. In regard to the Sacriments, I hear people continually regret that they are not to remain in London; they speak on a general principle as wishing that the great works of art which this nation possesses are not (as in other nations) collected together in the capital, but dispersed about the country, and consequently not seen by foreigners, so as to impress them with an adequate idea of the riches in virtu which the nation contains. A thought is just come into my head that if your Grace is determined to send them to Belvoir, to let them stand in the Academy, in a room by themselves, during the Exhibition, to give an

opportunity of their being seen by the students as well as the connoisseurs before they finally leave London. If your Grace has no objection to this scheme I am sure it would be of great service to the artists, both the young and the old.

"I have order'd very handsome frames to be made for them, at ten guineas each, and very broad, which I think gives a picture a more consequential air.

"Mr. Lock's Discobolus, as I have been informed, is not to be sold. At a sale which he had last year of his marbles and models, he bought that statue in ; and I am told since that he intends to keep it for the use of his son, who is a youth of a most extraordinary genius in our art, and which his father intends he shall practice, tho he will have a very good fortune at his father's death.

"I have, lately arrived, a modern statue of a Neptune with a Triton, which far exceeds Mr. Lock's statue, or any other in this nation. Your Grace may form some idea of it from the print in Rossi's Statues, if such a book is to be found in Ireland. I bought it of Jenkins, who purchased all the statues in the Villa Negroni, formerly Villa Montalto ; the subject is the *Quos ego* of Virgil.

"But the greatest news relating to virtu is Alderman Boydell's scheme of having pictures and prints taken from those pictures of the most interesting scenes of Shakespear, by which all the painters and engravers find engagements for eight or ten years ; he wishes me to do eight pictures, but I have engaged only for one. He has insisted on my taking earnest money, and to my great surprise left upon my table five hundred pounds—to have as much more as I shall demand.

"I have enclosed Boydell's proposals and my last discourse, which I hope will meet with your Grace's approbation."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, February 16. Fludyer Street.—The resolution to reduce French wines one third was passed this morning in the Committee, Fox having attempted in vain to accompany it with a similar reduction of the wines of Portugal. His principal object was to gain time for an agitation, and after much clamour for a division, we at length divided 191 to 76, when Fox and his seventy friends immediately left the House, and we proceeded to the main question without them. "Mr. Flood made an elaborate and tedious speech against the treaty, to which I was particularly attentive, from never having heard him before. It was full of unconnected paradoxes, syllogisms, dilemmas, and of all common-place pamphlet remarks put into logic, with some upbraidings, well enough put, to the English manufacturers for grudging to Ireland, without capital, industry, &c., what they were contented to grant to France—the English market." Wilberforce replied, at Pitt's request, but made no great figure, "and he gave Flood an opportunity of remarking upon him with some shrewdness and success ; but, upon the whole, Flood's language is so barbarous to an English ear, his manner of arguing so abstracted and void of illustration, and his *tout ensemble* somehow or other so disgusting, that he fell infinitely below my expectations, and will never make the slightest impression on our side, I perceive, nor is he likely, from what I saw, to gain much confidence with the Opposition. He never dropped a single expression respecting the present government of Ireland . . . but he was very warm and violent against Eden, who, he said, owed more gratitude, wherein he had received so many distinctions, than to excite the manufacturers of England one day against suffering the Irish to partake in their markets, and the next to grant without

scruple that indulgence to our rooted enemies. On Wilberforce's remarking, 'Eden as well as the manufacturers were both absent,' he said he knew not why Eden was absent unless to remedy his own blunders; he had known enough of Mr. Eden to have little fear of meeting him on any ground."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, February 20. Fludyer Street.—“I cannot refrain troubling your Grace with an account of a debate, or rather altercation, which arose in the House of Commons yesterday respecting Ireland. Sheridan, in pursuance of his original plan, began the subject by stating that ‘*as it was an undeniable consequence some new arrangements must take place respecting Ireland, to remedy several ill effects from this treaty,*’ he desired Ministry to acquaint the House what those arrangements and projects were, without which he contended we were proceeding without the most essential information.’ I was surprized Pitt rose at all, as the object of Sheridan’s enquiry was well enough understood in the House, and no one on our side seemed to attend to the question. He did, however, rise, merely to say he saw no such undeniable consequences, which furnished Flood with another opportunity of prosecuting his object in this country, which is, I see, to retrieve his popularity, if he can, in Ireland, by appearing here as their advocate, in competition with Sheridan, and I daresay he would be glad to be expelled the House if it were possible to be considered as their martyr. He lamented then, indeed, the situation of that country whose connexion with this was for the future to be of a less intimate nature than it was to be with France. France might come to the English market—she was the *most favoured nation*; Ireland was precluded as an alien. Ireland might then in future go to the French market, as the most favoured nation; of that permission she was debarred in England, where she did not stand in the same predicament. He then threw out a reflection or two on the Irish Resolutions, or rather the English Resolutions as he called them, of ’85, with the old comment on emporium, &c. Grenville rose immediately after him with great apparent warmth, which, however, is only his manner, and after stating his near and dear relation with that country, said he lamented exceedingly the rejection of the Resolutions, but *no such* consequences followed as that we were always bound to offer similar terms; at which half a dozen of our wrong-headed friends cried “Hear, hear.” The dispute between Grenville and Flood ended by Grenville attempting, in his rapid way, to place one of Flood’s arguments in a ridiculous point of view, and Flood’s defending it with *real* loss of temper and an assertion to the House that he was not easily browbeaten, at which everyone burst out into a general laugh, and he sat down abruptly in great apparent pique and soon left the House. Fox, however, soon after took up the same ground, and defended it with his usual mischievous dexterity, though when I say mischievous I can only allude to some possible ill effects from it amongst the rabble of Ireland, for as to us it made no sort of impression, being perfectly understood in a Parliament three years old.”

The aim of the Opposition is evidently to put the Government in this dilemma. If they can extort a declaration that the renewal of the Irish Resolutions is to follow the French treaty, then the English manufacturers will petition against it; if they cannot, the Irish are to be inflamed by the comments of Fox and Sheridan.

Fox “exaggerated our want of generosity to Ireland in not settling our intercourse with her unless under the guard of the 4th Resolution,

though we had no possibility of such a guard respecting France. And why? Because France had so much to give us in return; whilst Ireland, from that very poverty which this country had occasioned, from that monopoly which we had so long possessed there, had no such reciprocity of a rich market to offer."

Sheridan cavilled at several inaccuracies in the wording of the treaty, which was certainly drawn up by a clerk and not by Eden.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, February 22. Fludyer Street.—We voted an address to the King this morning by 235 to 115. I see the Opposition intend to exercise their right, which I am afraid cannot be contested, of presenting petitions in every stage of the Bills which it will be necessary to pass. I fear when the treaty is discussed in Ireland you will receive similar obstructions. I spoke for some twenty minutes after Mr. Ellis. Being told that I was not distinctly heard in the gallery, I must tell you what I said. "After having mentioned the novelties that had appeared on this occasion of the Chamber of Commerce assuming the functions of Parliament, and Fox's desiring Parliament to interfere with the executive Government respecting Portugal, I recollect perfectly that I said—and then, as if we were actually invested with that executive Government, up start on all occasions two self-appointed Irish ambassadors running a race for Irish popularity in an English House of Commons. I then said I must, however, dispute their credentials, at which time I first observed Flood had left the House, and, of course, it would have been improper to allude to him, and I said Ireland had neither employed or wanted any representatives in this House. She had a common Sovereign with this kingdom; she was secure in her own dignity and importance. She was secure in the honor and integrity of the Government, both in this country and in her own; all of which was very well received by our side of the House, and then I returned to the subject of the debate.

"Sheridan rose after me, and instead of any abuse, said I had, adroitly enough was his expression, tried to turn the debate to the merits instead of the point of order; with respect to Ireland he gloried in being her representative, and he would soon bring on a motion here respecting Ireland, of which he now gave notice (and of which I will acquaint your Grace when I hear more), and after shewing some little pique without anything like wit, he concluded fairly enough by saying that whether Ireland had representatives there or not, the House would acknowledge the Lord Lieutenant had one representative, at least, amongst them."

I was frequently encouraged by "Hear, hear," from Pitt, Grenville, and others on the Treasury Bench. As the debate was an extraordinarily good one, with two or three new and eloquent speakers, I really was very vain of being heard with attention, and complimented so much afterwards by some of our side. But to you I must excuse myself even for this sally, which was truly occasioned by Mortlock's telling me in the morning he was confident you were discontented with the Government because I never spoke in the House. I am, at least, satisfied that my attempt was pleasing to Pitt, by his manner when he met me later in the evening.

THE SAME to the SAME.

1787, February 24. Fludyer Street.—We have heard nothing more of Sheridan's motion respecting Ireland. If he does make such motion,

I expect the previous question will be moved by Grenville or Lord Mornington. I am unfortunate in having incurred the vengeance of two such men as Sheridan and Flood; but I was not disowned by Ministers, having in the course of the debate been noticed by Burke, receiving a flattering epithet from Lord Mornington, and being named by Pitt among the great men of our side, such as Grenville, the Master of the Rolls, and Lord Mornington, manager in a conference with the Lords on the address; which I make such a parade of merely to prove to you that I am not thought to have intermeddled needlessly. I fear Mortlock is becoming more deeply engaged in opposition. I cannot think it was policy in Mr. Pitt to lose him, when he might have been so easily retained. I hear on all hands that he has made himself master of the borough of Cambridge.

Sir H. Langrishe's verses on the Duchess of Rutland have been made known in society here by Mrs. Stanhope, who tells me they are much praised by everybody but Tickell, who, she says, would be jealous of anything good, though it had come from Lapland.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, February 27. Fludyer Street.—Nothing has passed in the House of Commons since I wrote last. The consolidation of the Customs has been gone into without opposition. Yesterday, however, Pitt appeared out of spirits, and the Opposition unusually cheerful and civil; the latter I have always found a bad symptom. "Steele, who if anything occurs amiss always looks like an undertaker, appeared worse than I ever saw him." This may be accident; but it is very easy to assign twenty probable causes for Pitt being harassed; "and he has so little command of himself that I think he always discovers when anything has crossed him." To appearance he had never so great reason to be satisfied, having shown the country that he was not afraid of the East Indians, and having carried, with little other assistance than Grenville's, the business of the treaty with so high a hand. It was thought impossible to conduct anything of trade in the House of Commons without Jenkinson, and our having succeeded so much better without him may have occasioned jealousies.

Mortlock has "told me of Watson's intentions to oppose the treaty, though I cannot conceive it a very proper *débüt* for a bishop, and it is one on which he can be no match for his rival, Prettyman."

The SAME to the SAME.

1787, March 2. Fludyer Street.—I attended yesterday in the House of Lords till midnight, merely to send you an authentic account of what occurred respecting Ireland in the debate on the French treaty. Watson only repeated one or two House of Commons arguments. Lord Lansdowne spoke out fully, and declared that some stricter connection with Ireland must be the necessary consequence of our commercial treaty with France.

The Bishop of Llandaff [Watson], "though he mends a little, appears still more like a preacher than a debater, but his appearance, and the subject he spoke about, and his manner, were altogether, I suppose, unequalled since the days of De Retz or Burnet. He must be in great luck if he is not attacked in print-shops, newspapers, &c., but he certainly gained attention, and, at the close of his speech, declaring his mind was too big to have connected himself with Opposition, he left Pitt an opportunity to buy him back again if he chooses it." He spoke

civilly to me afterwards behind the throne, where he came and re-argued his statements with Wilberforce and other Cambridge acquaintance.

“Lord Lansdown closed the debate with a speech, the most extraordinary I ever heard even from him, and though it lasted an hour or two, and included every possible subject of antient or modern politics, foreign or domestic anecdotes, parties, treaties, abuse, compliment, confidence, and mistrust mingled together God knows how, he took care to balance everything he said in such a manner that no stranger to him would ever have guessed how he meant to vote; but, at last, he claimed all the meritorious part of the treaty himself, and said he should vote for it, at sitting down. He was, however, very successful, and raised a general and loud laugh through the House by saying in his sneering manner, ‘ Good God, was not commerce subject to *changes*? Did a right reverend prelate think politicks of countries and of individuals did not *change*? Did the prelate think no advantageous *changes* in his own order itself might be suggested to ministers? The right reverend prelate was too wise to be a bigot to any party or any principles;’ and then I believe his next step was to Chandanagore and the East Indies, and then to the Chevalier de Pinto, who they said was in the House, and whose country, he said, should be whipped like a child that had been humored too much, and was grown forward; and then he praised great ministers, such as Secretaries of State, for silence, and declared he could hardly sleep the last night from apprehension that either of the Secretaries (who never have said a word this year) might say too much on these occasions. It is impossible to give your Grace any sort of idea of a thousandth part of this curious exhibition, and more impossible still to attempt describing to your Grace Lord Chatham’s face, who was sitting next him.”

Everybody is surprized with the facility with which everything passes in Ireland, and as we hear the Irish Parliament will rise in April, your friends hope to see you in England this summer.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787, March 2.] Whitehall.—The commercial treaty has been approved universally, with the exception of the Opposition members in both Houses. Mr. Pitt distinguished himself as usual. Mr. W. Grenville seems to have gained great reputation; little Wilberforce and Lord Mornington each did extremely well. Sir Charles Grey’s eldest son seems to have taken to Opposition. He spoke extremely well. In the House of Lords Lord Stormont is eternal. He has spoken better than usual, but has returned to his natural prolixity. Your friend the Bishop of Llandaff has spoken twice against us, the last time with considerable ability, but a good deal of singularity. “But the speech most talked of is one of Lord Lansdowne, in which he by turns attacked and commended both sides, voted for the treaty as very beneficial, but *showed* that he could have made a better. He recommended unanimity, and wondered how anyone could delight in invective. Notwithstanding its peculiarity there were some able parts in his speech, particularly on the Portuguese part of the business, as he directly asserted that nothing but the treaty with France could have brought Portugal to a proper state of negotiation with us. Lord Hawkesbury has spoken with great ability, and showed, as I always thought he would, that he will be a capital speaker in the House of Lords.”

“Mr. Pitt has distinguished himself, particularly on the opening of the business of the consolidation of the Customs. Divided as we are

upon other subjects, everybody did him full justice upon that. Upon the whole, his character never stood higher, and I really think that every day produces fresh instances of his superior ability to every other person. Mr. Flood made one indifferent speech, and was ably answered by Mr. Grenville."

My family join me in lamenting the Duchess of Rutland's indisposition. Lady Chatham is with us, and desires to be particularly remembered to her.

We are glad to find the resolutions pass so well in your House of Commons. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

GEORGE Y. KENDALL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, March 5. Paris.—Acknowledging the favour of a pension of 120*l.* conferred on his sister and niece and the survivor, and referring to an accident that delayed the vessel conveying wines from Rouen for the Duke's use.

The EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, March 8. Hertford Street.—"I return your Grace many thanks for your kind consideration of my brother, but on enquiry I have found that the artillery would not be an eligible service for him. In the course of my enquiries on this subject, Sir George Yonge, to whom I spoke, was so good as to offer me an ensigncy in a regiment now in India, which I have accepted. It is not my intention that my brother should join his regiment under all the disadvantages of that station; I am therefore to get a long leave of absence, about ten months, and during that period I hope that your Grace will extend your kindness so far as to assist my brother in the next step, either by giving him the first vacant lieutenantcy (which would be the most desirable favour in his circumstances), or by allowing him to purchase on the first opportunity. Whenever your Grace has leisure I should be much obliged to you for your answer to this request."

I am extremely sensible of your kindness to Mr. Mockler and Mr. Pomeroy. I congratulate you on the prospect of quiet in Ireland. We are going on flourishingly here. Sheridan's speech merits all that can be said of it.

SIR J. BLAQUIERE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787,] March 8, Thursday.—Asking for an interview to make an explanation.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, March 10. London.—Your Grace's long silence almost leads me to fear that my letters have proved so uninteresting to you, that it would be officious in me to trouble you with any more of them.

I have received another pressing application to support a Bill for the repeal of the Test Act, and again request your instructions as to the line you would wish me to take in regard to such a measure, should the Ministry treat it as an open question.

Although Mr. Pitt has given me so much encouragement to take part in the debate respecting Ireland which Mr. Sheridan threatens to raise, I still await with anxiety for some expression of your views on the subject. "I do not consider a letter from Bob Thoroton, full of Latin

scraps, and promising me the *Castle newspapers in order to over-match Mr. Flood*, as at all known to your Grace, but if I could, even that would be more satisfaction than to hear of Topham reading your letters to the printer's devils, and having myself no possible means of knowing your sentiments on the most material subjects."

"Nothing can possibly exist in such an unsupported and uninformed state as your Grace's members seem to feel themselves. I really wish to conceal as much as I can, but G. Sutton, who had only half a coat when I arrived in London in 1784, and who, by his own account, had lain in bed three days on nothing but porter and sallad, and appeared to me as nearly starved as a person could do, must and will, I fear, soon return to the same state without my being longer able to prevent it; though Pochin and Lord Tyrconnel and he are wishing me joy of the great things I am now sure of, which they do by contrasting my conduct with that of Bishop Watson."

Postscript.—"If I had been in a situation for smiling, I could not have refrained on finding Bob Thoroton affecting to conceal from me Mr. Pitt's and your intentions respecting me, to which, as an uninterested party, I am kept an utter stranger."

THE DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, March 13. Syon.—Recommending Sir Skeffington Smith.

DR. A. F. W. CROME to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, March 13. Dessau.—Presenting a geographical work. *French.*

The SAME to ———.

1787, March 13.—Concerning the same work. *French.*

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, March 18. Dublin Castle.—Suggesting an alteration in the last paragraph of a letter [to Mr. Pitt].

The paragraph as finally revised by the Duke stands thus:—"I had no positive ground to suppose from Lord Sydney's letter that any important alteration was certainly to be made, and I confidently hope that under the present circumstances none will be thought of. But if I should, unfortunately, be mistaken, you will extremely oblige me if you will take care that I may have the quickest intelligence, indeed, whether any should or should not be thought requisite." *Marked "Private."*

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, March 19. Fludyer Street.—I had last week the honour to receive your letter of the 11th of March. Mr. Hill seems well disposed to execute your kind intentions. You are good enough to acquaint me that Mr. Pitt intends making *an early* opening in my favour. I am not much elated by this, as he has made the same profession to you these three years, and could at any time have given it effect in three days. "The plain truth is that Mr. Pitt is on the brink of several difficulties, and one of his main supports is the unexampled

quiet state of Ireland; if, under such circumstances, a pressing application from your Grace is so slighted, I cannot foresee any possible moment when it is likely to be attended to." "I am to repeat to your Grace a conversation P. Arden held with me on Saturday respecting the proposed Presbyterian Bill, which he said Mr. Pitt wished to get rid of in the House of Commons. I told him I rather thought your Grace conceived it would strengthen the popularity of the Irish Government to let your members vote for it," but if Mr. Pitt made a point to reject it, we should of course vote with him. He said he would speak to Mr. Pitt, and let me know what he had determined. "With respect to the latter part of your Grace's letter on English news, Sheridan did not insinuate, or attempt to do it, that your Grace's representatives and the representatives of Ireland were in opposite interests; nor did he say one half the nonsense Mr. Woodfall has made him say on that subject; but the case is that Mr. Sheridan is so connected with all these reporters as Manager, and Secretary to the Treasury, and author, that they are always determined to make him *pointed*, as they call it, in reply, and when they do not understand what he says, they give him any abuse of their own. The same misrepresentation runs through the accounts of the dispute between the Duke of Richmond and Lord Lansdowne, which, though begun with great apparent hatred, was conducted throughout with great civility as to the manner, and ended with a sort of overture from Lord Shelburne to be on more amicable terms together in future. As to Mr. Grey's speech, which was, I suppose, very good for a beginner, I remember only that, after he had spoke ten minutes, I went out to leave a great-coat without having had the curiosity to find out it was a first speech or to ask his name; but I since hear he is really very likely to be a usefull man, though your Grace will easily believe at a sufficient distance even from such speakers as Wilberforce."

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, March 22. Boyle Court.—I thank you for your letter, and am sure it will forward Drouly's application. I wish General Pitt could be prevailed on to write to me upon the subject you mention before it goes too far.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, March 23. Fludyer Street.—Nothing of any importance has occurred in Parliament except a sort of agreement on both sides of the House that Mr. Hastings' trial should come on this year. In your letter of the 11th of this month, you desire that I should point out some place likely to become vacant, for which you would apply, as you suppose that, when vacancies happen, pressing claims are made by people on the spot. "If my prospect is no better than this, I am in a desperate state indeed. . . . Though Mr. Orde is a person an acquaintance with whose character I have long had, and that character literally proverbial at the University for a quality opposite to truth, I do not doubt that peremptory and pressing instructions to him would have produced as sudden an effect in my case as in that of Mr. Ekins. Considering his knowledge of Treasury transactions, his influence with Mr. Rose, with Mr. Pitt's secretary, and others, it is impossible but he can point out much better than I can do, even at present, some train better than a general promise; or, if not, that he could as easily make some arrangement in Ireland for one of your Grace's friends as he

can do for his own. It gives me infinite pain to trouble your Grace, though I have so much at stake, with stating and re-stating what is in everyone's mouth here. Mr. Pitt knows too well your importance to the Ministry, and your services to his family are too well known in the world, for him to trifle on any point in which your Grace was serious."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, March 24. Whitehall.—Acknowledging the receipt of a letter inclosing a list of five Bills which had been sealed in Council; and in reference to a Bill giving effect in Ireland, on the 25th of March, to the commercial treaty with France, pointing out that the provisions of the treaty could not become operative in France or England until a later date; suggesting various expedients by which the operation of the Irish Bill might be deferred; and stating that that Bill would be held back by the English Ministry until the Irish Government had decided which of those expedients should be adopted. *Marked* "Private."

* W. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, March 24, Saturday night. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence*, p. 178.]

The ARCHBISHOP OF YORK to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, March 30. South Audley Street.—Recommending his fourth son, David Markham, a lieutenant in the 7th regiment, to the protection of the Duke, and particularly to be allowed to purchase a company.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, March 31. Fludyer Street.—The proposal for repealing the Test and Corporation Acts has been, as I thought probable, opposed by the Ministry. Your friends voted in the division with Mr. Pitt; Lord Lansdowne's friends all voted with the Dissenters; Lord North, though very infirm and more than half blind, spoke long and ably against their claim.

The rumour of Mr. Pitt's intended resignation is utterly untrue. That he is not on good terms with the King I believe I mentioned to you some time ago, but His Majesty must give way at last. On the main vote of the impeachment or not of Hastings, the King's friends and the East Indians will make their last stand, and will infallibly be beaten by a great majority.

As far as I have been able to judge, "Mr. Pitt was not averse to Hastings or unwilling to stifle the affair at the beginning, if his own and his friends' indiscreet confidence had not pressed on an examination. When the affair, however, turned out so much worse than anyone imagined, and Hastings said enough to convict himself, in his own defence, it was quite impossible for the House to vote so palpable a falsehood as his innocence; and on the first decision against him, when he threw himself entirely on the King, and caballed in the India House against Ministry, he only made the affair worse. So the impeachment must inevitably go up, however unpopular I believe it is among all sensible people out of the House." I cannot help thinking this affair will be attended with some present mischief, and may ultimately lead to greater, but Pitt and Dundas have gone too far to recede.

Stanhope told me some time ago that Mr. Grey, of Northumberland, was to move for the payment of the Prince of Wales' debts, and Sir William Lendon to second it. When this comes on I shall, of course, unless otherwise directed by you, follow Mr. Pitt.

The MARQUESS OF CARMARTHEN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, April 5. Grosvenor Square.—Recommending Lord Athlone's request to have his son, Lord Aughrim, employed in the King's service. Although foreigners would be precluded generally from employment here, the circumstance of Lord Athlone being a peer of Ireland and entitled to sit in the Legislature will, I hope, render his son—and heir apparent in the peerage—capable of serving the King in a military capacity.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, April 5. Fludyer Street.—“Mr. Sheridan yesterday gave notice he should, immediately after the recess, introduce the whole business of Ireland before Parliament, if not done by Ministry.” I request you will let me know if you wish me to take part in the debate.

“From two or three repeated visits lately from Mr. Lyte, to whom I would not be at home until I had acquainted your Grace, I suspect he is employed by the Prince of Wales, as a more confidential agent than Stanhope, to find out what part I thought your Grace would take in his question; but as Mr. Lyte would not proceed without the King's leave, whose sentiments on that subject are, I believe, better known to him than to any other man in England, if your Grace has formed any opinion about the affair, or wishes me to know more of the subject, I can easily do it through the above channel.” Stanhope's last account was that the Prince thought he was betrayed by Opposition, and that if he had but two friends in the House to move and second his claims, he would delay it no longer.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, April 5. London.—Concerning the Prince of Wales' application to Parliament. I hear that some doubts are entertained of the general question of impeachment being carried against Hastings, but I have no idea of its being resisted. I have not yet conversed with Mr. Pitt upon your private objects. He is much hurt and distressed about Lord Shannon's application. *Marked* “Private.”

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, April 9, Monday evening. Newry.—Mentioning the news of the sudden death of the Dean of Down, and asking to be allowed to name his successor.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to W. PITT.

1787, April 11. Dublin Castle.—“I find myself under extreme embarrassment respecting a motion which I understand is to be made to increase the establishment of the Prince of Wales. I had formerly, very unfortunately, and with little caution, committed myself upon this subject in such a manner that I fear I cannot under any construction of honour explain away or recede from my declarations.

"I desired Lord Chatham to state this circumstance to you on his return from Ireland last year. I send you the papers which passed between the Prince and myself on the accession of the new Ministry in 1782, by which you will see how impossible it will be for me to take any other line than that of supporting him, at least if he calls upon me for my support. I beg you will let me hear from you immediately on this subject, and I shall depend upon your good offices for explaining it to the King if I should be necessitated to take a step that may appear in any degree hostile to Government and in opposition to His Majesty's private wishes, and as such most extremely repugnant to my principles and feelings.

Postscript.—"I will only observe that Colonel Stevens, whose name is mentioned in this correspondence, was simply a messenger." *Copy, marked "Private."*

A draft of this letter, dated April 10, has been published in "Correspondence between Mr. Pitt and Charles, Duke of Rutland," p. 179.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, April 11. Whitehall.—Introducing M. le Comte de Brown.

R. HOBART to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787,] April 13. Dublin.—"I hope I shall not be considered guilty of too great presumption in renewing my application to your Grace for a favor which from the nature of it cannot possibly be attended with much difficulty. It is scarcely necessary for me to remind your Grace that the favor I allude to is that of an Irish peerage for my father; and as those applications are generally confined to the narrow limits of the rank of Baron, I should not wish to put any restraint of that sort upon your Grace's liberality, but should, with all humility, submit to your Grace that the claims of my family upon your Grace's Government are such (your having done so little for any part of it) that it would reflect severely upon your Grace's discernment, and be inconsistent with our pretensions, to accept of anything under the rank of Viscount; which might, in the course of time (should this country be blessed with a continuance of your Grace's administration) entitle us to an Earldom, which would enable your Grace with the more facility to confer upon us the most illustrious order of St. Patrick. I have only to add that your Grace's acceding to this application will be a cordial to the drooping spirits of an aged parent, who, with the natural infirmities attendant upon her years, has lived to be neglected by most of her old friends; but, alas, has lately experienced a desertion which of all others is the most grievous, because it is irreparable—that of the detestable P——."

Apparently intended to parody the pressing applications for peerages by which the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland was assailed.

* W. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, April 14. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence, p. 180.*]

THE EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, April 15. Hillsborough.—I am truly grateful for your Grace's most kind and obliging letter, and for all the marks of friendship you bestow upon me. I will ask your leave to postpone for a post or two mentioning the person I would recommend for the deanery.

The EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787,] April 17. Hertford Street.—Thanking the Duke for giving his friend Mr. Fortescue the vacant office of Ulster King of Arms; mentioning that this appointment is understood to be intended as a provision also for Mr. Fortescue's brother, the naval officer mentioned in a former letter [January 16]; and making some suggestions for increasing the value of the office in order more effectually to carry out that intention. Recommending Mr. Page, a son of his agent, for an appointment. "I suppose your Parliament will soon conclude the session; we have nothing left that can take any time but the impeachment of Hastings."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, April 18. Whitehall.—Introducing M. le Baron de Munich, at the request of Count Woronzow.

The MARQUESS OF CARMARTHEN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, April 19. Whitehall.—Introducing, at the desire of Count Woronzow, the Comte de Browne and the Baron de Munich, who propose to visit Ireland and make some short stay at Dublin.

The EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, April 19. Hillsborough.—"I am just returned from the assizes at Down, where the absence of five or six of our members of Parliament put it in the power of the grand jury to pass some impertinent resolutions relative to the Magistracy Bill, of little consequence indeed, except the last, in which they resolve to desire the high sheriff to assemble the county in order to repeat their resolutions through them, and, in short, to make a noise and a disturbance in the country. I think I have prevailed upon the sheriff to refuse them. I was heartily vexed at the absence of our friends, and did all I could to defeat the malevolence of our enemies, but was beat by one voice. Much management and attention is necessary to keep this turbulent county in order; it has been and shall be my constant endeavour to do it, and have succeeded pretty well for some years past, and, with the assistance your Grace is so good as to give, I do not despair of doing it in future." The gentleman I recommend for the deanery of Down is the Hon. and Rev. Mr. William Annesley, brother to Lord Glerawly, and nephew to Lord Tyrone and Mr. Beresford. He is a very worthy man, and his obtaining this preferment is wished by many gentlemen in this county. He will vacate a living under the Archbishop of Cashel, which before the tithe disturbances was worth 400*l.* per annum, and which he will resign in favour of anyone you may be pleased to name. He has also a small benefice in this county, which I will ask you to allow me to dispose of. Although worth only about 100*l.* a year, it would enable me to carry out a plan very advantageous to the Protestant religion, a necessary object here, where there is as much danger from the influence of Independents and Dissenters as there is in the south from Popery.

[The DUKE OF RUTLAND] to W. PITT.

[1787, April —.]—"I dispatch this by Ross—who delivered me your letter of the 14th—to assure you that I do not doubt your strenuous

exertions to prevail upon the Court of France to abide by the duties on linens as settled by the Irish Act for giving effect to the French treaty, and I cannot admit a doubt in my mind that your exertions will be successful. If it were possible they should fail, I should be at a loss to account for the conduct of the French ministry. Their attempt appears to me to arise from a desire of obtaining credit by improving upon Monsieur de Vergennes' plan, but after what has passed I can hardly suppose they will persist in desiring to substitute a different duty upon Irish linens from that which was settled and accepted. I am well warranted in saying that the satisfaction with which the treaty was adopted by this Parliament was owing to the particular arrangement of this article, and to the same influence may be ascribed much of the good humour of this session, in which many Bills of great importance have been carried. If the whole were now to be set afloat, let me entreat you to reflect how it would shake the faith and the hopes of this country in the present administration of both kingdoms, and how little confidence they would have in future prospects of commercial union. My administration here depends upon it, and I will fairly apprise you that I cannot unsay that which I have said, by authority. The point seems to turn upon the average value of linen manufactured in France and Ireland. Of the former I cannot pretend to speak; of the latter I have made particular enquiry, and find the average of linens made in Ireland to be 17*d.* a yard, upon which 4½*d.* the ell would be upwards of 20 per cent. Certainly, if any linens be sent to France, they must be of the finer sorts, but I must repeat to you that this is mere speculation, while the admission of French cambrics into Ireland is an approved certainty.

“ You know my affectionate attachment to you too well not to believe that my wishes lie to every possible compliance with your suggestions, but I do not see how it is practicable at this day to depart from what has passed. I hope the business of this session will finish to-morrow. I think it absolutely necessary that Mr. Orde should immediately after set out for London, and he will, I trust, be able to satisfy you so clearly on this matter that I am confident it will be concluded without any further hesitation on the part of the French Court.” *Draft: apparently in Mr. Hamilton's handwriting, with some alterations by the Duke of Rutland.*

The EARL OF CARHAMPTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787,] April 24.—Thanking the Duke for recommending him to His Majesty for a regiment of cavalry.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, April 25. Fludyer Street.—Concerning the intended motion on the subject of the Prince of Wales's debts; and the health of the Duchess of Rutland.

The SAME to the SAME.

[1787, April 27,] Thursday, 6 o'clock.—I have this morning received from Mr. Orde, by letter, your instructions, to which I shall, of course, attend to-morrow if necessary; but as there are many negotiations open at this moment, and meetings held between the Prince of Wales, Fox, and Pitt, I think it unlikely now that the Prince's business will come to a vote. From what I hear I infer that the affair is not yet settled, but that it will be so this evening.

Postscript—I know now *for certain* that at the meeting between Pitt and the Prince, the former was liberal of promises on the King's part and his own, but that no specific arrangement was arrived at.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, April 27. Albemarle Street.—In my last—private—I mentioned the King's disposal of the 5th Dragoons in favour of Lieutenant-General Cunningham. I said at the same time that His Majesty had always intended that the first vacant regiment of Dragoons on the Irish establishment should be given to this officer, though he would never be induced to promise one beforehand. I afterwards mentioned that the same kind of reasoning applied to Lord Carhampton's case; but this must not be considered as anything like an implied promise to him.

I was to-day a short time in the House of Commons, after introducing Lord Tyrone and Lord Shannon to the House of Lords. The proposed motion for the payment of the Prince of Wales's debts met with such a *damp* upon an accidental conversation as may possibly prevent it being brought forward. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787,] April 28. Fludyer Street.—From yesterday's debate, I apprehend Alderman Newnham will persevere in his motion respecting the Prince of Wales. I hear from Stanhope that Fox and all the leaders of Opposition disapproved entirely of the Prince's application to Parliament. My own opinion is that they are in reality much divided, and that Fox at bottom approves of it as well as Sheridan. As to the line your members would follow, I have always avoided conversation on the subject as well as I could; I have only said that without very positive instructions your friends would not be forward to leave Mr. Pitt and enlist under Alderman Newnham, who, I remember, was an annuity lender, and, I suppose, is only eager to get himself paid some Jewish interest.

W. N. MILES to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, April 28. Liege.—Concerning an application which a friend in Ireland had made on his behalf.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, April 28, Saturday evening. Birmingham.—Smith, the English messenger, has reached me here, and I have taken the liberty to open your letters lest they should contain anything of importance for me to know. I am glad to read the account of proceedings with respect to the Prince of Wales, and particularly the assurance given in Mr. Pitt's letter of explanations, which cannot fail to be accepted as satisfactory. I hope the Prince will have sufficient delicacy to avoid calling on you for the performance of a promise made under particular circumstances. If he does not, I take for granted you will wish your friends to avoid an appearance upon the question. I shall venture to advise this if I do not receive your commands in time. I hope you have sent to Mr. Pitt the letter which Mr. Hamilton drafted. It would be embarrassing to me to appear without your having previously announced me and the

business on which you have thought it right to send me. I hope by this time the Duchess has safely crossed the water and met the Duchess Dowager of Beaufort. *Marked* "Most private."

* W. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, April 29, Monday, one p.m. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence*, p. 183.]

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, May 2. London.—I have little time to write, as I am detained at Mr. Pitt's and shall be longer detained at St. James's. I have received assurances fully justifying our proceedings in respect to the conditions of the treaty, upon the authority given from hence. Mr. Pitt seems well pleased that you are convinced of his real exertions to conclude the matter favourably. The event places your Administration in a most fortunate condition, and, indeed, I must mention to you the strong declarations of satisfaction which are made here at the transactions of your present session of Parliament. Mr. Pitt still wishes you not to take public notice of the late difficulties in regard to the treaty.

I was in hopes that the unpleasant business of the Prince of Wales would have been suppressed by the check it met with, but I am told that he perseveres. I have talked with Mr. Pitt on your situation, and he seems clearly of opinion that your friends should stay away. He agrees with me upon the impossibility of their taking part against the Prince. He does not, however, think that I myself am bound by your engagements, and he advises me to appear against the measure.

I meet Lord Tyrconnel on Friday upon Scarborough business, and shall on Saturday give Mr. Pitt a lecture upon it, and all your other grievances. Lord Sydney does not yet know how the King will dispose of General Severn's regiment. The common opinion is in favour of Lord Carhampton. General Burgoyne has sent in a memorial of claim. His Majesty has made the most gracious enquiries after you and the Duchess, who, I hope, is safely landed on this side. *Marked* "Most private."

SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, May 3. London.—"I was very glad to find by your Grace's letter that you wished to have made some purchases in Lord Northington's sale, particularly portraits of Vandyek. Though I have not bought any of those portraits, I have bought by far the most curious and most valuable part of that collection, which is a sketch upon board, in black and white, of the procession of Knights of the Garter. This sketch authenticates a circumstance that is always mentioned in Vandyek's life, of a project of King Charles of employing him totally on this subject to the exclusion of all other business, but that his demand of 80,000*l.* being thought exorbitant, whilst they were treating for a less sum the King's troubles came on and put an end to the treaty. The sum demanded is incredible. I suspect, therefore, an 0 by some accident was added, which would bring it to 8,000*l.*, and even that would be, according to the value of money at present, 24,000*l.*

"There were three or four portraits which were called Vandyek, but were certainly not of his hand. I did not think it worth while to send a commission for them. There was indeed a true picture of Claude Lorrain, but not his best, and had been much damaged.

“The sketch which I bought, with a view of offering it to your Grace at the price it cost me, whether much or little, was sold for sixty and some odd pounds. I sent a commission for a hundred. That your Grace may form some idea of it, I have spoilt a print by folding it in order to accompany this letter.

“The King when I accompanied him at the Exhibition took much notice of the Poussins, more than I expected, as they are of a different kind from what he generally likes. He asked many questions—where they came from? out of what palace? what they cost? and whether there was any suspicion of their being copies? To all which questions I answered to the best of my knowledge.

“I have been often angry with myself for having declined parting with the portrait of Albert Durer, as your Grace wished to have it in your collection. As it is a rare and curious thing, it cannot be better placed and fixed than at Belvoir; I shall therefore take the liberty of sending it with the Poussins.

“I am extremely sorry to hear of her Grace’s indisposition; it may be hoped that the change of season may be as serviceable towards the establishment of her Grace’s health as the change of climate to which she is so averse.

“I am unwilling to give up all thought of going to Ireland this summer, but am in great doubt whether I shall be able to compass it. I am sure I am, as I ought to be, very much flattered by your Grace’s kind invitation.”

J. CORRY to the SPEAKER [of the IRISH HOUSE OF COMMONS].

[1787,] May 4.—Mentioning the amicable settlement of the question between the King and the Prince of Wales, and the consequent interchange of amenities between the leading members of both parties in the House of Commons.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, May 4. Fludyer Street.—“Mr. Lyte acquainted me this morning, after Newnham’s motion was withdrawn, that from his knowledge of both parties he was confident everything was now settled between the King and Prince *bonâ fide*.” What Mrs. F[itzherbert] can do in her present embarrassed situation I cannot pretend to guess, but Sheridan attempted, very foolishly, to repair his statement respecting the marriage by saying to-day in the House her situation was truly respectable, at which everyone smiled.

As to what passed in the House, it was merely a cavil of a point of honour between Pitt and Fox as to whether the King or Prince had given way first.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to W. PITT.

1787, May 5. (Dublin Castle).—*Draft*. [Correspondence, p. 184.]

The EARL OF CHATHAM to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

[1787, May 6,] Sunday. Berkeley Square.—Although I have but a moment before leaving town, I could not omit sending you a line to tell you of the final conclusion of the Prince’s business, in case you

should not hear it from any other quarter. The King has consented to the debts being paid, and adds 10,000*l.* a year out of the Civil List to the Prince's income. The difficulty has been principally with respect to the Prince resuming his establishment, which was insisted on by the King, and resisted by the Prince on the ground of insufficient means, which this increased allowance has removed. I am glad on your account, as on every other, that this unpleasant subject is over.

I have seen the Duchess two or three times. I wish I could observe that she gained ground faster. The Parliament here is now concluding, and I hope our sessions will gradually become shortened.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787,] May 7. Fludyer Street.—I have received your instructions on the subject of the Prince of Wales, which I conclude will be needless, as the parties cannot now so substantially disagree as to raise a question in the House. Requesting the loan of a bond for 1,000*l.* to enable him to establish a faro bank, in partnership with Lord Foley, Lady Duncannon, Lady Harrington, and others. Lord Cholmondeley told Lord Foley that he had won 44,000*l.* this year. The Duchess of Devonshire is in debt to all the banks she has ever been connected with; so that we must keep her from a claim to be in debt to us. The bank is to begin with 6,000*l.* "I mean to subscribe 1,500*l.*, and shall have the additional advantage of occasional pay for dealing."

RICHARD ST. GEORGE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, May 8. Dublin.—Referring to the death of General Severn and the probable succession of Lord Carhampton to the colonelcy of the Blue Horse, and mentioning his claims to favourable consideration for a vacancy in the command of the 1st Regiment of Horse.

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787, May —.]—The bishop having told me that Mr. Orde wished to see me, I conversed with the latter yesterday upon the part you had taken in the Prince of Wales's business. I quite approve of your anxiety to have the case clearly stated to the King, for, notwithstanding the seeming concord, I am convinced that there is the strongest mutual contempt between him and the Prince. Considering the situation you fill, and the apparent triumph of the Prince in this contest, I think you should write to the Minister a letter which may be shown to the King. I shall be in waiting next month, and, if His Majesty names you to me, may have an opportunity of saying what you would wish said. But such things in my situation are entirely accidental. Be cautious, however, in what you write to Carlton House. I enclose you a letter from Drouly, and regret the little effect your recommendation has had with Mr. Pitt. If anything should fall on your side of the water wherein you can be useful to him, I shall look upon it as a great obligation. Colonel Pigot thanks you for your kindness to him. I send you also a line from Lord Cornwallis, by which you will see that Sloper has got into some difficulties.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, May 10. London.—I have been confined to the house by illness for a few days, but am now able to come to town. I shall take the first

opportunity of talking to Mr. Pitt in private upon the various applications you have committed to me.

I am sorry His Royal Highness thought it necessary to remind you of an engagement made under peculiar circumstances. Your intention of supporting him has been circulated with much exaggeration, "and made use of as fresh ammunition for that pistol which His Royal Highness holds at the King's head."

"I understand that, at all events, he will have no additional allowance, and that some grant for the immediate payment of his debts is all the probable result of this confusion. Mr. Pitt has expressed some regret that your Grace could not take a neutral part, thinking that you could not be obliged to consider your engagement binding you to support every proposition, however indecent." Lord Sydney expressed himself so strongly about the language held in public of your exhorting His Royal Highness to persevere, that I thought it right to inform him of the turn of your letter to His Royal Highness.

"I cannot find out that changes are likely to take place, but I must have apprehensions that some parts of Government are not entirely in good humour with others. I have not yet seen the Chancellor or Lord Hawkesbury to have any conversation with them.

"Lord Lansdown continues to hold his usual language, and is now gone out of town indisposed more than ever against certain persons. He is astonished at the success of your Grace's measures in regard to the internal state of the country, as he was entirely inclined to have given way and compromised matters. He begins, I believe, now to have rather a better opinion of the value of his property. He is very uniform in the unequivocal assurance of his affectionate regard for your Grace."

I have not yet seen Lord Lothian, but shall seek him out. I find people are hurt at the present conduct of Lord Mansfield, which they ascribe to Lord Stormont, who wanted to make a bargain. Lord Mansfield remains at Bath. I am glad to hear of the improved health of the Duchess of Rutland. I have just heard of the arrival of the Bishop of Killala in town. I hope to set out for Ireland on Saturday or Sunday se'night. *Marked "Secret."*

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, May 10. Fludyer Street.—I thought I should not have had to trouble you again on the subject of the Prince of Wales, but it is now said that the terms offered are so wide that it seems impossible the parties can agree.

The King has assumed a very high tone during the whole transaction; he has likewise, I hear, wrote more slightly and contemptuously than was conducive to a reconciliation; and, "at the last conference, Pitt plainly threatened the Prince from the King, if he proceeded in a Parliamentary way, *that the consent of the House of Commons was not all that was necessary, even if obtained, and that this was a point on which His Majesty would judge for himself.* If the question had been brought on the day it was intended, it is certain the Prince would have failed. . . . Gray, from whom I probably got the truest account of their list, made it amount to 150, but Government on that day would have carried at least 200. The alteration of your Grace's directions has perhaps not been the only one on the subject, so that I do not know how the case stands at present."

Lord Delaval having told me that the Duke of Cumberland had given him an account of your letter to the Prince, I showed your letter to me,

or mentioned its contents, to Lord Tyrconnel and Pochin as well as George Sutton, leaving the latter to communicate with Colonel Sutton. The result will probably be (if the question is brought on) that Lord Tyrconnel, G. Sutton and myself will vote for the Prince, and Pochin and Colonel Sutton will be neuter. This is as much as the Prince, considering the lateness of his application, can expect.

“The King’s terms of yesterday, I hear, were, that if the Prince would send in his debts to him, he would discharge those he thought *proper ones*, and he would give him some relief as to his house; and, under a promise of not exceeding his income any more, would leave him his present establishment clear as before, or perhaps increase it when he was married. The Prince’s terms are that *all* his debts should be discharged, and his income increased, and no restriction as to his future conduct. This, if not in terms, I know, is the substance of the difference yesterday. Mr. Lyte was passing frequently between them in private, and Pitt in public, so the circumstances are perhaps something changed since then.”

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, May 12 Whitehall.—Conveying the King’s sanction to an exchange between Lieutenant-Colonels Pigot and Fawcett.

The EARL OF SHANNON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND.]

1787, May 15. London.—Replying to a request for his attendance in the British House of Lords at the hearing of the appeal upon a writ of error [in the case of Captain Sutton and Commodore Johnson].

The EARL OF TYRONE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1785, May 15.—I am honoured with your letter, and shall not fail to attend the House when that business is to be discussed. I am glad to hear the Duchess has borne her journey so well. We return to Ireland in the end of the month, and hope you will honour us with a visit at Curraghmore this summer.

The EARL OF AYLESFORD to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787, May 15.]—“I should have held myself bound by your Grace’s commands to have attended the whole cause between Captain Sutton and Commodore Johnson, had I not been confined to my house by the inoculation of my daughter for this last fortnight.”

The MARQUESS OF BUCKINGHAM to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787,] May 15. Pall Mall.—Recommending Lieutenant Keiley and his wife as proper objects of His Majesty’s bounty.

M. O’BYRNE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, May 20. London.—Introducing Chevalier O’Byrne, a genuine Irish gentleman, a very worthy man and brave officer. He has retired, after serving hard and well, with his bit of ribbon and fifty pounds a year, the sum total of the French King’s liberality.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, May 24. London.—I have seen Lord Lothian and talked with him about your embarrassment in connexion with the affairs of the Prince of Wales. He will explain the matter to the King, if an opportunity offers.

I was in the Royal closet yesterday, and everything that passed was most flattering and satisfactory to you. "The Prince's household kissed the King's hand yesterday, and I am this instant come from the fullest drawing-room which I ever saw, except on a birth-day. His Royal Highness and the great chiefs and ladies of all parties were present."

Lord Shannon has withdrawn his claim to a pension, but will on that account expect great attention to his friends. I hope, in spite of my forgetfulness, that the speech reached you in time for Monday. I have given Mr. Pitt a *formal memorial* on all the points that interest you. He promises me half-an-hour's uninterrupted conversation on Saturday. I will not leave him without obtaining specific information on every point. *Marked* "Private."

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, May 24. Fludyer Street.—I am glad to hear from many quarters favourable accounts of the health of the Duchess. Sir Joshua tells me he has conversed with her physicians, who are confident that the disorder on the nerves is wearing itself off by quiet hours, air and exercise. I have again to assure your Grace of my gratitude for your kind intentions, but I cannot flatter myself with hopes of success, from Orde's accounts, "for, when pressed to speak out, he could only say he had made general applications, and Mr. Pitt had made him general professions, the value of which, I told him, I perfectly understood, though I think it is not quite impossible he never mentioned my name to Mr. Pitt in his life."

"I was the other day in the House of Lords to hear the decision on Sutton's cause, when, to use a vulgar but significant expression, if Sutton had had fair play he would have carried his appeal even against six judges, who, under the influence of the Chancellor, Lord Mansfield, and Lord Loughbro, had apparently combined to pick out a flaw in the proceedings out of jealousy to the Court of Exchequer and deference to the heads of their own Court. Two Scotchmen like Lord Mansfield and Lord Loughbro, sitting in judgment on another Scotchman for an arbitrary exercise of power, were not likely to omit any salvo for him they could discover, yet, aided as they afterwards were by the Chancellor and the inferior judges of their own Courts, it did not prevent the Duke of Richmond moving the House to proceed against all their objections, and he actually carried out 21 against 34, in which latter were of course all the Scotch. I saw Lord Chatham in the House, who seemed a little embarrassed what to do; and I cannot help saying, when all the professional men in the House voted with Sutton, it did not appear a proof of very zealous friendship to the Thorotons to decline voting at all.

"Erskine, who was behind the throne, told me Johnstone could not live a week or he would renew the action that very night, being much keener than Johnstone was under a similar check at Port Praya; but if Johnstone was sure to live a year longer, it appears to me he would at last be certainly obliged to abide the next decision of a jury for law reasons, which I shall not think of troubling your Grace with repeating"

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, May 28. London.—I have just heard of the Prince of Wales's illness. He is rather better, but still in great danger. I expect to see Mr. Pitt to-morrow, and hope to give you a good account of my commission. *Marked* "Private."

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to [LORD SYDNEY].

[1787, May 30.]—I have not frequently troubled you during the session, which concluded last Monday. "I trust His Majesty will think that the measures which have been adopted during the last session have been such as may secure a future tranquillity to this country, as well as consolidate the interest and draw together the ties of connexion between the two kingdoms. I am greatly ambitious to see this nation prosper under the auspices of my administration of the King's government, to find it of weight in the general scale, and become a source of strength to the Empire." A Riot Act, an optional Police Act, to be applied when it may be adjudged necessary, together with the adoption of the British Navigation Act, are measures of considerable moment. The country is for the most part quiet, with slight exceptions in the county of Cork. If there should be any breach of the public tranquillity it will probably be directed against the retrospective Bill for the Relief of the Clergy. But if violence take place, an immediate and vigorous exertion on the part of Government will, I have no doubt, terminate the whole matter.

A despatch from Mr. Walpole to Lord Carmarthen has been communicated to me, which points out the necessity of immediately lowering the duties on the wines of Portugal. The Act which imposed them declares that the additional duties shall determine when the goods of Ireland are admitted into the kingdom of Portugal, which is to be notified under His Majesty's authority to the Commissioners of the Revenue. You must therefore send me an official notice, which I shall transmit to the Commissioners of the Revenue in Ireland.

If the state of this country permits, I mean, early in July, to visit the provinces of Ulster, Connaught, and perhaps Munster, returning to Dublin by the counties of Wexford and Wicklow, which will form the circuit of the whole kingdom. *Draft.*

S. HAMILTON to THOMAS ORDE.

1787, May 30. Dublin Castle.—I have received your letter enclosing a copy of Mr. Walpole's despatch to Lord Carmarthen. Having regard to the terms of the Act imposing additional duties on Portuguese goods, the Lord Lieutenant requests you to apply to Lord Sydney to send him an official communication of the treaty with Portugal, upon which he will send the proper notice to the Commissioners of the Revenue. *Draft or copy.*

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to ———.

1787, May 31. Dublin Castle.—Requesting to know the real state of the Prince of Wales's disorder, and expressing anxiety about him. *Draft.*

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, June 8. Dublin.—Concerning various matters of administration. The Bishop of Killala gives so good an account of the physician's opinion of the Duchess that I enclose his letter and congratulate you on it. *Marked* "Private."

The EARL OF TYRONE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, June 10. Curraghmore.—I have come here by the Milford passage, and shall remain all the summer. I believe you are well assured that nothing could gratify me more than seeing you here.

DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, June 11. Fludyer Street.—Conveying thanks for assistance in the faro project, and inquiring about the Duke's summer plans with a view to a possible visit.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, June 12. Albemarle Street.—I take the opportunity of Lord Courtown's return to Ireland to send you a few lines. The greatest satisfaction is felt here on the subject of your session of Parliament. We trust that the whole nation will receive lasting benefit from the wisdom and firmness which have been shown in carrying through these great measures. If the same spirit had been shown during former administrations, Ireland, as well as Great Britain, would have been in a much better condition. "We are at present intent upon Dutch business, our point being to prevent that country falling into the hands of the French, and at the same time to avoid being drawn into hostilities." I hope you have not felt too sensibly the disappointments in regard to your intended military promotions; but His Majesty is extremely tenacious upon the regular succession, and rightly so, for if he did not make a stand against the many attacks which are made upon it, many officers would become disgusted. I am happy to find that the Duchess of Rutland gains spirits and strength. I hear she goes to the opera to-night.

Postscript.—I am glad to hear that Lord Tyrone and Lord Shannon were pleased with their reception here. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, June 13. Dublin Castle.—Concerning details of administration.

The SAME to the SAME.

[1787,] June 14, 7 p.m. Ashton Lodge.—Mentioning a letter from Mr. Orde dated the 8th, near Morpeth, and stating that he expects to arrive in Ireland in a week or ten days.

LORD HOWE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, June 15. Admiralty.—Concerning Captain Byron's applications for employment.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to the DUCHESS.

1787, June 18. Phoenix Park.—On domestic affairs. “Alas, my dear, the objection to my quitting Ireland is the necessity of appointing justices to govern the kingdom in my absence, which would leave it open to cabal and faction, and might excite an endeavour to restore a system which England at a great expence some years ago abolished. I have, as you know, before now wished to return, but the difficulties in which such a measure was involved appeared so great that I found it always impracticable except in idea. Mr. Orde, who arrived here last night, tells me he said the same to you.”

J. BUTCHER to the LORD [BISHOP OF KILLALA].

1787, June 19. Cambridge.—Offering his services in reference to a project suggested to him, in the interest of the Duke of Rutland.

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, June 19. Farnham.—Concerning Major Drouly, and suggesting his succession to the government of Carrickfergus. “I have not heard from you so long that, if you don’t write, I shall either think you dead, or dead drunk.”

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to the DUCHESS.

1787, June 25. Phoenix Lodge.—On domestic affairs. “I propose setting out on my tour the beginning of next month, and being absent from Dublin as long as I can. If nothing arises to prevent me I shall make the whole circuit of Ireland.”

“I was at the play last night to hear Miss Crouch sing. She is very handsome, but I am not in love. Mrs. Fitzgibbon was there. She is much improved by having a child. She wears *but very little rouge*, which, believe me, *increases* her beauty wonderfully. I wish I may be able to make you believe so. I detest it put out without mercy.”

“I see the Prince of Wales begins to go to all publick places. Have you ever met him? Is he very civil to you? I suppose he will ask you to visit Mrs. Fitzherbert, which I would have you avoid. But I hear it is indispensable with him, so you had better be silent on that head till he asks you—if he should do so at all—and then I think your state of health will be a good excuse.”

W. CONYNGHAM to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, June 27. Bath.—Acknowledging a letter of introduction to Mr. Pitt. As I wish to be received as a friend of the Duke of Rutland, I shall keep it to deliver on my return to London.

I was sorry when at Court to find that no kind of cordiality was established by the reconciliation with the Prince of Wales. No visit was paid during his illness, and there is no inclination in the latter to take any step to promote it. The Prince speaks highly of the conduct of a certain Duke, and I hope his father has honour enough to see it in its proper light.

The residence of the Polignacs and the Vandreuils here made a bustle. A thousand idle stories were related of their disgrace, though M. de Vaudreuil assured Lord Lansdown that there was no cause to leave Paris but the object of seeking health. They left Bath and England sooner than they intended. Comtesse Diane de Polignac went to Paris before the rest, she being the *great spring* of the whole

set. This place is almost deserted. The Duke and Duchess of Devonshire and Lady Elizabeth Foster are the only *English* family of note here.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to the DUCHESS, at Tunbridge Wells.

1787, June 29. Phœnix Park.—On domestic affairs. “If you meet any of the Irish either at Tunbridge or at Spa—if you go there—pray be particularly attentive to them (even tho’ they be *twaddlers*)—a set of unfortunate people whom you hold in such utter contempt.”

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DANIEL PULTENEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, July 3. Fludyer Street.—I thank you for your directions to Hill. “He seems to consider your Grace as King of Ireland for life, and with respect to Orde, though in his present situation no one would willingly say the worst, Hill agrees with me that your Grace is treated like other kings, who, with the best intentions, can never rely on any of their orders being executed by any one of their Ministers.”

“The faro project, though so essentially advanced by your Grace’s means, is, from the absence of some of the gang from town, in no condition to commence this summer; though some of our allies at Bath (the Duchess of Devonshire and Lady Duncannon) are in a rage at our having suffered Sir Watts Horton to set up a mushroom bank of 500*l.* in their absence. Little as I can pretend to any great knowledge of fine ladies, I cannot foresee what obstacles the very proposers may suggest in future. All I know is that it is as much their interest as mine, and . . . as much their inclination. Lady Duncannon sold 200*l.* a year for 1,600*l.* to a Jew, about six weeks ago, and showed me overnight a 1,000*l.* note, which she was determined to keep for this subscription, and in three days it was all gone; though, as to her share of the subscription, that can easily be borrowed for her.”

You will have seen in the newspapers that the Duke of Bedford has set up his brother against Lord Mornington for Windsor. Rigby told Hill that the Duke would win the seat. I believe, if the King is in earnest, Lord Mornington is sure of success.

With regard to the Dutch war, it is understood that, although the King put great restraint on his feelings, a peremptory remonstrance addressed by Mr. Pitt to the Court of Versailles has produced satisfactory results.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1787, July 3. Phœnix Park.—“Though the tranquillity which prevails at present throughout Ireland affords me nothing of consequence to communicate to your Lordship, yet I could not depart from Dublin without acknowledging with many thanks the honour of your Lordship’s letter which Lord Courtown delivered into my hands. I will not now detain you to express the satisfaction which I felt from the approbation you were pleased to convey on the conduct and the measures of the last session in Ireland, nor will I be more particular in describing the sentiments of duty and unshaken attachment with which I am unalterably bound to His Majesty’s service.”

"I am made extremely happy by the hopes which your Lordship's letter affords that Great Britain will not be obliged to abandon her wise and necessary resolution of maintaining peace, in consequence of the very delicate and critical posture of affairs in Holland. A peace of some years' duration is essential to the future prosperity and strength of the Empire, and I trust we have a security against being compelled into a war in the miserable state of the French finances, and in their inability to bear more burthens and expence. Your Lordship's letter relieved my mind from a very uncomfortable suspense, and from very unpleasant speculations which the various unfounded reports which had been received here had given birth to. You will greatly add to all your other obligations by continuing your communications on events of this nature, which so deeply involve the welfare of that system, and of that cause in which we are all embarked. Your Lordship will be sorry to hear that Mr. Orde was seized with a violent attack in the stomach the day after he arrived in Dublin so as to put him in extreme danger for his life, and to render him incompetent for some days to the transaction of any business. He is happily now so far recovered as to enable me to proceed on my tour, which I propose doing in a few hours. It will, however, be necessary for me to return in about a month to the metropolis in order to put in force the Magistracy Bill which passed during the last session. I have directed every necessary enquiry to be made as to the division of the several counties to which this Bill will be applied into certain districts, and I have desired lists of persons proper to be appointed magistrates to be returned for my information. When these preliminaries are settled, I shall immediately revisit Dublin in order to give effect to this wise and necessary regulation.

"Your Lordship was very kind in expressing your hopes that my feelings were not hurt by the King's reluctance to confirm certain military recommendations. I will only observe that while I endeavour to discharge the important trust committed to my care with fidelity and with zeal for the King's service, I shall consider it to be equally my duty, as well as it is my anxious desire, in all things to consult His Majesty's personal satisfaction, and if ever I should be so unfortunate as to propose points not consonant to his rules and wishes, I shall feel it as an indispensable obligation to receive his commands to the contrary with the utmost humility and without a murmur. Your Lordship will, however, permit me to observe in my own justification, that in all the military patronage which has fallen into my disposal I have invariably attended to the claims of seniority and service. For example, I must remind you of the lieutenant-colonelcies of the Royals and the 66th regiment, the only commissions of that rank which I have appointed to; and in but three instances have I recommended persons in my own family and under my own immediate protection for promotion, and those have been by purchase and with every fair claim from their standing in the army. *Postscript.*—When I have a fair opportunity I shall not forget that Dean Stopford has your good wishes." *Draft.* *Marked* "Private."

[GENERAL] ROBERT CUNNINGHAME to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, July 8. Dublin.—Concerning an application for leave to sell a commission.

THE EARL OF TYRONE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, July 9. Curraghmore.—Expecting a visit from the Duke in the conclusion of his tour.

[S. HAMILTON] to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, July 9, Monday night.—Conveying a message from Mr. Orde that the Duke's presence will probably be necessary in Dublin at the latter end of the week, to arrange the division of some of the counties previous to the assizes, in pursuance of the Magistracy Bill.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to the DUCHESS, at Tunbridge.

1787, July 10. Collon.—“I am just going to receive the Mayor of Drogheda to fix a day for visiting the town, and then I shall mount my horse to visit the spot where the Battle of the Boyne was fought.

“Lord North's situation is very melancholy; I pity him much.”

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, July 10. Phoenix Park.—Concerning his health. I own my spirits and hopes of perfect recovery are much damped by the loss of my excellent friend and physician, Sir Richard Jebb, who has fallen a sacrifice to exertions beyond his strength during the late illness of the Princesses.

I am afraid I must bring you to town for one day at the end of the week for the division of the counties for the assizes. The Attorney-General is preparing the proper arrangements.

Concerning various applications for favours. *Marked* “Private.”

The SAME to the SAME.

1787, July 11, Wednesday. Phoenix Park. — Concerning Lord Arran's refusal to give up possession of the Lodge in the Phoenix Park, which had been purchased by the Irish Government from Mr. Gardener. *Marked* “Private.”

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, July 11. Dublin Castle.—The Council upon the Magistracy Bill cannot be called until Thursday the 19th. Your presence may also be required for the hearing of a question in regard to the election of a portreeve for Lord Mornington's borough of Trim. Mr. Orde is recovering, but not so quickly as his friends would desire.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, July 13. Phoenix Park.—Your determination in regard to Lord Arran precludes me from further representation except to remind you that very strong complaints were made in Parliament upon the expense of the purchase of this house, and doubts were pointedly expressed of an intention to allow its occupation as a private object, which was decidedly denied by your Government. I am much concerned at the inconvenient call upon you to come to town. I am very sensible of your kind indulgence in regard to my health. *Marked* “Most private.”

THOMAS GASCOIGNE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, July 14. Parlington.—Excusing himself from joining the Duke at Hillsborough. I went to London for three weeks; my

evenings hung heavy there. "At Brookes's the whist was too high to play at the heel of a season, nothing less than 40*l.* a rubber being played; and Pharaoh has no temptation unless as *Banker*; and had it not been for a rubber or two at Boodle's I should not have gambled at all. I prevailed on your Duchess to play whist, and we thought it did her good; her spirits were, beyond anything I ever saw, low. Tunbridge will bring her about, so says Warren, and I thought her much better the last time I called on her. Gambling was never higher, and the Pharaoh bankers have had some good pigeons. A Mr. Barton was at one time out with a sitting at Dick Thompson's bank 92,000*l.*, and cut losing 24,000*l.* Your hounds, I hear, were remarkably good, but a great complaint about killing foxes; it is reported they are all destroyed."

THOMAS ORDE to GENERAL PITT.

1787, July 16. Phœnix Park.—Concerning complaints made by the Commander-in-Chief against the official action of the Lord Lieutenant. *Marked "Private."*

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, July 16. Whitehall.—Announcing the appointment of Sir Charles Grey to the command of 8th regiment of Dragoons, vacant by death of General Severne, and of Major-General Paterson to the command of 28th regiment of foot. I did not fail to mention your wish to recommend Lord Carhampton to the first of these regiments. His Majesty spoke handsomely of him, but seemed to object to giving two regiments of cavalry successively in Ireland. *Marked "Private."*

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, July 17. Dublin Castle.—The Council is summoned for Thursday, at 3 o'clock. It has, on consulting those whose opinions you will approve, been judged expedient to suspend the operation of the Magistracy Bill in such counties as shall apply to you by address, engaging to preserve the peace. I send you a copy of the letter sent to the judges at Limerick. Letters of a similar nature are sent to the governor of the county and to the sheriff. You will be spared the trouble of hearing the question about the election of a portreeve at Trim. *Marked "Private."*

Enclosure 1.—THOMAS ORDE to the JUDGES OF ASSIZE FOR THE MUNSTER CIRCUIT.

1787, July 17. Dublin Castle.—By command of the Lord Lieutenant, requesting the judges of assize to invite the gentlemen of each county in which outrage has not lately prevailed to address the Lord Lieutenant on the subject of putting in force the provisions of the Magistracy Bill; and to tell them that in the event of their being able to give satisfactory assurances that the peace of the county has been preserved, and that property may be deemed secure without exerting the powers conferred by the Magistracy Act, they will not be called upon to make presentments for the purposes of that Act. *Draft or copy.*

Enclosure 2.—THOMAS ORDE to [LORD MUSKERRY].

1787, July 17. Dublin Castle.—Informing Lord Muskerry, as Governor of the County Limerick, that the Lord Lieutenant, in consequence of representations made to him by gentlemen of consideration in the south of Ireland, is willing to postpone enforcing the Magistracy Act in that county if the gentlemen belonging to it will assure him, in an address forwarded through the judges of assize, that order can be maintained by the operation of ordinary law.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, July 18. Dublin Castle.—The Council has been requested to meet at your Lodge in the Park, on account of the health of Mr. Orde, who is unable to venture the fatigue of going to Dublin.

LODGE MORRIS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, July 20. Sackville Street.—Urging his claims to promotion, should a vacancy occur in a "particular office."

FREDERICK TRENCH to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, July 21. Heywood.—Concerning some artistic designs.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, July 22. Phoenix Park.—Concerning the grant of a pension to his wife, should his own death precede that of the Duke of Bolton. *Marked* "Most private."

The SAME to the SAME.

1787, July 23. Phoenix Park.—"The governor of Carricfergus is dead, and your Grace will do well to lose no time in filling up the place. You will probably name either Colonel Thoroton or Colonel Dundas." Concerning various military promotions. "I have had^a a most extraordinary conversation with Lord Bellamont, which ended in a full stop to all manœuvres." I am rather better. I intreat you to tell Lord Hillsborough how much I regret being unable to accept his invitation. The address from Limerick is most satisfactory. *Marked* "Secret."

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, July 24. Dublin Castle.—Communicating the address agreed to in a full meeting of the county of Limerick.

[The REV.] ROBERT CROFT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, July 24. Rowley.—Concerning an application for Church preferment, and racing.

JOHN MORTLOCK to the LORD [BISHOP OF KILLALA].

1787, July 24. Cambridge.—Regretting that he had missed an opportunity of meeting his Lordship.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, July 25. Phoenix Park.—I have written you a letter, marked *secret*, which, as it entirely regards myself and my situation, you will consider *confidential*. Colonel St. George applies to you for the government of Carrickfergus. *Marked* "Private."

The SAME to the SAME.

1787, July 27. Phoenix Park.—Concerning various military appointments.

"The history of Lord Rawdon's expectations and disappointments is curious, and I must own that I agree entirely with Lord Hillsborough in opinion of the impossibility that such communication could have been made from such a quarter. Another story was before mentioned of a notification from Mr. Pitt to Lord Rawdon that he was to be Secretary of State, and that afterwards Mr. Pitt dropped the proceeding without further notice, which grievously offended Lord Rawdon. This, again, is unlikely. I do, however, believe that something was said to Lord Rawdon, and from high authority, to encourage expectation, which has not been answered. He is, I guess, full of ambition, and, I think, looks rather too high." *Marked* "Private."

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to the DUCHESS.

[1787,] July —. Hillsbro'.—"The races here are very numerous, but not very pleasant. I have been but once to the ball, because there is an ordinary where they make it a point I should dine, and they have generally drunk too freely, and in that case I do not like to appear in publick."

"If you go to bathe in the sea, do not go to Brighthelmstone, because you will be under a difficulty about Mrs. Fitzherbert."

R. HOBART to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, July 27. Grafton Street.—Proposing himself as successor to Mr. Orde, in the event of the health of the latter not permitting his continuance in office.

GEORGE Y. KENDALL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, July 27. Dublin.—Expressing gratification at learning that the wines he had sent from France pleased the Duke, and offering to undertake further commissions. I have made a most pleasing tour through Munster. I have been at Killarney, Cork, my Lord Shannon's, Mr. Uniack's, Lord Grandison's, and at Lord Tyrone's, at all which places I met with a most flattering reception.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, July 28. Phoenix Park.—I enclose a rough draft of a letter to Lord Shannon, which may help you in writing to him concerning his pension. I am obliged to entreat you to write also with your own hand to General Pitt, to confirm what I have said to him. I enclose a copy of my letter to General Pitt. *Marked* "Secret."

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO LORD [SHANNON].

1787, July 28.—Concerning an application for an extended grant of a pension conferred for a term of years on the Earls of Shannon, which the Duke, after consultation with Mr. Pitt, found himself unable to submit to the King. *Draft, in the handwriting of Mr. Orde, with corrections by the Duke of Rutland.*

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO THE DUCHESS.

1787, [July 29.] Hillsbro'.—"The races ended yesterday, and to-day I have been again in form to church. To-morrow I go to Belfast; the next day I dine at Lord Moira's; then at the Bishop of Dromore's. From thence I go for a day to Castle Ward; then to Mr. O'Neil's, Lord Antrim's, and to Derry, and then I pass in to Connaught.

"Do not let my love be frightened about political rumours. I am persuaded Ministers will not be such idiots as to quarrel about Holland. Be assured all is harmony in the Cabinet, and support from the Closet. People at this time of year have nothing else to do but to fabricate rumours, and to invent fictitious changes in Government. The King will never deliver himself bound into the hands of his enemies, which would be the case if he removed his present servants.

"I hope you will not find embarrassment about Mrs. Fitzherbert when you are at Brighthelmstone."

"This place has been very drunken the whole time of the meeting, and in consequence there have been some quarrels among the natives, but it generally happened after I had quitted the room. The first day they drank *The Volunteers*, which offended Lord Hillsbro' so much that he took it up with great warmth, and if I had not interfered it might have created much disturbance."

THOMAS ORDE TO THE DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, July 29. Phœnix Park.—Sir Lucius O'Brien has persecuted me for three days successively about the tenure of his office, which he wishes to be for life, and which I told him could not be. He had thoughts of going to you in the country. I hope you will not be teased by him, but give you this warning. *Marked* "Private."

THE SAME TO THE SAME.

1787, July 30. Phœnix Park.—Concerning military promotions, and Lord Arran's occupation of the Lodge in Phœnix Park. *Marked* "Private."

[DEAN] R. MARLAY TO THE LORD [BISHOP OF KILLALA].

1787, August 1. Dublin.—Announcing the death of the Bishop of Ferns, and referring to a promise of his own promotion.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO [LODGE MORRIS?].

1787, August 1. Hillsborough.—Mentioning that the office presumably referred to in his letter had been given to Sir Lucius O'Brien, in fulfilment of an engagement made in the very beginning of the Duke of Rutland's administration. *Draft.*

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 1. Dublin Castle.—Mentioning the death of the Bishop of Ferns.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, August 1. Phoenix Park.—Concerning military promotions, and correspondence with General Pitt. I this moment hear of the death of the Bishop of Ferns. "I shall order immediately the appointment of the Bishop of Killala—the translation of Clonfert to Killala—Dean Marlay to Clonfert—Dean Stopford to deanery of Ferns—Mr. Pomeroy to Dean Marlay's living—and Dr. Allot, with my sincere thanks, to the treasurership of Christ Church."

The SAME to the SAME.

1787, August 3. Phoenix Park.—Concerning military promotions in Ireland, and inquiries about them by the King. "The appointment for Sir Lucius O'Brien and the additional salary are just come over, and I trust that Sir Lucius will think himself well off." It was impossible to entertain the idea of the office being for life. I am much affected by the manner in which you express your concern about my health. I am obliged to speak of myself as much indisposed, but I hope this will not be of long duration. *Marked* "Most private."

C. F. SHERIDAN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, August 3. Dublin Castle, War Office.—Concerning matters of military administration.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 4, Saturday.—Sending alternative forms of warrant for Sir Lucius O'Brien's appointment. "The King's letters for the six Baronetcys are arrived."

THOMAS ORDE to the Right Honourable [General Pitt,
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

1787, August 4. Phoenix Park.—Concerning the complaints of the Commander-in-Chief. *Marked* "Private."

LODGE MORRIS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 4.—Referring to a reply to his application for promotion, and complimenting the Duke of Rutland on the wisdom and firmness of his government.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 5, Sunday morning. Dublin Castle.—The deanery of Killaloe is only worth 90*l.* a year. Mr. Orde has passed two days at the Blackrock, and is expected home to-day.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, August 5. Phoenix Park.—I trouble you with further correspondence between myself and the Commander-in-Chief. I must point out to you the absolute necessity of your personally writing to him for once, and, in doing so, I trust you will do me justice. Concerning a proposal of Sir George Yonge to recruit in Ireland for the army on foreign service. *Marked* "Most private."

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to LORD SYDNEY.

1787, August 5.—Perhaps hopes might have been entertained of Lord Carhampton's succession to General Severn's regiment, but it is the duty of us all to submit to His Majesty's decisions; and Lord Carhampton feels confident that his claims will be favourably considered on a future occasion.

"Your Lordship will be pleased to be informed of the state of loyalty in which I have found this once factious province of Ulster. The spirit of discontent and its concomitant the spirit of volunteering seem to be nearly extinguished, and though Lord Charlemont, for the purpose of retaining his ill-directed popularity, makes an annual visit to this country, to review the remnants of these illegal combinations, yet it is a matter of no consequence or avail, and cannot possibly revive a principle which could have had no existence but in the weakness of the Government and the peculiar circumstances of former times. I have been everywhere received with the attention due to the Sovereign I represent." Among those to whom we are indebted for the extension of this spirit of loyalty I must mention Lord Hillsborough, whose exertions are constantly directed to the improvement and good order of the country. *Draft, marked* "Private."

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 6. Ashe, near Farnham.—I hope to be able soon to congratulate my friend Marlay on the promotion which I trust you intend for him.

[DEAN] R. MARLAY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 7. Cellbridge.—I return my most sincere and grateful thanks for your letter. "Your Grace has the art of doubling an obligation by your manner of conferring it; you do not, like many statesmen, let the coldness of delay hang on it." I feel happy and proud at being promoted by the Duke of Rutland, and shall always endeavour to show my gratitude by reflecting credit on his patronage.

The EARL OF SHANNON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 7. C[astle] Martyr.—Expressing pleasure in a report of the Duke's approaching visit to the South of Ireland.

ALEXANDER MONTGOMERY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 7. Duke Street, Dublin.—Excusing himself from meeting the Duke at Derry, as he has to go to England on business.

G. ROSE to [THOMAS ORDE].

1787, August 7. Great George Street.—Concerning the amount of a pension to Mrs. Monckton.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, August 8. Phoenix Park.—I was deeply impressed with gratitude by your letter of the 4th inst. I am certainly better, and, with the relief of my mind from anxiety by your goodness, have a fair prospect of further improvement, and hopes of the entire re-establishment of my health. *Marked* "Most private."

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 8. Whitehall.—Forwarding a request from Sir William Mansel.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787,] August 8, Wednesday.—Concerning military promotions.

C. F. SHERIDAN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, August 9. Dublin Castle, War Office.—Concerning objections raised in England to military promotions recommended by the Duke.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 9. Dublin Castle.—"I have the honour to transmit to your Grace the address of the clergy of Munster, forwarded to Mr. Orde for that purpose by the Archbishop of Cashel, as also the sketch of an answer which Mr. Orde desires me to submit to your Grace."

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to [GENERAL PITT, Commander-in-Chief].

1787, August 10. Shanes Castle.—Concerning the correspondence between Mr. Orde and the Commander-in-Chief. I am "rather apprehensive that some doubts may have arisen as to the authority under which Mr. Orde may from time to time have acted. In that case it may be necessary for me to remark that Mr. Orde could not, on any occasion, give any direction or make any communication without resorting for approbation to that authority from whence all orders must originate and spring, and which is alone responsible to the King for all matters which may concern any department in the administration of the government of this kingdom. I sincerely hope that a good understanding may ultimately take place between persons who have the interest of the King's service most sincerely at heart." *This apparently is the draft which was enclosed to Mr. Orde, and returned by him with his letter of 13th August.*

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 11. Dublin Castle.—Mentioning that Mr. Cooper, whom the Duke had intended to visit in the county of Sligo, was unable to receive him owing to a family bereavement.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO THE ARCHBISHOP [OF CASHEL].

1787, August 12. Shanes Castle. —Acknowledging an address from the clergy of the several dioceses in the province [of Munster]. “The interest which I feel in the maintenance of the Established Church increases my satisfaction in their just acknowledgments of the firm wisdom and magnanimity of Parliament, and in the approbation which they have so kindly expressed of the conduct of my Administration. And I must further request your Grace to assure the ministers of our holy religion that it is not less my principle than I feel it to be my duty to vindicate them in their just rights, and to afford them the most strenuous and effectual support of my Government.” *Copy; also two rough drafts, the first being in the handwriting of Mr. Hamilton, with alterations by the Duke of Rutland.*

THOMAS ORDE TO THE DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, August 13. Phoenix Park.—I have just returned from an excursion of three days; but I am not well. I called upon Grattan in my way home, and am almost persuaded by Mrs. Grattan to try calomel, which she has found beneficial. But I have most faith in Bath, and with your permission shall think of going there.

I have, to my very great mortification, this moment received the enclosed from Lord Sydney, to be forwarded to you immediately, by the King's express directions. He adds that, having heard of some intention in your Grace to recommend Captain Finch, he is anxious to hear that the royal predetermination, as it should seem, in favour of Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart may not be a mortification to you or to Mr. Finch.

I am most cordially concerned about this business on many accounts, and shall be very solicitous to know what you think of it and mean to do upon it.

Discussing, at considerable length, this and other questions of military promotion. *Marked “Secret Military.”*

THE SAME TO THE SAME.

1787, August 13. Phoenix Park.—I had ventured to hope you would have justified my proceedings by a stronger remonstrance than that which you have addressed to the Commander-in-Chief. My letters to him were written under your express and precise directions; and I ventured to think that you would explicitly tell him this, and not allow him to treat the matter as merely a dispute between himself and me. I have taken the liberty of returning your letter to General Pitt, and await your decision and consequent commands. *Marked “Secret.”*

THE SAME TO THE SAME.

1787, August 13. Phoenix Park.—Acknowledging with warm thanks a letter from the Duke adding to favours granted by a former letter.

I am really distressed to send you an extract from Mr. Rose's letter about Mr. Browne. The other points are satisfactory.

With this are two extracts from letters of Mr. Rose, relating to various matters of patronage. Marked “Private.”

The EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 14. Seafield.—I have the pleasure to tell you I have gained a complete victory at Trim. The establishment of a cavalry barrack there would be a most desirable object to me. I have a letter from Dean Marlay, who is full of gratitude to you. Lord Harberton and General Pomeroy (at whose house I am) are in hopes that the promotion of Marlay will enable you to gratify their wishes with regard to Mr. John Pomeroy. I hope you have had a pleasant expedition, and that I may see you in Dublin before I leave Ireland.

RICHARD ST. GEORGE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 15. Dublin.—“I am more gratified by the friendly style of your Grace’s letter than I could be by an immediate succession to the most strongly solicited appointment.” Excusing himself, on the ground of ill-health, from attending the Duke at Lord Rossé’s.

WILLIAM CONYNGHAM to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 16. White’s, London.—Regretting that he is unable to meet the Duke on his tour in the north, and communicating social and political gossip.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787,] August 16, Thursday night.—I have seen Colonel St. George. He is very well satisfied with the probability of succeeding to a lieutenant-colonelcy of horse upon Lord Carhampton’s possible promotion to a regiment. *Marked* “Private.”

WILLIAM CONYNGHAM to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 17. London.—A letter from the Hague “recites the Prussian *ultimatum* consisting of six articles, the first that the Stadholder was to be restored to all his privileges. . . The consequence of this was that the States immediately assembled, deprived the Prince of Orange of all his powers, and confiscated his estates.”

“Eden’s appointment is made out as Ambassador to Spain, and Del Campo (the happiest man in the universe) appointed Ambassador” [here].

“Several French are come over to Brightelmstone. Colonel Fitz-Patrick had a good run the other night; got 4,000*l.* of them, and had business of consequence the next day in London, so brought it away.”

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, August 17. Dublin Castle.—“In pursuance of your Grace’s instructions, I immediately communicated to Mr. Orde what you seemed to apprehend might be the effect of too strong an expression in your Grace’s answer to the address of the Munster clergy, and he perfectly agrees that the words *vindicate them in their rights* may be extended much too far in the expectations of some of them. As your Grace’s answer is to be printed, Mr. Orde desires me to submit to your con-

sideration whether the phrase *ministers of our Holy Religion* may not induce those who wish to put their own constructions upon words, to say that you consider the proceedings of last year to have originated in religious distinctions; and whether you would not prefer a plain and strong promise of protection and support to the clergy." I return your letter for your further commands.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, August 20. Phœnix Park.—I have been suffering from extreme relaxation and nervous affection, and am urgently advised by Dr. Quin to go to Bath. With your permission I mean to sail at the beginning of next week. I shall first go to London to carry your commands.

You will excuse my anxiety about the dispute with the Commander-in-Chief, which I trust you will bring to an end, for I cannot exist in comfort while it remains in its present situation.

Let me know what you have written to Lord Shannon.

With regard to Lord Arran, I wish to know your ultimate decision, and whether he is to have notice to quit the Lodge at Michaelmas. *Marked "Private."*

LORD SYDNEY to [THOMAS ORDE].

1787, August 21. Whitehall.—"I understand that Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart transmitted a memorial to the Lord Lieutenant at the same time that he presented one to the King. I have never exchanged a word with him upon any subject whatsoever. The affair makes a good deal of stir among military men. I wish to God that young men of fashion would not press for what it is a doubt whether they will be gainers or losers by, when an old officer under such circumstances must be broken-hearted at such a preference. . . I much doubt whether such a promotion as that would be ever took place, where a lieutenant-colonel of four years' standing was the eldest captain. I hope the Duke of R. will not be hurt at it."

"The King is very gracious on the subject of the bishoprick of Ferns, and gives the Bishop of Killalla full time to determine."

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, August 22. Phœnix Park.—I have had the honour of receiving your letter of the 18th, and its enclosures, particularly the letters to the Commander-in-Chief and Lord Shannon. I am sure you expect me to give you my real sentiments in regard to the former, and I must confess that I do not think it likely to produce the effect you would hope for. It does not, in my view, sufficiently assert your own authority, or vindicate my action as taken under your explicit directions.

With respect to Lord Shannon, I think you should let him know your determination at once.

"I should really be very much disinclined to trust to even specious good authority for a report of the kind which your Grace has received from the Duchess in regard to the King's feelings about your conduct in the Prince of Wales's business. I can again suggest it to Mr. Pitt, and he will judge of it, but I should certainly not think it wise to introduce the subject to His Majesty without a previous certainty of his having conceived displeasure from misconception."

Concerning various appointments, and particularly the military succession which the king had refused to sanction.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, August 24. Phœnix Park.—Concerning Lord Sydney's intimation of the King's feelings in regard to the memorial of Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart on the subject of a military promotion, for which the Duke of Rutland had recommended Captain Finch; and the Duke's reply to Lord Sydney.

The SAME to the SAME.

1787, August 25. Phœnix Park.—Concerning Lord Arran's removal. I will say no more on the subject, but hope you will not suffer by too great indulgence to those who act shuffling parts. The news from England reports Grenville's return from Holland, bringing word of a declaration both by the Emperor and Prussia in favour of the Stadholder; while, in France, everything is in confusion and disorder, and no power to make an effort in favour of the Dutch patriots, who will thus happily be left in the lurch. The Parliament of Paris certainly banished, and also, I believe, that of Bordeaux. *Marked* "Most Private."

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 25. Dublin Castle.—Concerning administrative business.

The MARQUESS OF LOTHIAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 26. Tilford.—I ought to have written before to thank you for your kind remembrance of Marlay. I had been vexed with the way in which Mr. Pitt treated your recommendation about Dronly, who began to despair of getting anything, and thought of quitting the service; but on the death of our youngest lieutenant-colonel, the King appointed him in the most flattering terms. He ordered the whole promotion to go through the regiment, and made me a present of the cornetcy.

The King, the Prince, the Duke of York, and all the royal family appear at present to be better *ensemble* than before the differences between them took place. His Majesty seems to dote upon the Duke of York, and I am so well with them all that, were I vain, my head might be turned. The Prince has given me a beautiful horse, and I am to go to Windsor next week to attend the Duke of York to Brighthelmstone, a journey I by no means covet. The Duke is vastly pleased at finding himself in England. He is more shy than the rest of the royal family; appears greatly attached to his profession and to have a good understanding. He reasons well and warmly, and is lively.

I am at this country village with my children for the change of air in their whooping coughs. I saw the Duchess at St. James', looking as well as ever I remember seeing her.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, August 28. Phœnix Park.—I am preparing to go to-morrow. I shall not discuss the subject of the letter to the Commander-in-Chief further than to say I hope (for your own sake) you have not sent it in the style which you had used in the copy which I saw. You would give him an irrevocable advantage over you, and the dignity of your high

station would be humiliated. I trust also you will do justice to my situation by the full adoption of my conduct.

I do not wonder at your wish for a return to England; but I am convinced of the importance of your stay, to the King's affairs and the public. This, however, must greatly depend on the support you receive and vindicate to yourself from the other side, and on the just and uniform exertions of your own authority and influence.

A letter from Mr. Rose just received promises every exertion for Mr. Browne. My health is really improved by the use of calomel, and I hope will be re-established by the Bath waters. *Marked* "Most private."

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to W. PITT.

1787, August 28. Florence Court.—"I cannot forbear troubling you with a very earnest wish of mine on a matter which will, I hope, be rendered unnecessary by the restoration of Mr. Orde's health, who is now greatly better than he has been for some time past, and who, I hope, only requires the waters of Bath to perfect his recovery.

"Mr. Orde's health has been sacrificed to his zealous exertions in the management of that part of the King's government which is entrusted to my charge. Should his labours prove fatal to him, I shall consider it as incumbent on me to pay every attention to those he may leave behind him, and in this desire I trust I shall meet your concurrence and assistance. Mr. Orde has now for some years been employed in the service of the publick, where I am persuaded you will admit his diligent and conscientious exertions have not been useless. His conduct has, in no instance, been distinguished by any inclination towards objects of emolument, nor has he shown any aspiration after rewards except those which have resulted from the consciousness of his own mind, and which are the honest gain of every worthy man's ambition. After this preface I shall at once inform you that, in the very unfortunate case of his death, it will be my care to recommend to His Majesty Mrs. Orde for a conditional pension of a thousand a year contingent on the life of the Duke of Bolton, and to cease on her accession to her property on his death. The modesty of this request, and the improbability of its ever taking place, and, in case of such a misfortune, its probable short duration, are circumstances which would themselves remove every difficulty from your mind, even if your own good wishes toward Mr. Orde, as well as the influence of my request, did not operate strongly on your mind." *Draft, marked* "Private."

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, August 29, 8 p.m. Dublin Castle.—At two o'clock this afternoon I took leave of Mr. Orde on board the Hillsborough packet boat. He has for a week or ten days been very much better, and gives fair hopes of recovery, after the example of Mrs. Grattan. He asked me to forward to you the enclosed letter from Lord Earlsfort, with his opinion that the object would be impracticable. Lord Mornington is very unwell.

GEORGE Y. KENDALL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 29. Dublin.—Concerning plate, table furniture, cooks, wines, and other matters pertaining to the Duke's household.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, August 30. Ashton Lodge.—The Archbishop of Cashel is in Dublin on his way to England. I have sent him your answer to the address of the clergy of his province. The enclosed address from Waterford gives a sound pledge for the peace of the country.

I have given directions for Mr. Patrickson to attend you at Carrick-on-Shannon with the Council business. Your lottery tickets have been secured. Lord Farnham has been ill; Lord Mornington is dangerously so.

LODGE MORRIS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 1. Sackville Street.—Concerning his claims to official advancement, and reflecting on the sincerity of Mr. Orde's professions in his favour.

The EARL OF SHANNON to [S. HAMILTON].

1787, September 1.—Recommending to certain vacant appointments in the county of Cork.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, September 1. Dublin Castle.—I have despatched a messenger with your letters to the Duchess of Rutland, Mr. Pitt, and Mr. Orde. I have also sent your letter to General Pomeroy.

I am sorry to say that Lord Mornington, though somewhat easier this morning, is still extremely ill. Upon the Council business, Mr. Patrickson will attend you at Castlebar on the 6th. Mr. Lees is returned from Holyhead, and left Mr. Orde much benefitted by his voyage.

The SAME to the SAME.

1787, September 4. Dublin Castle.—Concerning an Act of Council for appointing the sessions towns under the Magistracy Act. Mr. Patrickson will attend you with the business. But I am afraid this will not save you the trouble of a journey to Dublin, as the Lord Mayor must be sworn in your presence, and receive from your hands the keys of the city and the insignia of his office. I will, however, inquire into the *legal* necessity of this.

EDWARD LESLIE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 4. Mount Pleasant, Tunbridge Wells.—Conveying thanks to the Duke for procuring him the dignity of an Irish baronetage.

C. F. SHERIDAN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, September 4. Dublin Castle.—Concerning military administration. I cannot omit this opportunity of congratulating you "upon the unexampled quiet which prevails in the kingdom at the present period, so different from what has hitherto invariably been the case at this season of the year. I have not for these two months past received a single letter complaining of any outrage whatever, though ever since I have been in office a week seldom passed at this time of the year

without my receiving a number of applications for military assistance in order to suppress a variety of outrages and disorders. It must be very pleasing to your Grace that so profound a tranquility should occur, for the first time during a very long period, under your Grace's administration."

EDWARD MANNERS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 5. Knightsbridge.—Asking for the Duke's influence to obtain His Majesty's permission to put up a small door into Hyde Park opposite the writer's house.

The EARL OF SHANNON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 6. Castle Martyr.—Expressing a hope that, notwithstanding a family affliction, the Duke will visit Castle Martyr before the expiration of his tour.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 7. Dublin Castle.—Concerning business to be transacted by the Lord Lieutenant in Council, and Lord Shannon's recommendations to vacant appointments.

Lord Strangford called upon me and desired I would represent to you his being in absolute want of common subsistence, not having a guinea to buy victuals, and to entreat something out of *concordatum* or any other fund.

This place is perfectly quiet, and the country appears to be so except between Cork and Doneraile. But I trust the activity of Colonel Mannix and Mr. Gibbs Ross will suppress this turbulent disposition in the beginning.

Concerning an intended application of Lord Hillsborough for the office of customer at Dingle. I fear your presence at the swearing in of the Lord Mayor cannot be dispensed with. The day fixed is the 30th of September.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 7. Whitehall.—I was much concerned at the contents of your letter of the 20th. You may be assured, however, that no invasion of the usual patronage of the Lord Lieutenant was intended. His Majesty expressed great reluctance at interfering with the promotion of an officer so nearly related to you, as well as closely allied to many persons who stand well with him, but "he yesterday said again, upon my mentioning to him the contents of your Grace's letter, that, had the vacancy happened in England, he should not have thought himself *at liberty* to have put in a captain to be major of a regiment where the eldest captain was circumstanced from rank, seniority, service, and wounds, as Colonel Stuart was." The case can form no precedent, for such a one can hardly happen again. *Marked* "Secret and separate."

D. GEORGE [Recorder of Dublin] to [S. HAMILTON].

1787, September 7. York Street.—I have inquired into the precedents of swearing in the Lord Mayor, and I find that he has always taken the oath of office before the Chief Governor whenever there was one in

the kingdom. In my opinion, there would be much doubt of the legality of the ceremony if the Lord Lieutenant was in the kingdom and not present. I much regret that he should be interrupted in his very laudable purpose of seeing the country and people.

[LT.-COL.] RICHARD ST. GEORGE to S. HAMILTON.

1787, September 7. Dangan Castle.—Recommending Abraham Cornwall for a vacant Collectorship of the Hearth Tax in the county of Leitrim.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, September 8. Sudbury Green.—Mentioning that he has been very unwell, and advised that his only resource is Bath, whither he proposes to go next week. Referring to the possibility of being compelled by health to give up office, and to a letter of the Duke's speaking of his own wish to be released. In the desire to serve your Grace, "I put out of question every other consideration but that of absolute danger to my life." I have only at present to add that it is necessary to be perfectly secret upon any possibility of a change of Government, even, I believe, of so humble a part of it as myself, but much more so of your own most distant thoughts of resignation.

I am obliged for what you say about Lord Arran, and am only ashamed to think I have troubled you about it.

Concerning a threatening letter from Lodge Morris.

I am obliged for your communication upon the subject of your letter to General Pitt, and entreat you to let me see his answer. *Marked* "Most private."

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 8. Dublin Castle.—Dublin affords nothing new. "From Cork the accounts are good. The Magistracy Bill has been carried through by means of the friendly and powerful exertions of Lord Shannon, and the very able conduct of Lord Earlsfort upon the Bench. An address was intended to your Grace against the measure, which there is every reason to think will be converted into an address to thank you for it." In Kerry the business was carried through by the Prime Serjeant, with the assistance of Lord Glandore and others.

Upon the triennial visitation of the Archbishop of Cashel, the clergy of every diocese in the province of Munster have addressed you with grateful acknowledgments of your conduct towards them. *Marked* "Private."

The SAME to the SAME.

1787, September 10. Dublin Castle. — Concerning Mr. Orde's health, Colonel St. George's request, and other matters of administration or patronage.

The SAME to the SAME.

1787, September 13. Dublin Castle.—The 30th falling on a Sunday, the ceremony of swearing in the Lord Mayor will be postponed to the next day. Shall a Council be summoned for the 1st October for appointing the sessions towns in the divided counties? If you approve, the Council may be summoned for one or two o'clock, and the business will be over before the hour of swearing in the Lord Mayor.

As to the application from Belfast to obtain some of the new coinage of half guineas and silver, I find the Government have no means of doing what they desire. Their own bankers and merchants must manage it. There is no letter from Mr. Orde by this packet. I am very anxious about his health.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to [GENERAL PITT, Commander-in-Chief].

1787, September 14. Castle Gore.—“My dear Sir,—I have considered your letter of the 3rd instant with much attention, and I shall just trouble you with a very few observations upon it. The allegations which you wish Mr. Orde to be called upon to state were, as I apprehend, contained in the course of the correspondence which from time to time passed between you and him. As for your complaint that no decision had been made on your representation of last year ‘that previous communication should be held with the commander-in-chief before any official orders or determination were issued,’ you must attribute such delay on the part of Government to motives of perfect delicacy, it being one of those matters which it were wise not to have defined. I confess to you that when you mentioned it to me I saw at the first glance that no decision ought, and that none such as you wished could be made. At the same time, my respect for you induced me to direct the question to be maturely considered before any opinion was expressed to you on the subject. The Lord Lieutenant would never take any military step of importance without previously consulting with the first military officer in the kingdom. The Lord Lieutenant would never determine on a legal measure without previously consulting with the Chancellor, the Attorney-General, and the other law officers of the Crown. But no man can possibly suppose that where supreme power is vested there shall at the same time exist a compulsory obligation for previous consultation before the Chief Governor shall be competent to form any determination on any subject. That communication which can only be private and voluntary, not official and constrained, as I have before observed, it would be imprudent in the Viceroy not to make, and, independent of other considerations with respect to you, I can assure you, both for Mr. Orde as well as for myself, our private feelings would ever induce us to make it. As for the responsibility which you suppose Mr. Orde declines, he certainly could appropriate none to himself without a depreciation of my station. As my minister he could only convey my sentiments and directions to those who are placed in authority under me, and in such matters he is responsible to me, and to no one else. I have only to add how much I am gratified by your expressions of friendship for me, and by the value you are pleased to set upon mine. My private regards are my own, and, I will repeat, are sincerely at your service; my public situation is the King’s, and must be maintained and vindicated.” *Marked “Private.” Autograph copy or draft. [It appears that the letter as first sent to Dublin Castle was sent back by Mr. Hamilton for final revision, and that the letter as finally written was sent off about the 20th. See Mr. Hamilton’s letters of September 17 and 21.]*

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 15. Dublin Castle.—I have heard from Mr. Orde, who has been at St. James’s, but does not speak comfortably of his health. I send warrants for the prorogation of Parliament, that the Proclamation may issue before the 25th of this month.

[DR.] ROBERT KNOX to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 16. Scarborough.—I hope this will find you returned to Dublin after your tour in the north of Ireland, which we hear has been marked by the approbation of all ranks for your disinterested and distinguished administration of government. “It is with delight and satisfaction that I acquaint your Grace that the Duchess[es] of Beaufort and Rutland arrived here yesterday with your Grace’s children. They are all perfectly well, only the Duchess of Rutland has got a trifling cough accidentally, which may require a little attention in her bathing. She seems perfectly well of her lowness and dejection of spirits. She is beautiful as an angel, which as an old *Medicus* I dare tell your Grace, and I hope will return to Ireland for the comfort and satisfaction of your Grace, and the admiration of the kingdom she presides in.” There is a fair amount of company here. “Paddy Barnard hopes to see your Grace’s horse win at Doncaster. I ask him if your Grace means to make him and me baronets. He tells me I must have patience.” I am to meet the bishop and Hebb about the borough business. The promotion of Makin and some others gives great satisfaction to all the inhabitants. I have been thinking, with the bishop, that if you approve of it, the Duchess giving a play to the inhabitants will be the best mark of your attention and her condescension. I shall stay here with the Duchess as long as I can, but I may be called to London, as I believe the College of Physicians mean to make me one of their censors.

C. F. SHERIDAN to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 16. War Office.—Transmitting letters for signature, and mentioning a private bereavement.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, September 17. Dublin Castle.—As the Commander-in-Chief informs you that he shall lay his conduct at His Majesty’s feet, and the whole correspondence will, therefore, be submitted to the King, I venture to obey your commands, and suggest some alterations in the language of your letter to General Pitt. [*The alterations here suggested appear to have been all adopted by the Duke in the draft as finally revised by him, and already given under date of September 14.*]

*W. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, September 17. Downing Street.—[*Correspondence, p. 185.*]

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, September 17. Maidenhead Bridge.—I have been very ill, but went, notwithstanding, to St. James’s, where I had the satisfaction of receiving from the King every expression of satisfaction in regard to your conduct of Irish government. Mr. Pitt has assured me that he would write to you at length upon the subjects which I had in charge to press upon him. This, however, may be delayed by reason of the critical state of foreign affairs. Anxiety for the success of your Administration led me to hint to Mr. Pitt that it might be necessary for

you to appoint another Chief Secretary in my place if a trial of the Bath waters should not succeed in restoring my health. I will, however, ask you to believe that if the present political cloud should break into storm and threaten extraordinary trouble and difficulty, which you should think me in any degree capable of assisting you to avert or diminish, I will suffer no consideration of health or weakness to keep me away from your side, and from exerting every remnant of ability I can summon to your aid and the public service. I have expressed myself in the same way to Mr. Pitt.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 20. Dublin Castle.—Mentioning a letter from Mr. Orde, and the necessary proclamations for the prorogation of Parliament.

C. F. SHERIDAN to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, September 20. Dublin Castle, War Office.—Concerning an informality in the proceedings of a court martial; a letter from the sheriffs of Dublin; and various matters of military administration.

ROBERT KNOX to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 20. Scarborough.—Reporting on the health of the Duchess of Rutland and children. "Her Grace gives a play this evening to the Corporation, who are all admiration of her condescension and goodness, and I must take the liberty to acquaint your Grace that the Duchess's appearance here, with the prudence of the Lord Bishop of Ferns, will do more good than a hundred blind spies, or the whole house of Tyrconnel combined." But I hear Lord Tyrconnel is coming to feast the Corporation on Monday next.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 21. Whitehall.—You will have heard from Mr. Pitt upon the situation of affairs in Europe. The King of Prussia has marched an army towards the province of Holland to demand satisfaction for the insult offered to his sister, Her Royal Highness the Princess of Orange, by the armed burghers. France indicates a disposition to march an army to support the province of Holland, although she, as well as the other powers concerned, professes a desire to settle their differences by negotiation.

"His Majesty, thinking that any interference on the part of France in favour of a party in the province of Holland, in opposition to the declared wishes of the States General, cannot be justified by the late treaty concluded between that Crown and the United Provinces, and if acquiesced in may be detrimental to the interests of Great Britain, has judged it proper to put his forces into a respectable condition to be ready in case the conduct of other powers should make his exertions necessary for the interests of the country and the honour of his crown. At the same time His Majesty has directed every measure to be used that can tend to avert the calamity of war, consistently with the permanent welfare of his people. As it is difficult to foresee what may be the event of such a state of affairs, it is proper that I should put your Grace upon your guard. I am particularly desirous of recommending to the attention of your Grace the exportation of provisions of every

denomination, which we have some idea from reports that the French or other powers might attempt to obtain from Ireland. It may not be at present advisable to lay an embargo upon such exports, but every measure short of it is immediately necessary. Should things grow more serious, your Grace may depend upon the earliest advice from me.

“A war has been declared by the Turks against the Russians, and it is probable that the Emperor may be obliged to take part in it.” *Marked* “Most secret and separate.”

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 21. Dublin Castle.—Concerning matters of current business.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, September 21. Bath.—I am apprehensive of our being involved in foreign disputes, and am the more impatient to hear the result of your correspondence with the Commander-in-Chief, as the continuance of a dispute would ill accord with the delicate operations necessary in a time of public trouble. Concerning staff appointments, and the overweening pretensions of Lord Earlsfort.

The EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 21. Merrion Square.—Thanking the Duke for anxious enquiries during the writer's late illness, and hoping to have an opportunity of waiting on him before returning to England.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, September 22. Dublin Castle.—I am anxious to hear of your Grace's complete recovery from an illness referred to in Captain Finch's letter. The King's letters for the Bishoprics and Deaneries have at last arrived. I have sent Mr. Orde your letter to him, with the Commander-in-Chief's letter and a copy of your answer. I sent the original (after putting your seal to it) to General Pitt. *Marked* “Private.”

JOHN BUTCHER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 22. Cambridge.—“This being an adjourned Common Day, I proposed that the freedom of this Corporation should be presented to your Grace, which was unanimously approved; but, as no one, according to the rules of the body, can be made free upon the day proposed, it will be necessary at the next Common Hall, on the 29th instant, for your Grace to be confirmed, which I trust will be done with the same unanimity.”

[The REV.] CHARLES MANNERS SUTTON to the DUKE
[OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 23. Aversham.—Expressing gratitude for the countenance shown him by the Duke, and confidence in his Grace's wise disposal of Church preferment in Ireland.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 23. Froggnall.—I have just received the enclosed extract from Lord Carmarthen. The news is so good that I determined you should have it without delay.

(Enclosure.) “Substance of a duplicate from Sir James Harris, dated September 21, 1787.—The Prince of Orange arrived at the Hague on Thursday, two p.m.; was met by a deputation from the States General, another from the States of Holland, the Council of State, the Equestrian Order, the Committee Rada, the Courts of Justice, and all the different colleges. All the foreign ministers went to compliment him except the French, Spanish, and American. It is impossible to describe the universal joy at the Hagne. There is still an appearance of resistance at Amsterdam, and they talk (*this is not all credited*) of breaking down the sea dykes rather than submit. Fifteen towns were present at the States of Holland; were unanimous in voting addresses to the Stadtholder. No account has been received of preparations on the side of France. But it was in contemplation for the States of Holland to come to a resolution declaring that the Prince of Orange was reinstated in all his rights—that it was determined to give the King of Prussia the satisfaction required, and therefore the resolution of the 9th instant applying for assistance to the Court of France was rescinded.”

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, September 24. Bath.—Concerning the state of his health. I should conceive that your Grace might not dislike to visit Lord Shannon, especially after your late correspondence. I am much mortified at the passage of his letter wherein he “expresses the necessity of resorting to your Grace, as he had no chance of support from any other quarter.” He also complains of neglects observed by the public. Considering the marked attentions that have been paid him, such charges or insinuations are most unwarranted. I am decidedly of opinion that he has a fairer claim than any man to decided favour, and should be earnest in helping forward his pretensions.

With respect to Lodge Morris, I do not wonder at your solicitude to have him disposed of as soon as possible, “as there does not exist upon earth a more importunate savage.” I hope you will get rid of him entirely, for he has evidently shown that he is influenced only by his own interest, and that all his professions to you are “impertinent impositions.”

I am impatient to see General Pitt’s letter and your answer. When I can undertake such a business, I shall draw up a brief statement of the case which will completely expose him.

S. HAMILTON to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, September 25. Dublin Castle.—Concerning commissions from Lord Hillsborough. “Lord Hillsborough had a letter of authentic intelligence (by the messenger who brought the letter from Lord Sydney to your Grace), dated the 22nd, that the Prussian army have taken Utrecht, and are also in possession of Rotterdam, by which it is presumed they will prevent the Dutch ships of war from stirring. Orders are given for increasing the British military establishment. Ships are equipping, and the night before there was a hot press upon the river. The Prince of Orange has been invited to the Hague, and was expected there the 21st.”

“I understand from the Bishop of Killala that the Duchess is coming to you, *poste haste*.” I hope you have shaken off your cold, and will return in your accustomed health.

[DR.] ROBERT KNOX to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 25. Scarborough.—Sending a good report of the health of the Duchess of Rutland and the children. “She never looked more beautiful in her life, to the admiration of all the world, and even of her old Doctor, who has the impudence to tell you of it.” Lord Tyrconnel is come here, and gives a dinner to the Corporation. Two of your parsons, Dr. Bacon and Bulby, are here to pay their respects to the Duchess. Poor Dr. Storer, I hear, is not well.

The BISHOP OF CLONFERT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 25. London.—I had the pleasure of seeing the Bishop of Killala at Cambridge, and was informed by him of your kind intention to remove me to that see. The translation will be very acceptable to me, and I beg leave to thank you for it.

*W. PITT to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, September 26, Wednesday night. Downing Street.—
[*Correspondence*, p. 187.]

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, September 26. Whitehall.—Though we hope that the present state of affairs is such as may not in the end lead to a rupture with any foreign power, yet it is necessary to put every part of His Majesty’s dominions on a respectable footing as to defence. His Majesty’s servants have no doubt that Ireland will be ready to contribute her share to the general support. In the first place it will be necessary to recruit, by draughts from the regiments now in Ireland, those which Ireland now lends to the general service of His Majesty’s dominions, Great Britain paying five guineas per man levy money, which will enable Ireland to replace the men taken away. This is all that the King’s servants ask at the present moment; but if the present disputes lead to war, this country will probably be obliged to call for further assistance from Ireland to the common cause, and upon the best method of doing this I desire your opinion. *Marked* “Most secret and confidential.”

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 27. Bath. I have a promise, from Mr. Rose, that Mr. Browne will be taken care of forthwith. You will have received letters from Lord Sydney in reference to our preparations for war. I send you my correspondence with Mr. Pitt on the same subject. *Marked* “Secret.”

The SAME to the SAME.

1787, September 27. Bath.—Commenting at great length on General Pitt’s letter to the Duke, especially in reference to its personal reflections on himself. *Marked* “Most private.”

The BISHOP OF CLONFERT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 28, Friday. London.—Returning thanks for his promotion to the see of Killala.

LORD SYDNEY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 29. Whitehall.—In addition to my letter of the 26th, I enclose a state of the augmentation now ordered to be made to the regiments of infantry in Great Britain. By this you will see that the number of men immediately required by that letter from Ireland is about 1,500. Although matters still wear a favourable aspect, we are in hopes that this letter will find you in Dublin or near it, as, in the present state of affairs, every delay is attended with serious inconvenience. We have not yet received news of the surrender of Amsterdam, but are impatiently expecting it. *Marked* “Most secret and confidential.”

Journal of the DUKE OF RUTLAND'S TOUR in the North of Ireland.*

July 3, 1787.—“I quitted Dublin in order to proceed on a tour round the whole kingdom of Ireland, which I had for some time meditated. I made a little deviation from my original plan by going the first day to Sir John Blaquaire at Port Lemon, near Mullingar, in the county of Westmeath, a situation of considerable beauty, on the banks of a large lake, though not remarkably well wooded. We left Sir J. B. on the 6th, and crossed his lake on a tempestuous day. The country we passed through was very wild and romantic—lofty mountains, at the bottoms of which there were beautiful lakes. This style of country continued until you came to a village called Cross-a-Keel. The richness of the country then begins to improve. It resembles England. There are many good sheep walks, and it continues to improve on you till you reach Kells, the vicinity of which is highly cultivated. A great deal of fine corn is grown. I saw a large field. They told me it was mixture, barley and rye mixed. Land which is not suitable either to rye or barley alone will answer if they are cultivated together. The whole country about this is well planted, the land under tillage in exceeding good management, and many fine sheep walks. Kells is a very neat and well-built town. It belongs to Lord Bective, who has his seat near it. The place is well planted and judiciously improved; the house a long range of tasteless building, painted white. His father, Sir J. Taylor, was a great grazier and farmer, which accounts for the improved state of husbandry in the neighbourhood of Kells. Weemore, an herb used in dyeing, grows in this country spontaneously. In our way to Collon (the Speaker's, where we arrived about nine) we passed through a village in which there was a pattern (though it was Sunday), which answers to a wake in England. Here we saw men, women, and even girls intoxicated by that pernicious liquor, whisky, which inflames the brain to madness, and at the same time leaves a perfect possession of the limbs to commit outrage with. It is to be hoped that this abominable poison will in time be disused. They speak but little English in this part, though so near the metropolis. Tuesday, 10th.—We rode out to visit the passage of the Boyne, the spot famous for the battle which established King William in the quiet possession of his crown. From thence we rode along the banks of the river to Slane, a place of the

* A separate volume.

greatest magnificence. The banks are extremely beautiful, and the country exhibits a picture of judicious cultivation, good tillage, and luxuriant crops of various grain. The Speaker is a great improver, and his plantations are very extensive and thriving. At Collon a manufacture of thread flourishes under the auspices of the Speaker, undertaken by four Scotch women. Thursday, 12th.—I went by invitation to visit the town of Drogheda, where the Corporation entertained me and gave me the freedom of their town. Drogheda is a walled town, situated beautifully and conveniently on the banks of the Boyne, about three miles from the ocean. It is at present very flourishing and rising into great importance. There is a market, in which linen and yarn to the amount of 4,000*l.* is sold weekly. There is a great exportation of grain, particularly of oats, from the counties of Meath and Louth, so that 50,000*l.* worth has been exported in four months. Scotland is supplied from hence—the return all in money. This trade has been in some degree diminished since the great canal from Forth to the Clyde. They import large quantities of coals, iron, &c. A cotton manufacture and a salt works are likewise established in Drogheda. I made an excursion to Bellamont, through a dull, dreary, uninteresting country. Bellamont Forest is situated on a lake, and is a place of considerable beauty. There is a fine linen manufacture about it. At Coote Hill the finest sort of linen is fabricated. I went to Hillsbro and from thence to Dublin, to be present at a council, and returned the next day to the Speaker's. The county of Louth is a very thriving, fertile country, improving every hour; the land remarkably rich and in excellent cultivation. At Castle Bellingham a very extensive and good brewery is established, which I hope will be the means of introducing the use of beer instead of that pernicious liquor, whisky. Dundalk is a large town, well situated for trade, but its powers do not seem to be properly exerted. There was formerly a large manufacture of muslin here, and a colony of the Dutch, for which Parliament granted a large sum of money, but it came to nothing. There is a new linen hall now building. Newry is a town of great consequence; it has, however, been declining for six or seven years, as a good deal of smuggling has been introduced into the place. It seems admirably calculated for that purpose. It is situated about seven miles up a river, the mouth of which forms the Bay of Carlingford, the only quarantine bay on the northern coast. It contains many beautiful views and has many inlets into the country, which are admirably adapted to illicit traffic, and the custom house being at Newry, and the collector resident there, the fairest opportunities are afforded. The county of Down is the county where the linen manufacture is in its greatest perfection. About Banbridge, through which we passed, I saw a considerable quantity. Hillsbro is a beautiful town, rising into prosperity by the spirited exertions of the proprietor, the Earl of Hillsbro. He has built a beautiful church and has established a market, which is getting into great credit. They have a good brewery here. They sell about 300*l.* or 400*l.* worth of linen [every] week. Here is a cambric or muslin manufacture, I forget which. The principal manufacture is the coarsest linen, called the Hillsbro hugg. Lisburne is a large town, about which the linen manufacture is in its glory. It belongs to the Earl of Hertford, and will soon be out of lease, when the rents will increase from 12,000*l.* to about 25,000*l.* yearly. It is, or has been, the seat of discontent and faction and sedition. A society was here first formed to overset every establishment, calling themselves, by a prostitution of the term, the *Constitutional Society*. Belfast is a giant of a town, flourishing in everything. Five hundred houses have been built in a very short space of time, I think within a year. Their trade is

immense. They go to the West Indies, and to almost every quarter of the globe. A single ship paid this year 10,000*l.* King's duty. The revenue collected from this part amounts annually to 120,000*l.* It holds about 16,000 inhabitants. It is full of Presbyterians, and was much connected with the Americans during the calamitous contest. It has always been very factious, but I was received with much kindness and they gave me my freedom. This is the town where the spirit of volunteering has fixed its throne.

August 3.—I went from Hillsbro to Bangor, from thence by Newtownardes, where there is a very good brewery, to Castle Ward, upon the Loch of Strangford—a beautiful situation. The population of this country is incredible. At Hillsbro races I am convinced I saw above twenty thousand persons collected. The Bay of Strangford is well adapted to smuggling, and the excellence of the situation is not lost upon the smuggler. The baronies of the Ardes form a small nook of land, about two or three miles broad. It runs out in a point—on one side the main ocean, on the other the Loch of Strangford. The port of Strangford, as far as I could judge, or recall, is situated about two miles from the mouth of the bay, but the mode of smuggling is to land their goods on some part of the barony of Ardes, between Doneghadee and the entrance of the river, at Clogheen, or some such place. They then cross this small nook of land, from whence in a boat they convey their goods across the loch, and then dispose of them in the internal parts of the county of Down, or carry them to any part of Ireland they may think proper. We crossed from Bangor to Carrickfergus, where I was entertained. This is a very ancient town, without much trade. It is the county town of Antrim, which right they hold by charter, although very inconvenient to the public. The assizes were attempted to [be] removed to Antrim, a very central place, and a Bill was brought in for that purpose, but a sacred regard to an ancient charter carried the point. Shanes Castle is a very extensive and singular place, whose walls are washed by the waters of a lake, twenty-one miles in length and near twelve in breadth—63,000 acres of land under water. There is a canal from Newry into Loch Neagh, which supplies the counties of Antrim, Derry, &c. with every commodity. I understand smuggling is carried on in this lake. There is at Randallstown a monthly market in which linen is sold, from 3 000*l.* to 5,000*l.* Antrim is the second linen county in Ireland. The province of Ulster is filled with Dissenters, who are in general very factious—great levellers and republicans. There are many sects—Old Light, New Light, Seceders, &c. The former are the old Scotch Presbyterians, who agree with the Church of England in articles of faith, but oppose Church discipline. The second deny the divinity of Christ, and the last I know nothing about. There are some Moravians, who are a neat, industrious people, quiet in their living, and of principles amenable to Government. The dissenting ministers are for the most part very seditious, and have great sway over their flocks, but they are cunning enough not to show their teeth but when they can bite, so that I found no interruption from them, nor were they troublesome to me in the course of my tour, though I know they have an essential point to carry with Government. Glenarm, Lord Antrim's, has nothing about it magnificent, except the natural face of the country. It is situated close to the water, Scotland in full view. He has the remains of a princely estate, which his father destroyed by letting it in leases for ever. Near Glenarm is Red Bay, a place eminent for smuggling, carried on in the most extensive manner by the union of a Scotch and Irish company. Coleraine is a borough town, where Mr. Jackson, to whom one of the seats belongs, resides in a very neat house. It stands on the Ban, a

river famous for its extensive fisheries—"Fish fruitful Ban." The situation of Derry is very striking. It is a town of great trade and superior smuggling. It rises, as it were, to the summit of a hill, by degrees out of the water itself. The area within the walls is about the space of Stephen's Green: the circumference of the walls an English mile. The river on which it stands is in breadth opposite Derry about the size of the Thames at Westminster Bridge. Ships of very large size come up there. The mouth of the river is about thirteen miles from the town. Smuggling reigns there with uncontrolled dominion. Sir H. Laugrishe, one of the Commissioners of the Revenue, went there unexpectedly and made great seizures, but not in the utmost extent, and recommended great changes among the Revenue officers. The population of Derry amounts to about 7,000 persons. The Church congregation is the largest, next the Presbyterian, and there is a mass-house. Strabane is a town which has a very extensive inland trade. It belongs to Lord Abercorn, who has built a large and handsome mansion-house in its neighbourhood, where he never resides. From Lord Abercorn's you pass through bleak, dreary country, inhabited by moor game, to Loch Erne, a beautiful lake of a considerable extent, interspersed with a number of islands well wooded, 366. It rises at Belturbet and extends to Ballyshannon, and is navigable to the ocean, except in a space of about three miles. Many houses in his vicinity: Lord Enniskillen, Lord Belmore, Lord Ross, where we were entertained. Enniskillen is built on an island. It is the county town, full of Protestants, and is memorable for its defences. There is a school here endowed with about 1,100*l.* a year, where not above twenty boys are at present educated, and who pay for their education. A good barrack is likewise building. From Lord Enniskillen we passed Swadlingbar, a miserable [village], but famous for its Spa. From thence to Carrick-on-Shannon in our road to Lord Kingston's at Boyle. Near Carrick I met the widow of Sir Nugent Reynolds, who came out to thank me for the affording her the assistance of Government to bring to justice the murderers of her husband. The country has nothing about it worthy of regard. The Shannon even here is a spacious river. Lord Kingston's is upon a beautiful lake interspersed with wooded islands. Boyle is a small market and borough town. The same bleak, uncultivated country pursued its character through the county of Sligo, until we arrived at Ballina, when we crossed a bridge over the Moyle and entered Mayo. We proceeded to Mr. Cuff's, at Castle Gort, a wretched house he hires from Lord Arran. From Mr. Cuff's we went to Castlebar, traversing the most miserable and inhospitable bog by Foxford, where the game, which derive theirs from the moors, could scarcely find sustenance. We passed the land rendered famous by the murders and desperate acts of George Robert Fitzgerald and his banditti, whose life was at last forfeited to the laws he had so long offended. I went to visit Lord Lucan at Castlebar. The linen manufacture is encouraged about this town, and a linen hall is about to be built at the public expense. It has a market, in which about 500*l.* weekly is sold. The natives of the town seem to be a desperate kind of half gentlemen; a species of gladiator, who are kept more quiet by the proper execution of Fitzgerald. We returned back to Mr. King's at Ballina. We amused ourselves by shooting at, but missing, seals in the River Moyle. We visited the wretched episcopal town of Killala, supported entirely by fishing; and, in truth, we can make no other remark but that the hospitality of the gentlemen at whose houses we visited made the most inhospitable-looking country on the globe comfortable and pleasant. In Connaught you frequently pass stones piled up by the peasants, which are the monument of some

murder, or duel in which a life has been lost, having been committed. I went to Ballinrobe, a tolerable town, to hold a council, which is situated in a fertile, well-cultivated country. From thence I passed through a continuation of dreary mountains to Lord Altamont's, at Westport. It is a good house and has considerable beauty about it. The town has been built since the year 1770, and is improving. There is a great herring fishery, which contributes to enrich the place greatly, and I believe much smuggling. The bay contains many fertile islands. At a distance you see Clare Island, which is very considerable, and a large receptacle for smugglers. Croagh Patrick, a very lofty, conical mountain, stands immediately over the [bay], and considerably adds to its beauty. I staid here some few days, and caught a violent cold by remaining late on the water. I then, after having rode some miles through a dreary country, passed by the ruins of an old abbey of great beauty and very perfect. Part was covered in, and at the place where the altar formerly stood I saw a man instructing poor boys in English. After that the country became very fertile, mostly very fine pasture. We passed through one field through which a vein of stone, flat like a pavement, ran in a certain breadth. Holymount is in champion country, and I saw much corn growing in a soil to all appearance very congenial to anything, all the way to Tuam. It was late when I passed through that town, but it appeared to have nothing about it worth notice. I was ill during my stay at Lord Louth's, and indeed during my whole continuance in the county of Galway, which prevented me from making any but a general observation on the country. The whole county is flat, but the land is good, and it produces greater quantities of cattle than any other county. Athenry is a very small, ugly, but singular borough town. It was built by King John, and entirely surrounded by walls, which remain at present. There is a barrack here, but at present disused. Galway is situated on a beautiful bay. It is a curious old Spanish town, and contains about 15,000 inhabitants. I staid here but a day, and was not well enough to survey it thoroughly. I went from Dunsandle to Loughrea races. The town belongs to Lord Clanricarde. It stands on a lake. It is tolerably built, and improving. Some linen is made here. The country seemed tolerably populous, if any judgment could be formed from the appearance at the races. The country remains good all the way to Balinasloe. Here is the greatest fair for cattle of all sorts in Ireland; it continues but a day. From Balinasloe I rode through a country very unequal till I arrived at Athlone. It is a place of some note in history. It is built on each side of the Shannon, joined by a bridge; one side is Connaught and Roscommon, the other Leinster and Westmeath. The Shannon is very spacious here, and about five miles above, it forms a bay of eleven miles over. There is a good cavalry barrack here and a riding house. They stopped me unexpectedly and gave me my freedom. I remained about an hour and then rode to Sir John Blaquiere's, and from thence the next morning, being September 29th, 1787, proceeded for Dublin; the prospect of a war with France, in consequence of her interference with the affairs of Holland, rendering my presence in Dublin of absolute necessity."

JOHN BUTCHER to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 30. Cambridge.—I have the pleasure to inform you that the presentation to you of the freedom of this borough was yesterday unanimously confirmed at an overflowing meeting. After dinner (her Grace of Rutland having sent a buck for the Mayor's feast), the healths of yourself and family were drunk with great enthusiasm.

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO LORD SYDNEY.

1787, September 30. Phœnix Park.—“I shall by this messenger only acknowledge your Lordship’s letter of the 26th, and assure you that I will carry his Majesty’s commands into execution respecting the augmentation of the regiments in the pay of Ireland on foreign service from the Irish establishment, with all possible zeal and dispatch. Your Lordship will therefore be pleased to direct returns to be sent me of the numbers which may be wanting to complete the battalions intended to be completed, and your Lordship will likewise order a transport to sail to the port of Waterford, with all convenient speed, to receive the drafts from the different regiments here. I shall write further to your Lordship by to-morrow’s packet. *Postscript*.—Am I to understand that the regiments now abroad in the pay of Ireland are to be increased in the same proportions as it is intended for those on the British establishment? I shall write to Mr. Pitt by to-morrow’s mail. *Press copy*. *Marked* “Secret and confidential.”

THE EARL OF TYRONE TO THE DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, September 30. Curraghmore.—Recommending Ensign Beresford to the Duke’s protection.

[DR.] ROBERT KNOX TO THE DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, October 1. Scarborough.—The Duchess of Rutland continues perfectly well. By sea-bathing and regular hours she enjoys better health than by living up to the etiquette of Queen of Ireland, with all the appanages of royalty. The children are well. I see there is ordered an augmentation of the army. If you should be pleased to give a commission to my son Granby, I have to ask you to accompany it by leave of absence for six months, which you can renew if thought necessary.

JOHN MORTLOCK TO THE DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, October 2. Cambridge.—Assuring the Duke of personal attachment to his family, and informing him of the intention of the Duke of Bedford to support one of his own brothers for the county at the next election. “Whether your Grace will think it right to sit still and be a quiet spectator of that event is a matter for your Grace’s consideration. I have ever regretted your former resolution of not interfering upon the vacancy occasioned by that very memorable (but ever to be lamented) event of poor Lord Robert’s death, but lest you should still continue in the same determination, I cannot help suggesting that if the Bedford interest comes in and the Yorkes continue, such a junction may be the consequence as *you* may hereafter find very unpleasant, and impossible to overthrow.” I have great satisfaction in communicating, as Mayor of the Corporation of Cambridge, the unanimous request of that body that you will permit us to enrol you amongst the free burgesses of this borough. I have also to return you many thanks for a fine buck which the Duchess did me the honour of sending for Michaelmas Day.

[DR.] ROBERT KNOX TO THE DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, October 3. Scarborough.—The Duchess and all the family are perfectly well. I leave this place in a day or two; her Grace proposes remaining ten days longer.

The DUKE OF RUTLAND to W. PITT.

1787, October 3. Phœnix Park. —“I was so unwell on my arrival in Dublin that I could only then write to Lord Sydney and acknowledge his letter, and assure him of the zeal with which I should execute the directions given to me respecting the augmentation of the regiments which Ireland furnishes for foreign service by drafts from this establishment. I confess I had hoped that nothing but the actual existence of the Empire would have been considered as a sufficient cause for our engaging in a war. But though ignorant of the steps which the prudence, the credit, and the policy of the country and of your Government obliged you to take, my opinion is that as we are once embarked, the most vigorous and active measures, such as you have adopted, are the surest means either to secure peace, or to command success if war be inevitable. I have given every necessary direction for the immediate accomplishment of your wishes on the occasion, and I hope the zeal and celerity with which this requisition will be complied with will be a token of my readiness to make more serious exertions in the defence of the Empire, if more serious exertions become necessary. I am persuaded Ireland will rejoice in the opportunity of manifesting her zeal in the support of an *English cause*, and of contradicting any jealousies which at any times may have unjustly existed against her of want of attachment and of affection towards Great Britain, and of her not feeling a common interest in all which may concern the sister kingdom. I am much mistaken and greatly deceived in the zeal and spirit of this nation, if when the aid of Ireland may be required she shall be found penurious either of her men or her treasure, or declining to contribute a ready, liberal, solid, and efficacious assistance. I think I may flatter you with every assurance to the contrary, and I am persuaded I shall not be disgraced with the character of a false calculator. I am under no great apprehensions about the revival of the volunteers. Their inconveniences have been heartily felt by all descriptions of people, and I shall not scruple to declare my decided disapprobation of any such attempt, fully persuaded that the principal gentlemen throughout the whole kingdom will concur in discountenancing the reiteration of so dangerous a measure. A Militia Bill has its objections and its difficulties here; but anything is to be preferred to a system of volunteering. That measure, however, may be the consideration of a future day, if we should ultimately be obliged to have recourse to any such expedients. I have still hopes that Mr. Orde's health will permit him to return to this country. In the present conjuncture it would be an unfortunate event if he should be obliged to abandon his situation. He is in the midst of systems which are very popular, and for which my Government is pledged, and at the same time I think I could derive more assistance from him in bringing forth the efforts of this country than from any new man, who will have fresh claims to resist and, of course, fresh difficulties to contend with. I know not how far Fitzherbert's health will enable him to engage; but from my acquaintance with him, if he brings sickness and an impaired constitution from St. Petersburg, he will not much mend it by a campaign of incessant impertunity and perpetual anxiety here. At the same time Fitzherbert I love, and I know him best among all those whom you have at different times pointed out to me on the same occasion. But I will have no option in such an event, and if it should, unfortunately, take place, I shall desire you precisely to mention a successor as of your particular wish, which will save me much trouble and distress, the prospect of a change having already involved me in some embarrassing applications.” *Press copy.*
Marked “Most secret and confidential.”

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO LORD SYDNEY.

1787, October 3. Phoenix Park.—On my arrival in Dublin I could only acknowledge your letter, and assure you of the alacrity with which I would respond to the call made on me for 1,500 men. I was so ill from the effects of a violent cold caught at a party on the water, and which has left me a constant succession of head-aches, as to be obliged to defer writing more at large. I am now to desire you to assure His Majesty of my active zeal to co-operate with his other confidential servants to give effect to those measures of vigorous decision which the credit and policy of the Empire have called for, and the wisdom of Government have adopted. I hope the exertions you have already made will prevent a rupture with France. In the event, however, of war I shall feel a pride in co-operating with the loyalty of this people, who will be eager to embark with their lives and fortunes in the common cause with Great Britain, and in the vindication of their Sovereign's honour and dignity. I shall certainly continue in Dublin while matters are in the least degree precarious. *Draft, marked* "Secret and confidential."

THE DUKE OF RUTLAND TO GENERAL PITT, Commander-in-Chief.

1787, October 4. Phoenix Park.—"I return you my best thanks for the attention you have given to the letter which I communicated to you from Lord Sydney, and I beg you will be assured that I am sincerely obliged to you for the open and candid observations which you have made upon its contents. At the same time, in the present very critical conjuncture, when the utmost vigour and universality of preparation is thought necessary to maintain the credit and support the interests of the Empire, I should not hold myself justified in refusing the assistance required by Great Britain, and, indeed, my opinion is that almost every other consideration should be hazarded rather than that the efforts of Government in the present moment be restrained. I likewise flatter myself that, by proper exertions and alacrity in the recruiting service, the temporary loss which the Irish army will sustain may be readily supplied. With respect to any further requisition, that being a future consideration, it cannot at present come into discussion. But I am persuaded that whenever any shall be made it will be proportioned to the strength and ability of this kingdom. At the same time you must be so perfect a judge of the state of the army and the resources of this country for its future increase if the exigencies of the Empire should call for it, that, if you have no objection, I would wish to impart your sentiments on this subject to His Majesty's confidential servants. As your letter was confidential to me, I would not venture to communicate it without your previous consent." *Marked* "Private." *Copy or draft.*

LORD SYDNEY TO THE DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, October 5.—My letter of 29th will have explained what might have been wanting in that of 26th, 1,500 being the number of the draughts required. Amsterdam was not taken by the last accounts, but its reduction was supposed to be very near. Our Parliament will meet on the 15th of next month for the dispatch of business, whether we have peace or war, to provide for the expenses already incurred. Our friend Lord Townshend has been made a marquis. *Marked* "Most secret and confidential."

GEORGE Y. KENDALL to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, October 6. Paris.—I reached here on the 29th September; the day after I went to pay my respects to our new ministers at Versailles. I dined with our first minister, the Archbishop of Toulouse, an old acquaintance of mine, who received me very graciously. Since that I have been running to different country houses. This has delayed me in obeying your commands about the two cooks; I have, however, made inquiries and shall not neglect the business. I find everybody expecting war from the preparations making in England. I have been of opinion, and shall persist in the idea, that peace will continue, especially as it is said Amsterdam has surrendered to the Prussians, so that the business of Holland is now over. The Parliament is reinstated at Paris, all obnoxious measures are given up, and they have enregistered the edict for the perception of the two *vingtièmes*—a land tax—to the full value. The provincial assemblies will take place immediately, and the reform in our home expenses goes on briskly; it is confidently stated that the savings will amount to upwards of 80 millions of livres annually. There are still great resources in this country untouched, therefore it is much better to leave it to itself in quiet. The Emperor has restored the Flemings to their rights and privileges, and may now engage with Russian Empress in further projects against the Turks.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE OF RUTLAND.

1787, October 7. Bath.—I have been anxious about your health, as I heard that you had been attacked with some degree of fever before returning to Dublin. But Mr. Hamilton assures me you are well again. Appearances are unfavourable to peace, and I am afraid this may occasion trouble to you. If, however, England is involved, forward co-operation on the part of Ireland must be extremely beneficial on all accounts, and while it will make a useful impression on the observation of foreign nations, will tend materially to keep matters in good order at home. I am glad to find from Mr. Hamilton that steps are taking in Ireland for the supply of assistance to the general cause. I suppose General Pitt will, for the present, stay in Ireland and drop his nonsensical pretensions, and perhaps things will go smoothly as I am out of the way, who was the unfortunate object of indignation and resentment.

You were not in Dublin when Mr. Reeves came over to assist in preparing some of the business relating to the intended system of education. You must have remembered him at Eton, and, I am sure, have since been acquainted with his merits. I am sorry he cannot be a more constant assistant in the promotion of an object which he understands so well.

Postscript.—"Lord Lansdown is at Bowood and well, but not in a good humour. He says there was not common sense in going to war for the Stadtholder."

THE EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787, October 10? Dublin.] Wednesday morning.—I am very sensible of the kindness of your letter, which only reached me as I was setting out for the country. I should be obliged if you will allow me a few minutes conversation with you this morning.

The EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

[1787, October 10?] Wednesday morning. Holles Street.—I should be obliged if you will allow me a few minutes conversation before my departure. I sail to-morrow morning at six o'clock.

THOMAS GASCOIGNE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, October 10. Parlington.—The papers tell me you are returned to Dublin after a prosperous tour, and the Bishop says you are going off again to visit Lords Shannon and Tyrone. I will intrude on you by an application in favour of an old gentleman, a Mr. O'Bryen, of the county of Cork. I am not acquainted with him, but know his son well, and, strange as it may appear in me to ask a favour from Government for his father, he is a warm partizan of Fox, and was very active in the Westminster election, as you may remember, from his being tried for the murder of a man killed in one of the riots. The Bishop of Ferns has been here; we shot together on Thursday, and I accompanied him back to Scarborough. I never saw the Duchess of Rutland looking better; your children are charming and wonderfully improved. I am flattered with the prospect of a visit from her on her road to Chevely; nothing will give me more pleasure, though I am not a little alarmed at the formality of her mother, whose stiffness overcomes me. "The Bishop is far from well; talks of his not holding out long. If so, I bespeak Fernes, having attended the two Dutchesses to church last Sunday as a preparation for entering into orders." The voters at Scarborough are happy in the present situation of things; three interests, and a contest inevitable. Whatever you obtain for them passes for Lord Mulgrave's getting, and if you do not mind he will undermine you. My children are well; your godson grows a fine lad.

CAPTAIN A. PYE MOLLOY to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, October 13. Sackville Street.—I have been appointed to the command of the *Fortitude*, of 74 guns, at Plymouth, with the nomination of all my officers. I am, however, anxious to obtain, when the war is over, the post of captain of the King's yacht, now vacant, and ask you to apply in my favour for it to Lord Howe. I need not say how happy I shall be to receive on the *Fortitude's* quarter-deck yourself or any person you may wish to send me.

THOMAS ORDE to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, October 14. Bath.—I hope you have shaken off any symptoms of ill-health. I am distressed to be unable to give a better account of my own progress. I am afraid that I must cease to indulge hopes of ability to return to Ireland in the station which I have had the honour to hold. I do not, however, feel at liberty to make the absolute decision until I have taken the deliberate opinion of the physicians in a consultation for that purpose, in London. I could, if it were necessary, bring many circumstances, besides my personal attachment to you, to convince you of the reluctance I feel to quit my situation; the disappointment of the earnest desire of seeing the measures which you have set on foot brought to a happy issue, the hopes I had of a more quiet time of government after all the perils past, the flattering pride which I took in the sense of your confidence, and I may add—though a matter of smaller

consequence—the power of supporting Mrs. Orde and my family in the position to which they have every claim from my most determined efforts. I am now a poorer man than I was at the commencement of my career in a public line of life, and upon my retirement must reduce my establishment to a very humble footing. In conclusion, I must acknowledge your most friendly attention to the object of a conditional provision for Mrs. Orde, to which, indeed, she will not now have any further pretensions upon my retirement.

The DUKE OF BEAUFORT to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, October 14. Badminton.—Concerning leave of absence and an application for a company for his son, Lord Charles Somerset.

HENRY DUNDAS to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, October 16. India Office.—“I had just wrote the enclosed to Francis [Colonel Dundas] when I learned by a letter from Scotland that he was there. Although addressed to Francis, the letter is truly for you.”

(Enclosure.)

“General Shene has got liberty to sell out, and Lord Sydney writes to me he has notified it to the Lord Lieutenant.” We were much obliged to General Shene in carrying Colonel Wemyss’s election for the county of Fife, and upon that score. I hope the Duke of Rutland will expedite the business. “Tell his Grace I would like much to drink a bottle of claret with him, and talk over the present situation this country has returned to. There is not a reason to doubt that we shall have either a vigorous and successful war, or a glorious establishment of peace.

“Is not your late appointment to Carrickfergus another proof of the Duke’s undue partiality to you?”

The EARL OF MORNINGTON to the DUKE [OF RUTLAND].

1787, October 17. Buxton.—I was unfortunately unable to see you before I left Ireland. You will be glad to hear that my recovery advances fast; my physicians have sent me to Buxton. I cannot say much for the liveliness of the place, but I like the bath, and have great hopes it will soon remove all trace of illness.

You are probably better informed than I am, but I have great hopes we shall yet have peace. “In any event, however, the conduct of Pitt must stand above all detraction; he has already astonished all Europe by the alacrity of the late armament, and his name as a war Minister is now as high as that of his father ever was.”



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