

city but a few days before. But is it possible, if such care and attention has been given to the revisal and ordering of these letters, as is here insinuated, that it occasioned the delay of publication for some weeks, which were employed in putting them into such a form, as might best tend to the justification of the ministry, and the satisfaction of parliament; by the omission of some letters, and parts of letters, by the inserting some adjusting words, and the like, that they could have been so very careless, as not to observe the repugnancy between those two passages, which must immediately lay open the fraud, and which would have been easily saved by the bare omission of that letter of the 20th. The absurdity of this supposition is self-evident; and the seeming contradiction may be easily otherwise explained, by only supposing a distinction between the public and private correspondence of the two ministers; in consequence of which distinction, Lord Egremont might speak of the letter of the 28th, as the opening of his correspondence with
 Lord