

Mr. Dunn told me that he believed Mr. Pitt did not dare to enter on the affairs of Cochrane, because they had been transacted during Lord North's administration; for fear that if he were obliged to make a compromise the opposition would attack him. It is believed that Lord Dorchester must have received instructions on the subject, but he has not received the opinion of Mr. Chamberlin, solicitor to the Treasury, who is regarded as a very able man. He was of opinion that the best thing to be done was to send some one to Canada, and to secure all the money possible. There have been several consultations on the subject, but it appears that nothing has been decided.

The affair of Taylor and Forsyth is still in appeal and does not end. Indeed, I have been very well pleased with Mr. Dunn.

26. *Monday*. Paid a few visits in the morning, especially one to the Duke of Northumberland, who received me very well.

[The next entry in the diary is the following, but the beginning of it cannot be found and the date is doubtful. The trial of Warren Hastings, whose gift to the Queen is referred to in the last paragraph of this entry, was begun in 1786.]

..... the commissioners of accounts. He is certain that he was among the first who returned to America, but afterwards was among the ranks of the government party and was very useful. Robertson gave me a striking instance of this. Our fleet which was at New York, required immediate repair in order to set sail to protect Lord Cornwallis; there were not enough of workmen in the yard. Robertson proposed to collect all the carpenters and put them in charge of Mr. Low, who found a great many of them. But those in the yard would not receive them, so that the fleet lost a fortnight by the delay, which was partly the cause of Cornwallis' misfortune. This anecdote is little known. This same Mr. Low engaged about 300 or 400 men in the Admiral's fleet when it set sail.

Visited General Amherst whom I found in. Robertson spoke to me of the speech Mr. Francis had made in Parliament on the subject of the diamonds Mr. Hastings had brought and presented to the Queen. He believes Hastings to be worth a million and a half.

28. *April. Saturday*. Received a letter from General Budé, with a pressing invitation to go to Cheltenham. He highly extolled these waters. Paid a visit to Lady Holderness, who gave me the history of Messrs. Green, Louis Tessier, and Mrs. Haller, and of her mother, a friend of the Prince of Hesse. Called on Mrs. Munster, who politely reproached me for having neglected her.

General Cunningham dined with me and I went with him to the Carré (?) Club, where I found very good company. I paid four guineas and a half for my subscription and left at eleven.

29. *Sunday*. Paid a visit to Sir John Dick, who told me he could pass no account for which there were not vouchers produced, &c.

Dined and spent the evening at home after having paid a few visits.

30. *Monday*. Met Mr. Coore, who told me that he would call in the course of the week to examine all the papers concerning Charles Hay. He assured me that the case would be decided in the course of the month. He told me further that he had just spoken to Harley, who said that the reason which bound him not to show Ross & Gray's letter no longer existing, he would give him a copy when he wished it.

He said, besides, that he had entered a suit against the agents for General Prevost's claims.

Called at the Somerset House Exhibition, which I thought very bad.

General McLean dined with me, after which to the Club till half past eleven.

### *May.*

1. *Tuesday*. Rode out; called on Baron Alvensleben. Dined at the Club; we were 24, all in good humour; stayed there till half past one in the morning.