

be proper to be proposed in the present circumstances.

It is their humble opinion, that your Royal Highness should be empowered to exercise the Royal Authority in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty; during his Majesty's illness, and to do all acts which might legally be done by his Majesty; with provisions, nevertheless, that the care of his Majesty's Royal Person, and the management of his Majesty's household, and the direction and appointment of the officers and servants therein, should be in the Queen, under such regulations as may be thought necessary. That the power to be exercised by your Royal Highness should not extend to the granting the real or personal property of the King, (except as far as relates to the renewal of leases) to the granting any office in reversion, or to the granting, for any other term than during his Majesty's pleasure, any pension, or any office whatever; except such as must by law be granted for life, or during good behaviour, nor to the granting any rank or dignity of the Peerage of his realm, to any person, except his Majesty's issue who shall have attained the age of twenty-one years. These are the principal points which have occurred to his Majesty's Ministers.

I beg leave to add, that their ideas are formed on the supposition that his Majesty's illness is only temporary, and may be of no long duration. It may be difficult to fix beforehand, the precise period for which these provisions ought to last; but if unfortunately his Majesty's recovery should be protracted to a more distant period, than there is reason at present to imagine, it will be open hereafter to the wisdom of Parliament to re-consider these provisions, whenever the circumstances appear to call for it.

If your Royal Highness should be pleased to require any further explanation on the subject, and should condescend to signify your orders, that I should have the honor of attending your Royal Highness for that purpose, or to intimate any other mode in which your Royal Highness may wish to receive such explanation, I shall respectfully wait your Royal Highness's commands.

I have the honour to be,
With the utmost
Devotion and submission,
SIR,
Your Royal Highness's
Most dutiful
And devoted servant,

W. PITT:

Downing-Street,
Tuesday Night, Dec. 30, 1788.

THE ANSWER OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS
the PRINCE OF WALES.

Carlton-Heuse, Jan. 2, 1789.

THE Prince of Wales learns from Mr. Pitt, that the proceedings in Parliament are now in a train which enables Mr. Pitt, according to the intimation in his former letter, to communicate to the Prince, the outlines of the plan which his Majesty's confidential servants conceive proper to be proposed in the present circumstances.

Concerning the steps already taken by Mr. Pitt, the Prince is silent.—Nothing done by the two Houses of Parliament can be a proper subject of his animadversion; but when previously to any discussion in Parliament, the outlines of a scheme of government are sent for his consideration, in which it is proposed that he shall be personally and principally concerned, and by which the Royal Authority, and the public welfare, may be deeply affected, the Prince would be unjustifiable were he to withhold an explicit declaration of his sentiments. This silence might be construed into a previous approbation of a plan, the accomplishment of which, every motive of duty to his father and Sovereign, as well as of regard for the public interest, obliges him to consider as injurious to both. In the state of deep distress, in which the Prince, and the whole Royal Family were involved, by the heavy calamity which has fallen upon the King, and at a moment when government, deprived of its chief energy and support, seemed peculiarly to need the cordial and united aid of all descriptions of good subjects, it was not expected by the Prince, that a plan should be offered to his consideration, by which government was to be rendered difficult, if not impracticable, in the hands of any person, intended to represent the King's authority—much less the hands of his eldest son; the Heir Apparent of his kingdoms, and the person most bound to the maintenance of his Majesty's just prerogatives and authority, as well as most interested in the happiness, the prosperity, and the glory of the people!

The Prince forbears to remark on the several parts of the sketch of the plan laid before him; he apprehends it must have been formed with sufficient deliberation to preclude the probability of any argument of his producing an alteration of sentiment in the projectors of it. But he trusts, with confidence, to the wisdom and justice of Parliament, when the whole of the subject, and the circumstances connected with it, shall come under their deliberation.

He observes therefore only, generally, on

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