

*Your Majesty is well apprized that, in this country, the Prince on the Throne, cannot, with prudence, oppose the deliberate resolution of the House of Commons. Your royal predecessors were obliged to yield to it much against their wish in more instances than one; They consented to changes in their Ministry which they disapproved because they found it necessary to sacrifice their private wishes, and even their opinions on the preservations of the public order, and the prevention of those terrible mischiefs, which are the natural consequence of the clashing of two branches of the Sovereign Power in the State. The concessions they made were never deemed dishonourable, but were considers as marks of their wisdom, and of their parental affection for their people... Your Majesty has firmly and resolutely maintained what appeared to you essential to the welfare of dignity of this Country, so long as this Country itself thought*

*proper to maintain it. The Parliament have altered their sentiments, and as their sentiments whether just or erroneous, must ultimately prevail, Your Majesty, having persevered, as long as possible, on what You thought right, can lose no honour if you yield at length, as some of the most renowned and most glorious of your Predecessors have done, to the opinion and wishes of the House of Commons.*

Alan Valentine, *Lord North* (Oklahoma Press, 1967).