

Ld. Northampton

196

Dec 12 1765

Most Gracious Sovereign

In Obedience to your Majesty's
Commands, I transmit the Substance of what
passed last Night, as I judge it within the
meaning of your M^{ty}'s Directions.

The American Papers being read, I asked
what was the purpose of the Meeting, whe-
ther to give our Opinions on the State
of America to be submitted to yr Majesty or
only to converse together, which had been, I
thought improperly & unprecedented by the
Business of former Meetings? I was
asked what I considered the Meeting? I
said a regular Council for Advice on
that, as your M^{ty} knew of it & approved

for I had mentioned the meeting in the Closet.
 However I found they did not consider it
 as a Council where we were to give our
 opinions the Subject not being ripe, & there-
 fore can't treat any body's Sentiments, as opi-
 -nions, but my own that differed from the
 other Lords. However I found that their
 Politics seemed to be fixed unanimously
 to yield to the Insurrections & Clamours
^{not} to support the Stamp-Act, in which
 I differed & declared my opinion, as thinking
 it full Time to have formed some fixed
 opinion on so national a Subject.

I hope my opinion, tho' sincere,
 may not be so wise as that adopted, as
 I know ^{no} one can wish more Success

Ld. Northington

to your Majesty's ¹⁹⁶⁽²⁾ Measures & Government
than myself

I beg Leave to subscribe myself
with the greatest Zeal & Devotion,

Your Majesty's

most dutifull & most Obedt.

Subject & Servant

Northington.

[Faint, illegible handwriting on aged paper]

20 of Northampton Dec: 12
1765.