Mr. Grenville May 7th 1765

7 May 1765

67

7 May 1765

I have the Honor to inform your Majesty that the House of Commons continued sitting till near ten o Clock this Evening. The Regency Bill was read the first Time yesterday & ordered to be read a Second Time to day, but nothing at all was said on that Occasion. To day about two o' Clock Ld. John Cavendish came up to me in the House, & told me that He intended to move for an Address to be presented to your Majesty desiring that you would be pleas'd to name a Person to be proposd to the House for Regent & that His Motion would be to the Same

Effect &

Effect & almost in the same Words with that moved by Ld Lyttelton in the House of Peers. He made the Motion for the Address accordingly just before the Second Reading of the Regency Bill in a very few Words & was seconded by Mr T. Townshend Junr. I inclose with this I transmit to your Majesty an Account of the Several Speakers in this Debate & in the Subsequent one in the Order in which they spoke. It did not seem that the Proposition for the Address made great Impression upon the House, especially after the Answers which were given to it. There was Nothing very particular in the Debate except that Several of the Gentlemen who were for the Address having declard against the Principle of the Regency Bill they were told that it would be highly improper to present an Address to your Majesty to name a Regent

if they

Mr. Grenville May 7th 1765

7 May 1765

67 (2)

if They intended to reject the Bill afterwards in which the Regent was to be so named. This Debate lasted till near 6 o Clock; the Question was then put upon that Motion, but was carried in the Negative without a Division. The Bill was then read a Second Time, & the Question put for Committing it: This was oppos'd upon all the general Arguments against any Regency Bill whatever, & against the particular Provisions & Clauses in the present Bill. Gen. Conway spoke very strongly against the latter, but declard that he would vote for Committing the Bill. This debate lasted till past 9 o Clock & upon the Question being then put it was carried for Committing the Bill without any Division. After this Mr. Onslow of Guildford moved to put off the Committee to a longer Day than Thursday, which was the Day proposed by me to go into the Committee upon it

agreeably to

agreeably to what had been done in the former Regency Bill, & which was agreed to accordingly & the Committee fixed for Thursday without any Division. Mr L. Cooke then moved to print the Bill, but this was objected to in point of Time & Regularity & because there was no Occasion for it, the Instances in which it differs from the last Regency Bill being so very few. After some little Debate there was a Division upon this Question: 18 for printing it & 117 against it, the greater Part of the House being gone away before the Motion was made: in general the Debate was carried on pretty regularly upon the two principal Questions, & seemingly very much to the Satisfaction of the House, which was the Reason that they did not venture to divide upon either of them, tho' they declared repeatedly that they would oppose the Bill in every Stage of it & particularly in the Committee. Upon the Whole I flatter myself

that Every Thing has gone on in a Manner which will be agreable to your Majesty, tho as it is now past 11 o Clock, I must in Obedience to your Orders for dispatching the Messenger with this Account as soon as I can, reserve the farther Particulars untill I have the Honor of waiting upon your Majesty to morrow Morning.

Downing Street
Tuesday May 7: 1765
m
25 past 11. P.M.