

10th May 1765.

Lord Halifax

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Lord Halifax

Great George Street
Saturday May 9th 1765
nine o'clock P.M.

Lord Halifax, now finding himself in a
mistake with respect to the Doubt he entertained,
and understanding his Majesty's Surprise at his
Messenger having been sooner sent by him or
Lord Sandwich to communicate the necessity
there had been of calling in the Military to the
assistance of the civil Power, at the Time
his Majesty received such Intelligence from the
Secretary at War; Lord Sandwich & Halifax
now think themselves bound in Duty to his
Majesty, & Justice to ~~themselves~~^{themselves} to explain that
matter.

On Thursday last on a Tumultuous
Proceedings at the Doors of the House of
Lords, orders were given to the Military to
hold themselves in Readiness to obey the Call
of the civil Officers, which it is in all Cases

To

The King

of Recusancy, we presume, their Duty to do.
They were not then called for: but on Friday
your Majesty's Secretaries of State having
received Information that a mob was collecting,
thought it their Duty to send notice to the
Magistrates. The rioters appeared, and the
Justices, by Messrs Melgare and Lynaston,
in Person applied to the Military for their
assistance; & went with them, as we are
informed, to the House of Lords. and the
Party of Foot, which happily prevented Bedford
House being locked with the Ground, & most
probably the Murder of his Grace, and that
of some of your Majesty's faithful servants
then present, was sent for by Justice Welch,
as we conceive; & the Reinforcements only,
as they became necessary, were sent for by
either of your Majesty's Secretaries of State.
When Lord Sandwich & Halifax first saw
the riotous mob yesterday in their Way to

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Their Duty in Parliament, the Military was then guarding the House of Lords. They were detained in that House Prisoners till near five, and before Dinner was near ended at Bedford House many Thousand most insolent & dangerous Visitors were at the Gate. from that Time both Lord Sandwich & Halifax, in Danger of their Lives, exposed to Sticks & Stones, the Arms of an outrageous Mob, were on the one Hand using every Means in their Power to Dissuade the mad Multitude from persisting in their Purpose; and on the other, taking every prudent & spirited Measure to secure themselves & their Friend from Fury & Rape. five Minutes Absence from so necessary a Duty might have been attended by the most fatal Consequences. but as soon as the Tumult was in some Degree appeared, Lord Halifax wrote his Majesty as full an Account of all that had passed, as it was possible to do

To

The King

in the State we then were, and in an House
necessarily in such Confusion.

His Majesty will see by Justice Welch's
Letter to Lord Sandwich the Intelligence
received this Day with Respect to the Intention
of another Tumult. We hope it will prove false
& by the Enquiries we have made we have
Reason to believe so. but his Majesty will
observe how fortunate ^{it was} that Justice Welch's
Intelligence of yesterday ^{was attended to} in Preference to
that of Sir John Fielding, who had given
his Grace assurance that he was in Safety
& that nothing would be attempted against him.

It is proper his Majesty should be informed
that we have received Intelligence from Justice
Conley of the City, that he apprehends no Tumult
till Tuesday next, when it is supposed his
Majesty means to go to the House of Lords
to prorogue the Parliament.

The note has been delayed some Time, till an
answer could be received from the House of Lords.