

John Roane Esq
20th Nov 1788

My Lord

I beg your Lordship's pardon for not keeping the appointment, which you did me the honor to make on Saturday, at my request. I was detained upon professional business, which, unexpectedly, kept me, till it was too late to have any hopes of seeing you.

I understand Mr Taylor had spoken to yr. Lordship about a bill, which it is intended to bring into parliament for reforming that ill subject of complaint, the police of Westminster: a sketch has been drawn out for that purpose, and it has been put into my hands by Mr Robert Taylor, Esq. Taylor that I may contribute my assistance, chiefly as a lawyer; to look into the existing law, and adapt the intended reform to the supposed defects. Mr Holt had been informed there was in yr. Lordship's office a bill that had been drawn for the same purpose, about a year or two ago; and which, it would be of great use to have a sight of, on the present occasion. I therefore, I would take the liberty of speaking to your Lordship upon it; and that was what, I should have troubled your Lordship upon, if I had been so fortunate as to see you on Saturday.

And, my Lord, in addition to this, I should have presumed to go a little further; and should have suggested, that, in a matter

Why it is not enough to have the support of government in the two houses; and the assistance likewise of opposition, which Mr. Taylor has the promise of, from persons whose concessions enable them to make promises of that sort; I should have ventured to say, that this was ^{not} enough, but that it ought to be adopted by government, and assented, both in front of doors, with every help they could furnish; and, after the declarations above alluded to, there seems to be little fear that, tho' a government-measure, it would meet with any opposition, or difficulty from party. Besides, it is a subject, that many people have long been turning their minds to, and there seems to be very little interest, or advantage to be gained, so far, as to prevent their throwing in what assistance they can towards a measure, which has no other object, but that we may live in peace & safety in our own houses.

I trust your Lordship will see how requisite it is, that the measure should be fully countenanced & adopted by government, as ~~an object~~ ^{an object} which they seriously mean to give effect to, and to execute.

Mr. Taylor, probably, will see your Lordship, before me, on this matter; I shall be in town next week, when I shall have the honor of calling, & hope I may be so happy as to see you.

I am, my Lord,

with great respect,

your Lordship's very humble servant,

John Keble

Windsor.

28. Sept. 1794.

REEVES (JOHN)

AUTOGRAPH LETTER
TO LORD SYDNEY.

2 pp. 4to.

My Lord,

I beg your Lordship's pardon for not keeping the appointment which you did me the honor to make on Saturday at my request. I was detained upon professional business, which unexpectedly kept me, till it was too late to have any hopes of seeing you.

I understand Mr. Taylor had spoken to yr. Lordship about a bill, which it is intended to bring into parliament for reforming that other subject of complaint, the police of Westminster: a sketch has been drawn out for that purpose and it has been put into my hands by Sr. Robert Taylor and Mr. Taylor that I may contribute my assistance chiefly as a lawyer, to look into the existing law, and adapt the intended reform to the supposed defects. Sr. Robert had been informed there was in yr Lordship's office a bill that had been drawn for the same purpose about a year or two ago; and which it would be of great use to have a sight of on the present occasion. I therefore said I would take the liberty of speaking to your Lordship upon it, and that was what I should have troubled your Lordship upon, if I had been so fortunatelas to see you on Saturday.

But, my Lord, in addition to this, I should have preferred to go a little further; and should have suggested

that in a matter like this it is not enough to have the support of government in the two houses, and the assistance likewise of opposition, which Mr. Taylor has the promise of, from persons whose connexions enable them to make promises of that sort; I should have ventured to say, that this was not enough, but that it ought to be adopted by government, and assisted, both in and out of doors, with every help they could furnish; and, after the declaring above alluded to, there seems to be little fear that, tho' a government measure, it would meet with any opposition, or difficulty from party. Besides, it is a subject that many people have long been turning their minds to, and there seems to be very little intercept or advantage to bias any so far, as to prevent their throwing in what assistance they can towards a measure, which has no other object, but that we may live in peace and safety in our own houses.

I trust your Lordship will see how requisite it is, that the measure should be thus countenanced and adopted by government, as a scheme which they seriously mean to give effect, and to execute.

Mr. Taylor, probably, will see your Lordship before me, on this matter, I shall be in town next week, when I shall have the honor of calling, and hope I may be so happy as to see you.

I am my Lord,

With great respect,

Your Lordship's very humble Servant
JOHN REEVES.

Windsor.
28 Sepr. 1784.