

**CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE
RIGHT HONBLE. WILLIAM PITT
AND CHARLES, DUKE OF
RUTLAND, LORD LIEUTENANT OF
IRELAND, 1781-1787**

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Correspondence between the Right Honble. William Pitt and Charles, duke of Rutland, lord lieutenant of Ireland, 1781-1787 by William Pitt & Charles Manners Rutland

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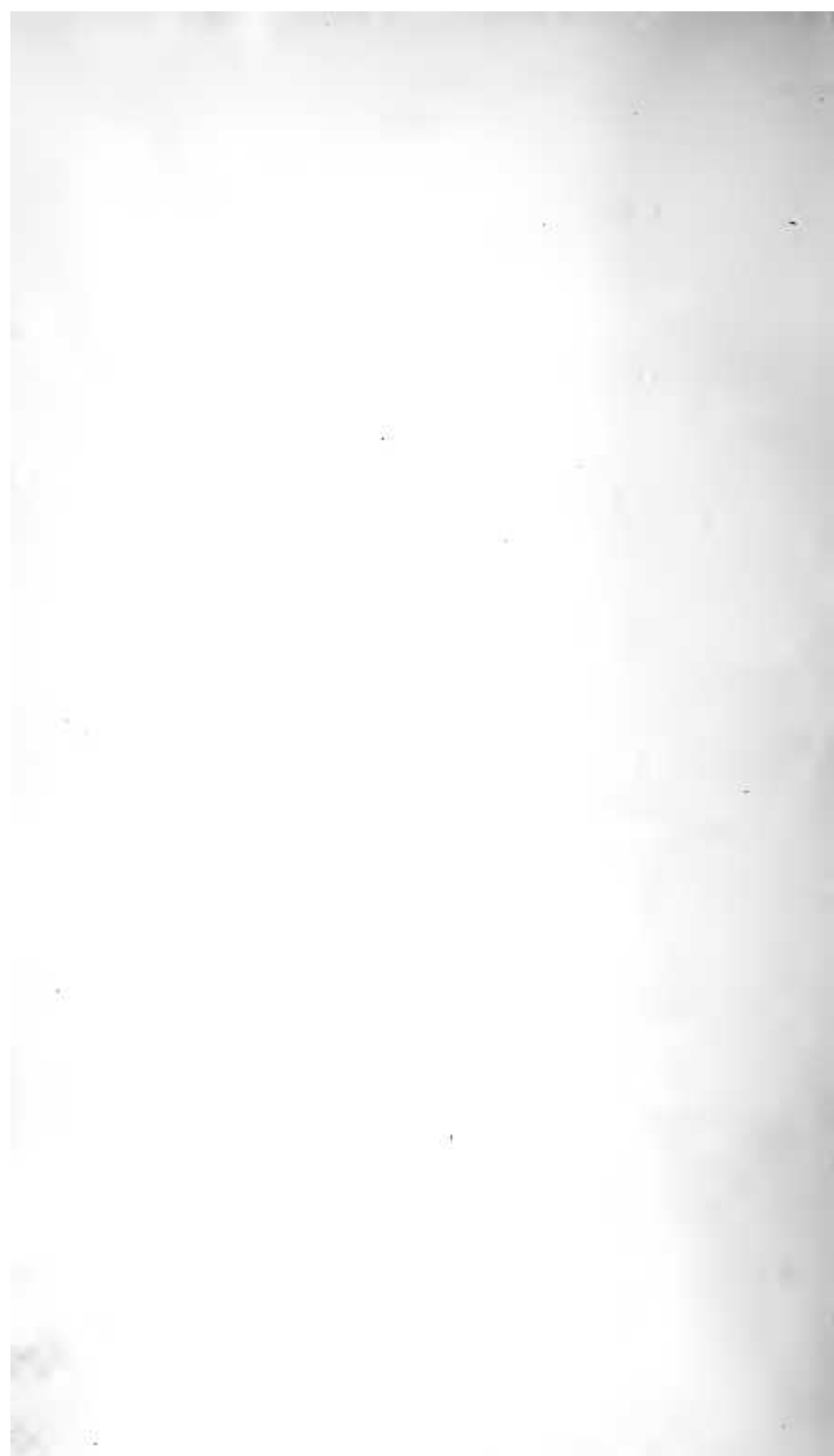
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1781—1787

WITH INTRODUCTORY NOTE

BY

JOHN DUKE OF RUTLAND

WILLIAM BLACKWOOD AND SONS

EDINBURGH AND LONDON

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INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

LIBRARY SETS

So much has been said and written during the discussions on Home Rule in praise of Grattan's Parliament, and in condemnation of Mr Pitt's conduct in abolishing it, that I have thought it right to give to the public the following correspondence between that statesman and my grandfather, the fourth Duke of Rutland.

DEC 16 1940

The letters of the latter throw a vivid light on the conduct of the Irish Parliament, and on the prejudicial effect the factious and self-seeking spirit of its members had on the fortunes of the country.

HARDING

Mr Montgomery Martin, indeed, nearly half a century ago, called attention to some of the more salient proofs of that misconduct; but his work is now not very accessible, and the story of Grattan's Parliament during these important years is best told in the confidential correspon-

dence between the Prime Minister and the Lord Lieutenant.

How early and how strongly the necessity of a Union had impressed itself on the mind of the latter may be seen in his letter of June 16, 1784, and it may well be that sixteen years afterwards the prophecy of his friend may have been recalled to Mr Pitt's recollection. The letters on the subject of the proposed Commercial Union between the two countries show the impartial spirit which animated both the writers, and the factious conduct of Mr Grattan and Mr Flood, which led to the abandonment of that great measure, on which Mr Pitt had bestowed so much care and industry; while those on the prosecution of the Commercial Treaty with France testify to Mr Pitt's minute care for the interests of Ireland.

I have only to add that the motive which induced Lord Stanhope forty-eight years ago to omit a name having by lapse of time ceased to operate, I have published it, and that the foot-notes, with one exception, are his.

RUTLAND.

Jan., 1830.

NOTE BY LORD MAHON

(*EARL STANHOPE*).

THE following correspondence between Mr Pitt and Charles fourth Duke of Rutland was preserved by the Duchess his widow, after his untimely decease in 1787, until her own in 1831, and was lately and unexpectedly found by the present Duke in arranging her Grace's papers.

The interest and importance of these letters, together with the wish and recommendation of several of his friends, have induced the Duke to permit their appearance in a printed form, and he has done me the honour of intrusting them for that purpose to my care and revision.

In the performance of this welcome task, I have selected every one of Mr Pitt's letters, and a considerable number of the Duke's, which throw great light on the state of parties in