

Memoir

The Chevalier Tynshitt having spoken, in a manner which I shall ever remember with feeling, of the highest acknowledgments, upon the interests of this country, as the Birth-place of his Sovereign (The Queen of England), and having reiterated to me the assurance, as flattering as it is sensibly felt by us, of the interest which The Prince Regent, from respect to his august Mother, has always digned to entertain towards the individuals of my Family who have the honour to be known to H. R. H. I have no hesitation in replying, with perfect frankness, to the following questions which he has had the kindness to put to me:

These questions are — "whether we should wish to place our Regiment of Muffars in the bay of the English, or whether we were resolved to raise a new Battalion of Chapeurs for that purpose?"

Upon this I had to observe that —

We have been the first to intreat and to excite the King of Prussia to declare himself for the good Cause, and, in the event of his doing so, to manifest the intentions which we should be ready to evince. It was with this view that the Duke my Father sent me to Berlin, in the month of January, charged with a letter to the King which explained the intentions

intentions which I have just mentioned as well as
the offer, and even the promise to raise, in the first
place, a Regiment of Cavalry in case His Majesty
would assist us in the undertaking, by giving to us
the Officers and under Officers necessary for its
formation; since we had not at that time any
Soldiers besides the miserable remnants of a
Battalion of Infantry which had returned from
Prussia and consequently not a Man capable of
carrying into effect the object we had in view; and
which appeared to us preferable even to the levy
of several Regiments of Infantry, on account of the
excellence of our Horses and the superiority which
the German Cavalry has always evinced over that
of the Enemy. The King of Prussia had not declared
himself at this time, but he declared himself in
the month of March, when I was, a second time,
sent to Berlin and when I had an opportunity
to convince myself that the King was right in not
declaring himself at an earlier period - for a thousand
reasons too long to detail in a Memoir which
exclusively refers to the interests of my own
Country - His Majesty acquiesced the most willingly
to the proposition which we had made to him and
to all the conditions proposed: He granted to us a
Colonel, and as many Officers and Under Officers as
were

were necessary - he added to this conception that of leaving to us the payment and the care of the greatest part of these Officers, simply during the War - he was even pleased to concur in the wish which the Regiment had manifested, to be commanded only by its own Prince, my Brother Charles, Chief of the Brigade to which this Regiment was instantly attached, and with which he has since had the good fortune to distinguish himself several times in a manner which the King, as well as the whole Army and the public have been pleased to acknowledge in a way which we can never forget.

The Chevalier Tresholtz felt that a Regiment so formed by the assistance and confidence of the King of Prussia, and then attached to his Army, by a Prince of the Blood which it desired to have for its Commander, and by reciprocal esteem, which in all human relations is the strongest tie, and from which such exploits have resulted - The Chevalier Tresholtz felt that a Regiment thus formed and then established, could not be withdrawn from the Prussian Army, without a breach of faith towards the King, without sensibly affecting its Commander, my Brother, who has always led them to glory, and without, at the same time,

Lefening

opening the zeal of a Regiment which had so well rewarded us for our complying with a wish which could not but speak in its favour.

It remains for me now only to explain myself with regard to the Battalion of Chapeurs.

Upon this subject I had the honour to answer:

We are conscious that we have done our utmost to fulfill our duty towards our Country, in raising our Regiment of Muffars. It is then natural, that the idea of raising a new Battalion of Chapeurs to be placed in the pay of the English could not have occurred to us but in the hope to find in it the means of assistance. From the enquiries we had made this hope became very strong, but it considerably diminished when we discussed the subject with Sir Charles Stewart. For all that, the Levy might still take place, because we have opened some negotiations on the subject; but in all cases it is clear, that if this affair was merely treated upon the principle once adopted relatively to the pay, the advantage which might result for us would be but very trifling.

This consideration induces me to ask whether, under the circumstances of the case, we might not hope that an exception might be made to the general rule in our favour? I confess
that

That not only the noble mind of the Prince Regent
 and the liberality of the British Government, but
 also his known justice, induce me to hope that the
 answer would not be a negative. By what I
 have said, concerning the impossibility of withdrawing
 our Regiment of Sappers from the Russian Army, it
 will be perceived that the Duke my Father has
 been the first of the Princes of Germany who has
 done his utmost to serve the good Cause; and, in
 order that it should be well supported, he was
 resolved to hazard every thing for it and has
 already proved the truth of his resolution, in
 taking every step which presented itself, at a
 moment when the hope of a favourable issue of
 the war was guaranteed by nothing, and because
 his conduct, during the different epochs to
 which this global conflict has already been
 subject, has always been the same. It may
 then be permitted to me to say that this respected
 Prince, my honoured Father, has given the example
 to all the Princes of Germany. He has besides
 a son (of whom his Brother may be permitted to
 speak without being accused of vanity) who has
 distinguished himself several times, in a manner the
 most brilliant. His personal valour at the
 Battle of Lutzen gained him the Order of the
 and the Russian Order of St. George. On the 23^d

of

of August, the military knowledge, the perseverance
as well as the intrepidity which he displayed, obtained
for him the Great Lion Cross - and again on the 3^d of
the present month his Brigade, which was the first
that passed the Rhine near the States, alone decided
the success of that day. You know the conduct of
our Regiment; if any doubt remained it would be
removed by the testimonies of the public Papers - You
know also that nearly all the Regiment is
composed of Volunteers - that all Clashes, the
Gentleman and the Peasant, serve in it together
without any regard to their rank and without
any wish to be distinguished but by their
respective personal Merit. You know also the
manner in which we have raised the pecuniary
means to levy this Regiment - Our Country
and our Finances equally exhausted by six
years of cruel misfortunes, when commerce, our
only resource, had been taken from us, and
when, at the same time, we sunk under the
weights of French Tyranny, a Country so
unfortunate could not have any Finances.
Yet Patriotism removed impossibilities - All
which was of any value, in Jewels, in Gold, or in
Silver, was offered on the Altar of the Country.
It was also my Father who gave this example
by sending first his Plate to the Mint.
If it is then admitted that he, as well

as

as his Country have done so much, and more than could be possibly expected, may I not flatter myself that we may be considered worthy of an exception, in our favour, to the general rule? The equity of the British Government induces me to flatter myself that the answer will be "Yes". In this happy event I should be bold enough to express our wishes without hesitation, for, far from pretending to unusual advantages, we should ask only to receive the pay according to the system adopted by the great Powers. Prussia, Austria, Russia, receive subsidies and they have been received at all times; yet England never requested that even one of the Companies, composing the Forces of those Powers, should be placed at her own disposition, or that an English General should command it.

England was and is still satisfied and pleased in seeing that the cause, the defence of which appears to her so just and so advantageous, is well supported, without enquiring how and by whom the support is afforded - and surely this principle is equally wise and liberal - Therefore if England consent to adopt it also in our behalf, and to help us to meet the expenses which our Regiment of Huzars did and will occasion, without requiring that we should withdraw it from the Prussian Army

Army England, far from losing, will gain by it
 because the Regiment will serve with more zeal
 as long as it serves, where it wishes to do its duty;
 The Country, as well as my Father, will be secured
 against a destruction which already hangs over us;
 and we shall accept this advantage without
 blush because a Private Prince cannot be
 accused of an act below his dignity in a case
 where he merely receives what Kings and Emperors
 intreat and obtain

George, Prince héréditaire
 de Mecklenburg Strelitz
 Strelitz 18 October 1813.

Translation
 Honor of G. H. H. H. H.
 Secretary of Mecklenburg
 Strelitz - 18 October 1813.