

Enclosure

- Extract -

His Royal Highness The  
Duke of York & His R.

Highness The Duke of  
Cambridge - dated Stable  
Yard 14<sup>th</sup> April 1816

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Extract of a letter from His Royal Highness  
The Duke of York to His Royal Highness  
The Duke of Cambridge, dated Stable Yard  
14<sup>th</sup> April 1816

"The Prince sent for me and showed me your letter, on  
the subject of General Decker, to General Munster.

"I need not I trust assure you, Dear Adolphus, that  
I have given this subject the most deliberate and impartial  
consideration that in the opinion which, according to  
your wish, I am to give <sup>you</sup> upon it. I am actuated by no  
other motive than an anxious care for your Honor and  
Credit, and that I would not for the world recommend  
any line of Conduct to you which I would not hold myself  
if I was in your situation.

"I am, as I told you in a former letter, fully aware  
of General Decker's Zeal and Talents, as well as of the oblige-  
ments under which you consider yourself to him, for the  
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able assistance which he has given you at all times, and particularly in the arrangement of the King's German Legion, and latterly in the organization of the new Hanoverian Army, and therefore how anxious you must be, not to lose the advantage of his Services - but unpleasant as this certainly would be to you, yet let me conjure you, for God's sake, to consider well what a reflection you would throw upon your own Character, if you resigned the very important Situation which you at present hold at Hanover on such an account - Would not the whole World say, and with every appearance of reason, that you felt yourself inadequate to the Situation? that you were perfectly under General Decker's Government and unable to act without him - Have too high an opinion of General Decker's good sense, as well as of his regard for you

sure  
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and  
you, not to be convinced that he would be of any  
opinion, and that if no arrangement can be made to  
insure to you the continuance of his services, and that  
he feels himself under the necessity of retiring, he will be  
the first to implore of you to give up all thoughts of aban-  
doning the important charge which you have undertaken,  
and to which the personal attachment shewn to you upon  
all occasions by the Hannoverian Nation, has added an  
additional tie.

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"In regard to General Daken himself, My Dear Adolphus,  
though I give him every credit as I said before, for his zeal  
and Talents - yet I should not act fairly, or ingenuously,  
by you, if I concealed from you, that his Merits are not  
viewed with the same eye by every body - that he has  
created many enemies, both Military and Civil, which his  
unfortunate manner has not tended to diminish. -

"Under

"Under these circumstances, The Prince Regent finds  
himself in a most awkward and unpleasant predicament  
for while he is, believe me, most anxious to meet your  
wishes, in every respect in his power, - yet he feels the  
very great outcry which it would create in Hannover, if he  
was to bring back General Decker into the Hanoverian Army  
for so yet I understand that he is not replaced in it,  
according to the British Commission - thereby placing him  
above some of the very best of the Hanoverian Officers -  
such as Count Alten &c. under whom he formerly served,  
and who have so eminently distinguished themselves  
in the field during the late Campaigns. -

"General Decker may urge that it is derogatory to  
his Honor to serve under those Officers who have been  
serving under him in the British Service; but he may be

fairly

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fairly answered, that as those Officers who were his  
Seniors in the Hanoverian Service felt no difficulty in  
serving under him in the British Army, as he entered  
our Service prior to them - so upon his returning into the  
Hanoverian Army, there is no dishonour attachable to  
him for being commanded by those whose Commissions  
are prior to his. -

"I have now given you, Dear Adolphus, my  
fair and undisguised Opinion, which whether after  
consideration it meets your ideas or not, at least  
you will I am sure do me the justice to believe is an  
honest one, and, if in your Situation, that I should  
follow myself exactly the course which I now recom-  
mend to you. -

"I have not yet learnt exactly what the Prince  
has decided upon concerning your proposals about General  
Sicken

Decker; but as soon as I do you shall hear from  
me again!"