

Duke of Northumberland to Col. Hekahon

40882-3

Alnwick Castle 26th Dec^r. 1806

Very thanks to you, by dear Colonel, for
your two letters of the 16th & 22nd Dec^r. I am sure
you by sincere thanks for your endeavours to promote
Dishes respecting Lord Strongford, as H: K: H: was so
gracious as to apply to Mr. Fox about him, & after Mr.
Fox's repeated declaration to you, I never thought it necessary
& therefore never applied to Lord Grenville about him; I
therefore strongly recommended him to Lord Howick, who pro-
mised in a vague way to provide for his Lordship at a proper
opportunity, just as often in the General's, he promised to provide
of the Death Surgeon on the Naval Establishment, & who
with all his family are his Conspirators in this Country, but
unfortunately the opportunity that offered was probably not a
proper one, for the poor has never yet anything. Your
connection with Grenville will do as well, tho' as you

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March 26th 1801

perceive Lord Grenville certainly is perfectly clear of any
 irregular relation to Lord Macclesfield, as I never applied
 to his Lordship about her; and indeed I must say I have
 always found Lord Grenville more attentive to my wishes, than
 his Colleagues of the late Fox Party,

I feel myself indebted as I ought to be to the Advice
 for the kind intermissions with respect to me, which you
 mention in confidence in your last letter, I trust, that
 Lord Grenville take H: K: H: Advice that they will
 not find themselves the worse for the Advice I should
 give them. After upwards of 49 years service & 3 Wars
 I must be stupid indeed, if I was ignorant of military
 Affairs. I have been in correspondence with the first Officers
 on the Continent, & frequently consulted by them - but you
 know a Douglas has no distinction in his own Country,

Duke of Northumberland to Col. Beckford

40883

I flatter myself I shall now have the pleasure of seeing
you in a few days, as I purpose leaving this place on
Wednesday next. I need therefore desire you to suspend
your correspondence, as I shall not receive any letters
written after you this reaches your hand.

I beg you will say every thing proper for me to Mr. Pitt's
& accept yourself the best wishes of

My Dear Colonel

your ever faithful friend

Northumberland

50888

John of Northumberland
26. Decr. 1596.

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]