

H. M. 646, North

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Windsor Dec. 26th 1791.

On P. M. A. M.

On Sunday Evening I received from Ad. George Germain an Application in the name of the Cabinet, that another Commander in Chief be appointed for North America, to which I returned the following answer.

"The Appointing a Commander in Chief in North America is a measure of a complicated nature and requires thorough consideration before I can form any opinion enough digested to be able to state any thoughts to Ad. G. Germain; He may rest assured that it shall be uppermost in my thoughts and that I shall not allow any unnecessary delay to arise in the determination of a point which must precede the other necessary steps for conducting the War in that part of the Globe."

I having spoke twice fully on the subject to Ad. North, and having nothing new arises in my mind on it; I chose to let a few days elapse before I desired Ad. North's final Opinion on this subject. I shall therefore be very short on this Occasion; and doubt not but if Guy Carleton can be persuaded to go to America he is every way the best suited for the service, he and Ad. G. Germain are incompatible; Ad. George is certainly not unwilling to retire if he gets his Object which is a Peace; no one can then say he is disgraced, and when his retreat is accompanied with the Appointment of his Guy Carleton, the cause of it will naturally appear without its being possible to be laid with any reason to a charge of my sentiments on the great Essential point, namely the getting a Peace at the expense of a Repetition from America, which is a step to which no difficulties shall ever get me to be in the smallest degree an Instrument.

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If Mr. North agrees with Me that on the whole it is best to gratify the wishes of Mr. G. Larnain and let Him retire, that no time may be lost, I desire He will immediately sound Mr. Denkinson as to His succeeding Him; for I must be ready with a successor before I move a single step.

Had Mr. North thought the American Secretary might see Mr. Stormont could with great conduct the correspondence with all the European Courts, Mr. Hillsborough's assistance of the Southern Courts take the American business in addition to his ~~remaining~~^{remaining} branches.