

1774-1843

Leipzig. 20 Aug. 1827.

My Dear Sir

I am very much obliged to you for procuring me with General Wolfer Orders. The book reached me on Sunday; & had Mr de Touche remained a few days longer, it should have been returned by him. When I have done with it, it shall be carefully laid up, till an opportunity offers for safely returning it.

I thank you also for referring me to the "Principles of War" - it happens to be one of the books which I have collected as material for my narrative of the Peninsular War.

General Wolfer's letters will probably disappoint most readers - certainly all those who look merely for amusement in what they read. But there is nothing either in them, or in any part of his life, which can in the slightest degree disparage him. On the contrary he always appears as a most honourable man, always acting upon the best principles, & always up to them.

He was at the battle of Dettingen, & in those disgraceful campaigns when Marshal Saxe commanded the French armies in Flanders, & the

military character of the English, was at its lowest point. - from which  
he more than any other man of his age contributed to raise it. I am  
told that he had great merit as a disciplinarian, at a time when discipline  
was miserably relaxed: on this account I should myself very willingly  
in obtaining his Orders.

The La Fouches departed this day (Monday) - they kept their  
intention secret when they left us last night. The eldest of this family  
was then spared from some pain, - & the younger from many tears.  
Bertha went half way up Skiddaw this morning with Albert & me,  
to gather some club-moss for Mrs La Fouché, - ~~was~~ disappointed  
in finding on her return that it was too late, - but well pleased at  
having fulfilled as far as we barely expected, her intention & promise.  
This removal is a great loss to us; - we had become truly well-  
-bored, & it is hardly in the chapter of accidents that this place  
should be supplied by any persons with whom we should become half  
so familiar, or ever so much attached.

With kindest regards to Mrs Procter, in which Mrs P. &  
my daughter unite, believe me Dear Sir  
very Respectfully & sincerely yours,

Robert Southey.