

The
WATERLOO
Archive

VOLUME II: GERMAN SOURCES



Edited by Gareth Glover

Foreword by Nikolaus Prince Blücher von Wahlstatt

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The Waterloo Archive Volume II: The German Sources presents a clear insight into the very significant role German troops played in Wellington's great victory. German troops actually formed the majority of Wellington's forces present at the Battle of Waterloo including those of Nassau, Brunswick, Hanover and the British King's German Legion – and they have left a large number of first-hand accounts of their role in the Battle of Waterloo, in their native tongue.

The actions of the King's German Legion, which was an integral part of the British Army and partly officered by British soldiers, has been published in English, but to a very limited degree: Herbert Siborne published two letters written to his father; Ompteda and Wheatley have had their memoirs published; and of course Ludlow Beamish in his History of the King's German Legion included a small number of letters, including the often misquoted account of the defence of La Hay Sainte by Major Baring. This forms a tiny proportion of the German material actually available in their native language. Therefore it is not surprising that early British histories of the battle have largely sidelined the achievements of the German troops, and this has been regurgitated by most that have followed. The Waterloo Archive Volume II: The German Sources presents over sixty first-hand reports and letters fully translated into English for the first time.

Gareth Glover is a former navy officer who lives in Cardiff. He has studied the Napoleonic wars for more than thirty years and gained a reputation as the foremost authority on British archive material. He has brought more than twenty previously unpublished Napoleonic memoirs into the public domain.

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