Portsmouth 26th April 1804

My Lord

We feel no small degree of consolation that your Lordship agree with is in opinion that the peculiar situation of Volunteers in Garrison Towns “form an unpleasant circumstance to them.”

We knew no inconvenience, no interference during the whole of the last War, from an exercise of Power in the Governor, or Lieutenant Governor; but we cannot in the present, dissemble our fears, that we are not to be like the other Volunteers of the Country, under your Lordship’s protection, and those fears, arising from our having experienced much unmerited hostility from General Whitelocke, prevail so much on our minds, as to induce us on mature reflection, to choose of the evils, and difficulties, that surround us the least, which in our humble judgement appears to be, resignation, permit us my Lord, respectfully to request you to receive the resignation of our Commissions. We cannot forbear entreating your Lordship, to accept our sincere, and grateful thanks, for your invariably kind, friendly, and condescending behaviour towards us, throughout this unpleasant business, and to receive unfeigned assurance of Personal respect and esteem, with which we have the honor to remain,

My Lord, your Lordship’s

Most obedient and humbler servants

G. Garrett

I. C. Mottley

M. Greetham

J. A. Hickley

Right Honorable Lord Bolton