Portsmouth 12 November 1803

My Lord

Captain Deacon having acted with the Volunteers of the Victualing Office in consequence of your Lordship’s original recommendation of him, I trust that the letter you expect from Mr Yorke on the subject of His Pay will serve as a confirmation of what was held out to him. Your Lordship will recollect that he Ranks as a Major in the Army and should being employed as he is, either receive the full Pay of that Rank or the same Pay and Allowances as a Master and Commander employed in the Sea Fencibles. The delay in this business has been distressing to me knowing what answer to give Captain Deacon when he has spoken to me about it.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland upon his arrival here was too sanguine in his expectation that the Volunteers would engage for permanent Duty, and beyond setting H.R Highness right in this point, I do not recollect to have said anything discouraging. The Portsmouth and Portsea People have handsomely consented to furnish 120 men with Officers weekly for the Duty of the Garrison and with the exception of one or two troublesome people are in all respects zealous as I would wish. Will your Lordship be so good to tell me if there will be any difficult for the sake of example in getting rid of a troublesome Attorney in the shape of an Officer, I fear it will be necessary.

I am my Lord

With great respect

Your very faithful

John Whitelocke, Major General

Right Honorable Lord Bolton