Portsmouth 6 December 1803

My Lord

I understand that three Majors of the Line are to be appointed to Portsmouth and its Dependencies but I imagine the manner in which your Lordships Paper copied the account of Major Maxwell’s appointment from the Gazette must have been erroneous, as the Volunteers here (tho’ sufficiently zealous) have never been on permanent Duty nor have they expressed a wish to be so employed.

I am My Lord

With great respect

Your faithful obedient servant

John Whitelocke, Major General

The Right Honorable Lord Bolton