Hackwood Park

21 October 1803

Private

Dear Sir,

I have waited for the receipt of a letter from General Hewett, who, I find has arrived in the Isle of Wight to resume the command there and to whom I therefore wrote upon the subject of your confidential communication respecting Volunteers. No answer to it has yet reached me, and I therefore must yet request your permission to postpone any addition to what I have already (hastily indeed) offered as my sentiments or rather doubts. I find by a few lines from General Whitelocke that he entertains the same ideas with me about Portsmouth itself and even hesitates in his expectation of aid in the way proposed from the neighbouring Corps or Companies at this moment. I shall however with very great readiness take whatever steps you may think proper.

Our next adjourned meeting of Lieutenancy will be held on Monday next at Winchester before which I may perhaps receive some instruction or suggestion from your upon that or any other subject.

I propose to go up to London for a day or two on Tuesday evening or Wednesday morning and shall of course seek to pay my personal respects to you.

I mentioned some observations made at our last meeting about the Foreign Depot at Lymington. The uneasiness created by it upon occasion of some really awkward circumstances. I have since received enclosed resolution which I now, this quickly, transmit to you.

I have the honor to be

With very sincere respect and regard

My dear sir

Your faithful humble servant

Bolton

Right Honourable Charles Yorke