Carisbrook Castle

15 July 1803

My Lord,

I have the honor to communicate to your Lordship with much satisfaction some offers, which have been lately made to me for augmenting to establishing Volunteers Corps of Cavalry and Infantry in the County of Southampton, and which I request your Lordship to submit to the King for His Majesty’s Gracious acceptance and approbation – viz

That the Honorable H. Hood Lieutenant Colonel commanding the Hambledon Yeomanry Cavalry be permitted to add two Troops to those, which at present form his Establishment.

That Major Lord Stawell commading the Alton and Petersfield Yeomary Cavalry may be permitted, should it be found satisfactorily practicable, to add two troops to that Establishment.

That the Corps of Yeomanry Cavalry commanded by Major Lefevre may be augmented, if satisfactorily practicable, to four troops.

All under the proposed regulations for service, etc.

Lieutenant Colonel Walcot, who commanded a Corps consisting of four companies of Volunteer Infantry (embodied as artillery) during the last War, and which Lieutenant General Stewart commended in the highest terms, offers to re-establish his Corps upon their former footing subject to the conditions of the late regulations.

Major Mr Steward Rose, who commanded an excellent Corps of Riflemen in the New Forest proposes to re-establish them and to consist, each Company of 80 rank and file under himself as Major Commandant, but with a wish also to be considered as attached to the Battalion of Yeomanry Cavalry commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Henry Rose.

I beg leave to recommend these several propositions and offers and I request to be informed, if it will necessary to apply for new Commissions for such officers who are proposed to hold the same rank and situation in the Corps, which they held before the disembodying.

I have the honor to be

My Lord, your Lordships

Most obedient humble servant

Bolton

P.S.

I have omitted to mention that I have been at Portsmouth and in consequence of confidential communication with Major General Whitelocke I shall beg leave to solicit permission to accept a Corps of from two to three hundred men, who may be enrolled as artillery, and to do duty, when called upon, in the Garrison at Portsmouth to be considered on that account as a District. I am also taught to think that a Battalion of Volunteer Infantry, occasionally to act also under the command of the Governor or Lieutenant General of Portsmouth in aid of the Garrison may be acceptable under proper officers, whom in that case I would seek to recommend for His Majesty's approbation.

I have already mentioned heretofore the three corps at Gosport, which your Lordship encouraged me to bring forward. I shall endeavour to form an arrangement, by which they may be induced to act together in aid of that Garrison and under a proper Commandant.

I go to Winchester on Monday for 4 or 5 days and I request your Lordship to order any letters to be directed to that place.