Guildhall Portsmouth

14 July 1803

My Lord

In the year 1798 with the approbation of the Right Honorable Mr Dundas, the Inhabitants of this Borough not employed in the service of Government were enrolled and learnt the use of the Great Guns and small arms to the number of more than five hundred independent of the several Volunteers Corps, for the Defence of the Garrison.

Under the present situation of the Country at a meeting of the Magistrates held this day it has been considered advisable to adpot the same mode should it therefore meet your Lordship’s approbation it is proposed to call an early meeting of the Inhabitants in order to render such Force the more effective and to adopt such other steps as may be considered the most effectual for the Defence of the Garrison at the present period.

I am my Lord

Yours Lordship most obedient humble servant

S. Gaselee, Mayor

The Right Honorable Lord Pelhm