Hackwood Park

1 March 1804

Sir

I am this day honored with the receipt of your letter of the 28th Ulto in which you express approbation of the plan recommended for Field Officers of the Line at Portsmouth, Portsea and Gosport with confirmation of Major Carter’s appointment and allowances of pay, etc. but with reservation of doubt about the permanent pay for the other officers, who are still to be recommended. I must beg leave to represent the seeming impossibility of making a difference, which would put me in a predicament the most awkward because it would then appear, that Major Carter succeeded by mistake without the knowledge of the Lord Lieutenant and that his regular recommendation was defeated. I cannot therefore suppose, that if one is allowed a permanent pay, the others must not have it. I am indeed still of a loss whom to propose, and I must beg leave to request to be certainly informed of the decision respecting pay before I can make any recommendation.

In respect to the Adjutants I have to remind you that I mentioned the circumstances of Mr Martin White having been appointed assistant adjutant at General Whitelocke’s desire. He has never served in the Line, but was a Captain of Volunteers in the last war, and has been most assidious and useful, as I am assured, in every respect from the commencement of the present hostilities and formation of Volunteer Corps. I should really therefore hope, that from the particular circumstances and the strong representation of the General in his favor, he may be confirmed in the appointment.

Sergeant Major Wilson, recommended as Adjutant to the Portsea is stated to have been Sergeant Major of the 1st Garrision Battalion and to have served 16 years in the 27th Regiment. But I have written again upon the subject to Portsmouth and hope to enable to give a more prefect return on these points.

I am sorry to be obliged to inform you, that Captain Lindgreen commanding two companies of Volunteer Infantry at Portsdown has been obliged by ill health to offer his resignation and in consequence of that circumstance and others connected with it the whole corps is so much reduced that I am obliged to request that it may now be considered as only one Companay whose establishment may be \_ 1 Captain \_ 1 Lieutenant \_ 1 Ensign \_ 3 sergeants \_ 2 drummers and 75 Ranks and File. And I beg leave to recommend Thomas H. Hale Esquire to be Captain of it. From the vincinity to Portsea this Company will be useful in augmenting in case of alarm the force of the Garrision.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient humble servant

Bolton