Horse Guards

11 February 1804

Confidential

Sir

Referring to your letter of 3rd instant, marked confidential, I have now the honor to transmit to you, for Mr Secretary Yorke's information, a letter which has been received from the Adjutant General on this subject, by which it appears that the measure to which you allude in your letter was adopted with the knowledge and concurrence of Mr Secretary Yorke, in consequences of which Officers of the Line of abilities and experience were selected for the purpose of being placed at the head of the Volunteers of Portsmouth, Portsea and Gosports, nor can His Royal Highness perceive that there has been any mistake in the arrangement which has been made.

I have the Honor to be Sir

Your most obedient

Humble ervant

W[illiam] H[enry] Clinton

P.S. The papers enclosed in your letter being in original are herewith returned.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed:

[Harry Calvert to Colonel Clinton 10 February 1804]

Horse Guards

10 February 1804

My Dear Sir

In compliance with your request I beg to state to you for the Commander in Chief’s Information, that the Recommendation for Field Officers to be attached to Volunteer companies belonging to Portsmouth and its dependencies, was made in consequence of Mr Secretary's Yorke's concurrence with His Royal Highness as to the expediency of the measure expressed in Mr Pole Carew's letter of the 15 November, of which I enclose a Copy. I likewise enclose for your information, copies of letters from Lieutenant General His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland and from Major General Whitelocke, which gave rise to these appointments, and which were by His Royal Highness's direction, submitted to Mr Yorke's consideration, previous to the appointments being laid before His Majesty.

I have the honor to be

My Dear Sir

Your very obedient

Faithful servant

Harry Calvert

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed

[R. Pole Carew to the Adjutant General, 15 November 1803]

Copy

Whitehall 15 November 1803

Sir,

I am directed by Mr Yorke to return to you the letter of His Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland enclosing that of General Whitelocke, and to acquaint you for the Information of His Royal Highness The Commander in Chief, that Mr Yorke entirely concurs in the propriety and expediency of appointing a Field Officer and Adjutant to each of the three Bodies of Volunteer Infantry at Portsmouth, Portsea and Gosport, and I am further directed to transmit for the information of His Royal Highness Copy of a Circular Letter respecting among other things the appointment of Adjutants and Sergeant Majors to Corps of Volunteers.

I am,

Sir, etc, etc, etc

(signed) R. Pole Carew

The Adjutant General

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed

[Ernest, Duke of Cumberland, 7 November 1803]

Copy

Headquarters, Winchester

7 November 1803

Sir,

I enclose for the Information of His Royal Highness the Commander in Chief, a copy of a letter I have received from Major General Whitelocke.

That part of it which states the necessity of appointing a Field Officer and Adjutant from the Line perfectly agrees with my own ideas, as I conceive it indispensably requisite, both with a view to make the Volunteer Force actually and effectively serviceable, as well as to prevent the little feuds and animosities, which are constantly existing in these corps, for want of such authority.

(signed) Ernest

Lieutenant General Commanding

The South West District

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed

[General Whitelocke, 5 November 1803]

Copy

Portsmouth 5 November 1804

Sir

Your Royal Highness having seen the Garrison of Portsmouth and its Dependencies, I beg to submit to your Consideration, whether His Majesty's Service would not benefit by the appointment of a junior General Officer at this particular Period, now that the Regular and Militia Force is considerable, as well as the Body of Volunteers.

I am anxious however that your Royal Highness should be made aware that I do not make this Proposition with any view to save myself, which I trust cannot be considered probable, when it is well understood that I really have no pursuit whatever, beyond the Duties of my Profession, and consequently the more I am employed in it, the more I am gratified, but in these Times, it strikes me that a Militia Brigade really requires more minute attention that the various Duties in which I am daily engaged, will allow me to set apart from it.

I have further to state to your Royal Highness, that there are present Ten Companies of Volunteer Infantry at Portsmouth, nine Companies at Portsea, and six at Gosport.

It has not been thought advisable to name Field Officers to them from their own Body, and I therefore beg to suggest that at least one Field Officer of the Line should be named to each of these Bodies, with an Adjutant also to each, there being at present only one for all the Companies. I think when placed on this Footing, great Good may be expected from the Volunteers in the event of Danger.

The several Companies of Volunteer Artillery receive sufficient Inspection from the Officers of the Royal Artillery stationed in the Garrison.

I am with the highest respect and

Consideration, your Royal Highness’

Most devoted and obedient

Humble servant

(signed) John Whitelocke

Major General