Appendix.

Volume 2.nd

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A. — 1.

Memorandum — Horse Guards
29th June 1803

Proposed Establishment of the Troops for the different Districts in South Britain.

General Statement of the present Force in the Southern District.

	R and File
Cavalry	2788
Regular Infantry	7869
Militia	9430
Total on the 27th Inst	20087

R. 4 Feb

At present in the District ——— 20087

Proposed Reinforcements for the Southern District.

The 1st Drags from Dorchester – *The 9th and 28th Infantry from Plymouth – The Monm: & Brecon Carmarthen & Glamorgan from Winchester – and the E London from London to join it – their numbers together amounting to –	3 225
The Supplementary Proportions expected to join the Regts of Militia already in the District, as well as those to join the Regts appointed herein for its reinforcement, — will (together) amount to –	7 999
The numbers of their original Establishments which the above Militia Regts were deficient in by last Returns and which are expected to join them ——— amount to	4 931
The proportions of the Reserve Army intended for this District and ordered to assemble at Epsom and Winchester will amount to —	7 054
By which arrangement the Force allotted for the Defence of the District will (if completed) amount to –	43 296

To be immediately depended upon.

This part of the reinforcement cannot be relied upon as a certainty within any specified time.

* These not to be withdrawn from Plymouth without absolute necessity.

*. The 26th Foot included but not yet arrived from Scotland.

Eastern District.

	R & File
Cavalry	1674
# Regular Infantry	3801
Militia	8762
Total on the 27th Instant	14 437

Reinforcement.

Proportion to be immediately depended on: The East York, 1st & 3d W York from the Yorks. District – and the N York from the Northern District to join it – amounting together to –	2 713
Not to be relied on within any specified time: Supplementary Proportions expected by those Regts as well as by those already in the District – amounting (together) to —	6 784
Their deficiencies by last Return amount to	2 711
The proportions of the Reserve to assemble for its defence at Cambridge, Northampton and Newark, amount to	8 029
Which will make up a Force for the Eastern District (when completed) of —	34 674
From which must be deducted a Regt of Heavy Dragns to be withdrawn, and Detachments left by the Militia Regts to receive their Supplementaries – amounting altogether to	633
After which Deduction the Eastern Dist will have a Force of	34 041

#. The 26th Foot included but not yet arrived from Scotland.

Western District

	R & File
Cavalry	298
Regular Infantry (2d Gar Bat)	415
Militia Regts — viz The N.S. & E Devons, Cornish, 1st & 2d Somerset) amounting together to	3329
Cornish Miners (Falmouth)	163
Total of its present Force	4205

Effectives at Plymouth

7 Troops of the 1st Drag Gds to be at Exeter, Totnes, Modbury, Truro, Launceston and Bradford

NB. Altho the 9th and 28th Foot are not taken into account in this Disposition, it is nevertheless intended they should remain at Plymouth until their Services become absolutely necessary in the Southern District

Reinforcement.

Supplementary proportions expected	1940
Defeciencies of Establishts by last Return	580
Proportion of Reserve to assemble at Exeter	3509
When complete it will have	10 234
The Garrison of Bristol (consisting of the Bedford, Huntingdon and Rutland Regts) amounts to	474
Its Supplementaries & defeciencies to	385
The Western District will therefore stand at	11093

* Since the time of this Disposition the City of Bristol has been restored to the Western District.

Towards carrying the present General Disposition into effect - Transports for 1500 Men should be kept in readiness at Plymouth -

44464

South west District.

	R & File
Cavalry (3 Tr. Dorchester & Weymouth)	129
Effective for Portsmouth. Regular Infantry (1st Gar Bat)	523
Militia Regts viz. Hereford, Worcester North and South Gloster amounting to	2050
	2702
Isle of Wight Regular Infantry	1636
Isle of Wight & Wilts Militia	821
Total of its present Force	5159
Supplementary & deficient Men expected to join the District	569
Proportion of Reserve to assemble at Winchester	2199
The District when completed will have	9563

London District.

Cavalry	2113
Regular Infty — viz 3 Battns of Guards and 7th Gar Battalion	2780
Militia Regts viz West London 1st & 2d Tower Hamlets and *Stafford amounting to	2135
Total present Strength	7028
Supplementary & wanting to complete	2286
The proportion of the Reserve	2500
Total Force when complete	11814

* Windsor

Inland Districts

Cavalry	434
Portion of the Army of Reserve not accounted for in the Eastern District	2680
Total Force when complete	3113

North west District

Cavalry	280

Yorkshire District.

Cavalry	268
Militia viz the 2d W York Cumberland and Durham Regts at Hull amounting to	1738
Their Supplementaries & deficiencies	1227
The proportion of Reserve to assemble at York	2928
Total Force when complete	6161

Northern District

Cavalry	304
Militia viz - Northumberland Anglesea and Westmorland - amounting to	782
Their Supplementaries and Deficiencies	745
Proportion of Reserve Army to assemble at Durham	1499
Total Force (when complete)	3330

Severn District.

Proportion of the Reserve Army to assemble at Worcester	2467

N.B. The Force as yet assembled in Scotland or likely to be so cannot be called upon to detach for the next two Months for which time alone this disposition has been made.

Recapitulation.

	R & File
Southern District	43 296
Eastern	34 041
Western	11 093
Southwest	9 563
London	11 813
Inland	3 113
Northwest	280
Yorkshire	6161
Northern	3330
Severn	2467
General Total (when complete)	125 158.

A. — 2

The
Right Honble
Lord Hobart
&c &c &c

Secret.

Horse Guards
30th June 1803.

My Lord

When I consider that the extensive preparations now in agi„ tation cannot be calculated as efficient in the Scale of Defence for the next two Months — and judging from the publicity which attends every measure in this Country that the Enemy must be aware of this circumstance — I am led to ex„ pect that he will strain every exertion to make his attack during that period.

The emminent danger of a Country whose resources are not yet produced arises from some one of its vital Parts being within reach of the Enemy.

A principle which applies peculiarly to London, whether in regard to its national importance or relative situation in respect to France.

Plymouth though of infinitely less importance, in some degree comes under this description.

Portsmouth the other great Naval Arsenal is so connected with the

the Southern District, as to derive security and support from theme, should it become the immediate object of the Enemy.

Without depreciating the evils which might arise from the attack of an Enemy upon many other Points, I not only must con-sider them, under existing circum-stances, as objects of minor impor-tance, but likely to produce no per-manent advantage to an Enemy –

Under the impression of these ideas, I should feel that I was wanting to the trust which

His Majesty has reposed in me – did I not propose to Your Lordship – that with the exception of Plymouth, the greater portion of Troops in the distant parts of England, should be immediately collected in the Eastern and Southern Districts – to frustrate any attempt which may be made upon the Capital, before the full measure of intended preparation is effected –

Altho I expect the interval will be short during which the distant Parts are weakened, (the Stations for Assembly of the Army of Reserve, being generally distributed through

every

every part of the Country -) Yet I wish the principle of a more pressing danger upon which these Movements are made to be distinctly stated as an answer to any representations which may here after arise out of local apprehension.

During this Period I should propose to Your Lordship that the Volunteers in the large Towns, and Yeomanry in the Country should be called upon to take whatever Duty the Police may require, and that all should be in readiness to come forth to preserve the public tranquillity -

Feeling however that this

most essential object should receive every support which the situation of the Army will admit of – I propose to detach a Regiment of Heavy Cavalry from the Eastern District – to be stationed in the Manufactoring and Populous Towns in the center and the North of England –

The encreasing strength of the original and supplementary Militia, and the uncertainty as to the delay which may arise in filling up the numbers deficient in both – makes it impossible for me to present your Lordship, with any Result of the Measures I intend

to

to propose which may not prove liable to error in the minutia of detail — It is still more difficult by a prospective view to ascertain the additional strength which may at intermediate times be obtained from the Army of Reserve — Previous to the whole being embodied and having acquired the first rudiments of Discipline —

In regard to the Militia therefore I have assumed as a Basis of calculation the existing numbers by the last Returns — To these are progressively to be added, the deficiency in the original Militia; the Supplementary Militia, upon which collectively I have allowed for a

supposed defalcation – and in regard to the Army of Reserve I only notice those first great Stations of Assem-bly within or intimately connected with the Eastern Southern and Western Districts –

Begging however Your Lord-ships to recollect that the Force named under the head of deficiency in the Militia and the Reserve Army is a Force to be produced, and not yet effective in the Field –

Beyond this it is material to show what the State of the Districts will remain from which the Troops have been

been withdrawn.

Under this Head I am however to observe that in most instances the Supplementary Militia calling out within their Counties will form a considerable Force, during the interval of collecting the Reserve Army –

With this view I have directed the enclosed Disposition to be prepared. A. 1.
– Still bearing in view, that the prepping danger is likely to arise before the new Levies are on Foot and trained, it becomes very necessary to consider in what manner the Defence may be strengthened by the

cooperation of such irregular Force as can be produced by the Zeal and Loyalty of the People.

In consequence of the intimation contained in Your Lordships Letter of the 27th instant, I shall expect to be made acquainted, with the extent to which the Yeomanry and Volunteer Force has already been carried —

The Defence Act however offers the Ground Work of the great means of immediate preparation — General Officers will be named to the different Military

Districts

Districts to which they have not yet been appointed; and who shall receive Instructions for cooperating with His Majesty's Lieutenants towards producing the most effecient measures which the powers given and the nature of the case are calculated to admit — These Instructions will be made the subject of a separate communication to Your Lordship — In the mean time it is my intention to make immediate application to the Master General of His Majesty's Ordnance to form Depots of Small Arms and Ammunition in such situations as may afford, in case of Invasion, to the Loyal and Patriotic part of the Community the means of bearing

Arms in conjunction with His Majesty's Forces –

Towards obtaining Dispatch and vigour in such Internal preperations, and immediately completing the Militia – and still further towards carrying into effect the measure of the Reserve Army – I trust Your Lordship will concur in the propriety of His Majesty's Lieutenants being required immediately to attend in their different Counties – that the benifit of their example and counsel may sti= mulate the exertions of all classes of the People –

I have derived very great

satis=

satisfaction from perusing the very judi-
cious Disposition made for the Naval
Defence in the narrow Seas, and which was
communicated in Your Lordships Letter of
the 27th instant -

The importance of this Service
being carried to the greatest possible extent
during the ensuing Months of preparation is
so obvious from what has been stated, that
I trust your Lordship will see the propriety
of giving weight to this Opinion by a commun-
cation to Lord St Vincent, whose judicious ar-
rangements, have already contributed so much
to the general Defence of the Kingdom -

I am My Lord - Yours

Frederick

B. — 3

The Earl of Chatham
&c

Horse Guards 24th June
1803.

My Lord.

From the former communica-
tions, which I have directed to be
made on the subject of Ordnance pre-
paration; Your Lordship will have
been aware that the Scale hitherto
proposed was adopted to the first
assembly and original numbers of the
Army.

It is now become my Duty to
recommend to Your Lordship the carrying
into effect the full extent of preparation
which

which I consider necessary within the principal Military Districts -

The principle which has been decided upon is to attach Battalion Guns to His Majestys Regiments of Regular Infantry only, and to Brigade a certain proportion of Artillery in lieu of the Battalion Guns witheld from the Regiments of Militia each Brigade consisting of six pieces of Ordnance and manned by men from the Royal Artillery -

The first change which I beg to suggest to your Lordship is the propriety of generally encreasing all the Brigades of this description from six Pieces of Ord.

nance to eight — consisting of six 6 Pounders — and two 5½ Inch Howitzers.

Total Field Brigade eight.

I shall next proceed to consider the service of the different Districts —

In the Southern District there is at present Stationed —

2 Troops of Horse Artillery —
6 Brigades of Field Artillery —

I recommend in addition —

1st That 1 Troop of Horse Artillery should be added to this District —

2d — That 6 additional Brigades of Field Artillery should be formed —

3d — That 2 Parks of Reserve Artillery should be formed, the one to be stationed in Kent the other in Sussex.

Each Park to consist of

8 — Twelve pounders.
4 — Long six pounders.
4 — Eight Inch Howitzers.
4 — Five & a half Inch Howitzers.

The Scale of Ordnance for the Southern District will then stand thus —

3 Troops of Horse Artillery —

	12 prs	6 prs	Howitzers 8 In	Howitzers 5½ In
Field Artillery twelve Brigades	— " —	72 —	" —	24
Two Parks —	16 —	8 Long —	8 —	8
Total —	16 —	80 —	8 —	32

In.

* which inc
one at Ho

Independant of the Field Pieces attached to the Regular Infantry –

In the Eastern District there is stationed

1 Troop of Horse Artillery

* which includes one at Norwich. * 7 Brigades of Field Artillery

which I propose should be encreased by

1 Troop of Horse Artillery

5 Brigades of Field Artillery

2 six Pounders at Norman cross

1 Park of Reserve Artillery consisting of

12 twelve Pounders

6 Long six Pounders

6 Eight Inch Howitzers

6 Five and a half Inch Howitzers –

The

The Scale of Ordnance in the Eastern District will then stand thus –

2 Troops of Horse Artillery

	12 prs	6 Prs	Howitzers 8 In	Howitzers 5½ In
Twelve Brigades of Field artillery	– "	72	"	24
Norman Cross	"	2	"	"
Park	12	6 long	6	6
Total	12	80	6	32

South west District

One Troop of Horse Artillery

	6 Prs	Howitzers 5½ In
Two Brigades of Field artillery –	12	4

NB – One of these Brigades destined for the Isle of Wight –

Western District.

One Troop of Horse Artillery

	12 prs	6 prs	Howitzers 8 In	5½ In
3 Brigades of Field Artillery	"	18	"	6
Park	6	4 long	4	4
Total	6	22	4	4

Yorkshire District.

	6 prs	5½ Howitzers
One Field Brigade	6	2

Northern District.

	6 prs	5½ Howitzers
One Field Brigade	6	2

Considering the vicinity of Wool, wich it will be for Your Lordship to determine whether it is preferable to supply defeciencies which may arise in

in Service in the Southern and Eastern Districts from thence or to Station Re-serve Artillery for that purpose at the principal Depots in either District being—

Sevenoaks for the Southern
Braintree for the Eastern

I should recommend to Your Lord-ships Consideration the propriety of Sta-tioning at Plymouth in the West Portsmouth in the Southwest and York in the North, a Depot of six Pounders, 5½ Inch Howitzers, also spare Gun Carriages on a scale of one half the number required for the Districts—

I shall direct to be attached to

the Artillery Service in the different Dis-
=tricts a portion of Militia to act as
additional Gunners according to what
Your Lordship may represent to me
as absolutely necessary — Your Lordship
will decide upon the advantage which
would arise from these Men being
intermixed generally throughout the
Brigades with the Regular Artillery
attached to those already formed —

It is unnecessary for me to en-
=ter upon a detailed proportion of am-
=munition for the ordnance required,
and I shall content myself with ex-
=pressing to Your Lordship my earnest
recommendation that the Supply may

be

be ample both with the Guns in the Field, and in Depot – as also that a sufficient number of Waggons may be stationed so as to ensure the same being moved with promptitude, to supply the expenditure in the Field –

Under this head I am however anxious, to know whether Your Lordship concurs with me as to the advantage which might arise from preparing a certain quantity of Spherical case Shot ammunition (invented by Major Sharpnell of the Royal Artillery) and attaching one Tumbrill to each Troop of Horse Artillery and Brigade of Field Artillery –

In

In regard to Small arm ammu„ nition I am to request.

In the Southern District that the proportion at Seven oaks may be encreased to 60 Rounds for 50000 men – and that at Horsham to 60 Rounds for 30000 – also that a new Depot should be formed at Ashford of 60 Rounds for 10000 men –

In the Eastern District the Depot at Braintree to be encreased to 60 Rounds for 30000; and that a Depot of 60 Rounds for 20000 should be formed at Brentwood –

In

In the Southwest District I recommend a Depot of 60 Rounds for 30000 Men to be formed at Portsmouth.

In the Western District I recommend a Depot of 60 Rounds for 40000 Men at Plymouth and another Depot of 60 Rounds for 20000 Men at Exeter –

The Depots at all times to be kept compleat

I am My Lord
Yours
Frederick
Commander in Chief

To
Field
His

B — 4

To

Field Marshall

His Royal Highness the Duke of York

&c — &c — &c — &c

St James Square

July 7th 1803

Sir

I was honored, with Your Royal Highness letter of the 24th of June, recommending to me the carrying into immediate effect the full extent of Ord= nance Preparation, which Your Royal Highness considers as necessary within the principal Military Districts, & at the same time detailing not only the number of Pie= ces

=ces of which the Brigades should be composed, but also the several natures of Ordnance, which Your Royal Highness wishes should be introduced into the Field Train –

Having given the subject a very full and minute consideration, I shall proceed to offer to Your Royal Highness such observa=tions, as the duty of my Situation indispensi=bly requires, and to submit to Your Royal Highness such a proportion of Ordnance for the Field Train, and such a disposition of it, as I should conceive, under all circum=stances, to be most for the good of His Majesty's Service –

I have in the first place the

satisfaction, of being able to state to Your Royal Highness, that there would be no difficulty in complying with the full extent of Your Royal Highness's requisition, as far as con-
-cerns the several Pieces of Ordnance demanded, together with an ample supply of Ammunition, also that the additional number of Horses probably, not less than three thousand, might by great exertions be obtained at no very distant period, and it would be in Your Royal Highnesses Power to direct the appropriation of fifteen hundred Men, of the Army of Reserve, to serve as Gunner Drivers, as it would be impossible at this time, for the

Con-

Contractor to obtain a sufficient num„
ber of Men either fit for the purpose
or that could in the least be depen„
ded upon.

So far therefore there does
not appear to be much difficulty in
complying with Your Royal Highnesses
demand, but what I feel it to be my
duty to press most earnestly upon Your
Royal Highness, is the consideration, that
the strength of the Royal Regiment of
Artillery at Home, is totally unequal to so
large an Equipment, and that tho Your
Royal Highness is pleased to propose
the furnishing any number of Men, as
additional Gunners, from the Militia

(over and above those Corps already placed at the disposal of the Ordnance) I do not conceive they would in any respect supply the defeciency, under which we labour – I know, that good Will and numbers will sometimes supply the quality of Troops, but I take it that the converse is true with respect to Artil,, lery, at least for Field Service, that it is only formidable, in as much, as it is effecient, and that a numerous Field Train, with all its appendages, unless conducted, and served by Officers of experience and Science together with a due proportion of trained Artilleristo, and expert Drivers, is so far from being useful, in comparison to the enormous

ex,,

expence, that it is on the contrary in it„
=self a serious evil and a dangerous in„
=cumbrance upon every movement of the
Army – It is in this view, that I must
beg leave to differ from Your Royal
Highness's proposal of making the several
Brigades consist of eight Guns, and upon this
principle, that tho one Captain may direct
six Guns, it would be necessary to attach
two Captains to a Brigade of eight Guns,
unless an encreased proportion of Subal„
=terns could be given, whereas so far, from
that being in our power, there will be
actually, One Subaltern less, than there
ought to be to the Brigades of the pre„
=sent number of pieces, if composed, as inten„
=ded in part of Howitzers –

The number of Field Brigades, which I conceive may be furnished as really effecient are detailed in a paper which I have the honor to enclose, and I have calculated them, according to the strength of the Royal Artillery, which either are, or can be sent into the several Districts together with the Militia Corps attached to the Artillery Service –

B — 5.

This proposition, would I trust be deemed sufficient to be brought forward, at least as yet, and that the Reserve, destined principally for the Service of the Eastern and Southern Districts, and to man which, would require

require the whole of the small effective Force remaining at Woolwich, including all the Recruits now at Drill, might be suffered to remain there, till some mo= ment of emergency should require the whole, or any part of it to move, to a more forward Position — For unless a certain portion of Artillery, is suffered to remain at Woolwich, there would not only result the greatest possible inconve= nience and danger to the Establishment itself, but there would be an end to all further exertion, and to the hope of ever bringing forward, in the event of obtaining Recruits from the Army of Reserve, such a respectable encreased Force, as may be ap= plicable to any Service, either at Home or abroad.

The additional Brigades which I propose bringing into the Field, together with the Reserve, and other general Services called for, will cause a large addition of Horses, and I should therefore hope, that Your Royal Highness will have the goodness to order not less than one thousand Soldiers of the Army of Reserve, to act as Gunner Drivers –

Detachments from the several Regiments of Militia, will be wanted for the Coast Batteries, unless an arrangement can be made, by the General Commanding in the District, for their being manned either by Sea Fencibles or Volunteers –

With respect to Your Royal Highness's demand for Horse Artillery, I perceive it extends to seven Troops, which is one more than at present in England — I should also hope that Your Royal Highness, would consider the necessity there is for keeping one Troop at Woolwich, not only for the Security of the Capital, but that it is essential with a view to a progressive increase of this Force, and since the Establishment of the Ferry, and Road to Ilford, It may be considered as applicable to the Service of the Eastern District.

Orders have been given for increasing the Troop in Ireland to eight Guns, and as it is my intention to add as soon as

possible a like number to the Troops in England, This augmentation will more than give what Your Royal Highness asks, and as the Troops of Horse Artillery have by their Establishment two Captains, they may occasionally be distributed and act by half Troops –

With a view to supplying deficiencies which may arise in Service in the Eastern and Southern Districts, I have recently ordered an Establishment at Warley for the former, and for the latter I am of opinion, that it will be desirable to form Entrepots, at Sittingborne at Sevenoaks and at Sutton, or between Sutton and Reigate, to be kept up, as occasion

may

may require from the principal Depot at Woolwich, so as to relieve the Coast Brigades and Troops from every incumbe-rance, not essential to their own immediate Operations, and I concur with Your Royal Highness in the propriety of Stationing Reserve Artillery, and a supply of Carriages xc — as recommended by Your Royal Highness, at Plymouth for the Western, at Portsmouth for the Southwest, and at York for the Northern Districts —

I am inclined to think that the Spherical Case shot, to which Your Royal Highness alludes, may be brought into Service, with great advantage and with most natures of Ordnance, but to what

extent, and under what circumstances it should be used requires some further consideration – I have directed a large supply of Shells, suited to the purpose, to be prepared.

The Depôts of Small Arm Ammu-nition shall be formed in the several Districts, to the extent and in the pro-portions demanded by Your Royal Highness –

Having adverted to the several points in Your Royal Highnesses Letter, and having submitted as I felt it my duty to do, to Your Royal Highness, such a proportion for the Field Train

as

as I could venture at this moment, with any satisfaction to myself, or with any justice to the Corps I have the honor to command, and to the Service, to place at Your Royal Highnesses dis=posal. I will not trespass further, than to assure Your Royal Highness, that I shall give orders, for preparing for Service, with every degree of exertion, the full extent of Your Royal Highnesses demand, in order that it may be in perfect rea=diness should our means encrease, and circumstances enable us to use it with effect –

Your Royal Highness I believe knows, the uniform anxiety I have felt

to be enabled to bring the Establishment of the Royal Artillery, to a Scale more adequate to the numerous and various demands upon it, than it has been the Policy of this Country for many Years past to place it upon, but Your Royal Highness at the same time knows, that in a profession, scientifick as is that of the Artillery, the encrease can only be to a certain degree gradual, without the risk of rendering it inefficient.

I have the honor to be
with the greatest respect
Sir
Your Royal Highnesses
most obedient & attached Humble Servt.
Chatham
Master General of His Majestys Ordnance.

B — 5.

Field Train &c^a of Artillery in England.

8th July 1803

	12 Pounders medium	6 Pounders Heavy	6 Pounders Light	Howitzers 8 In	Howitzers 5½ In	Total Pieces of Ordnance.
Southern District.						
2 Heavy Brigades	8	.	.	.	4	
2 ditto	.	8	.	.	4	
4 Light Brigades	.	.	16	.	8	92
Batt^n Guns for 13 Reg^t Reg^ts	.	.	26	.	.	
3 Troop of R Horse Artillery	.	.	12	.	6	
Eastern District						
4 Heavy Brigades as above	8	8	.	.	8	
4 Light Brigades ditto	.	.	16	.	8	72
Batt^n Guns for 9 Reg^t Reg^ts	.	.	18	.	.	
1 Troop of R Horse Artillery	.	.	4	.	2	
South west District including the I. of Wight						
1 Heavy Brigade	4	.	.	.	2	
2 Light Brigades	.	.	8	.	4	24
1 Troop of Horse Artillery	.	.	4	.	2	

	12 Pounds Medium	6 Pounds Heavy	6 Pounds Light	Howitzers 8 In.	Howitzers 5½ In.	Total
Western District.						
1 Heavy Brigade	—	4	—	—	—	2 } 18
2 Light Brigades	—	—	8	—	4	
Yorkshire District						
1 Brigade	—	—	4	—	—	2 } 6
Northern District						
2 Brigades	—	4	4	—	—	4 } 12
Reserve at Woolwich						
Park of Artillery *	12	18	38	12	—	} 86
1 Troop of R. Horse artillery	—	—	4	—	2	
Total	40	38	158	12	62	= 310

* A Light Brigade according to a projet of Major General Congreve is also forming under his direction.

C — 6.

Description of the Tower proposed for the Defence of the Coast.

The inferior part is a Square, the Platform of which is 46 Feet each side.

A Parapet Wall pierced with Crenaux which throws a Fire towards the front, and also on the Faces of the Square for the defence of the Guns in front, and the Ground in the Neighbourhood of the Tower.

The interior part of the Tower is a circle, having a Pier of 5 Feet diameter in the center, which serves both for the support of the Arches, and as a Flue to the Chimney.

A Heavy Gun is mounted on the top of the Tower which traverses the whole circle. The only entrance into the work, is by a Ladder in the center of the Face of the Square, and directly under the Machicoulis defence. The Interior Circle is divided into two Stories which afford lodgement for the Troops — They communicate with each other by a Ladder through the Upper Floor.

The communication to the Carronade Platform is from the Upper Story, through passages opposite the angular Parts of the Square, which serve both as Doors and windows. The communication to the Gun at the top is by a Ladder, through a circular passage of three feet diameter, pierced in the center of the Bomb proof arch.

The Gorge of each Angle of the lower part of the Work, supplies ample Room for a Magazine, Cistern, Provision and Store Room.

Principal advantages of these Towers.

1st — They require a very small Garrison.

2d — They cannot be assaulted.

3d — Their defences cross each other nearly at point Blank distance.

4th — They contain all the requisites for standing a Siege.

5th — They can always hold out till Artillery is brought against them.

6th — The inferior part is so covered by the profile of the Battery in front, as not to be batter'd from the Sea.

7th — They obviate the necessity of keeping

large bodies of Troops, where they would otherwise be requir'd –

8th — They seldom want repair –

9th — They require no Establishment in time of Peace.

10th — And they are the least expensive works that can be constructed, to answer all the foregoing purposes –

Hence it will appear though the first Cost be considerable, they will eventually save much Money to the Country – From the Nature of their Figure and Substance they will endure a great length of time – If a Peace takes place the Guns are dismounted, placed within the Tower, and the work shut up –

On

On a renewal of the war, they are ready for service in a few weeks –

By a rough Estimate which I have made, the expence of one of these Towers does not amount to 3000 £

Wm Hy Ford
Capt. Royal Engineers

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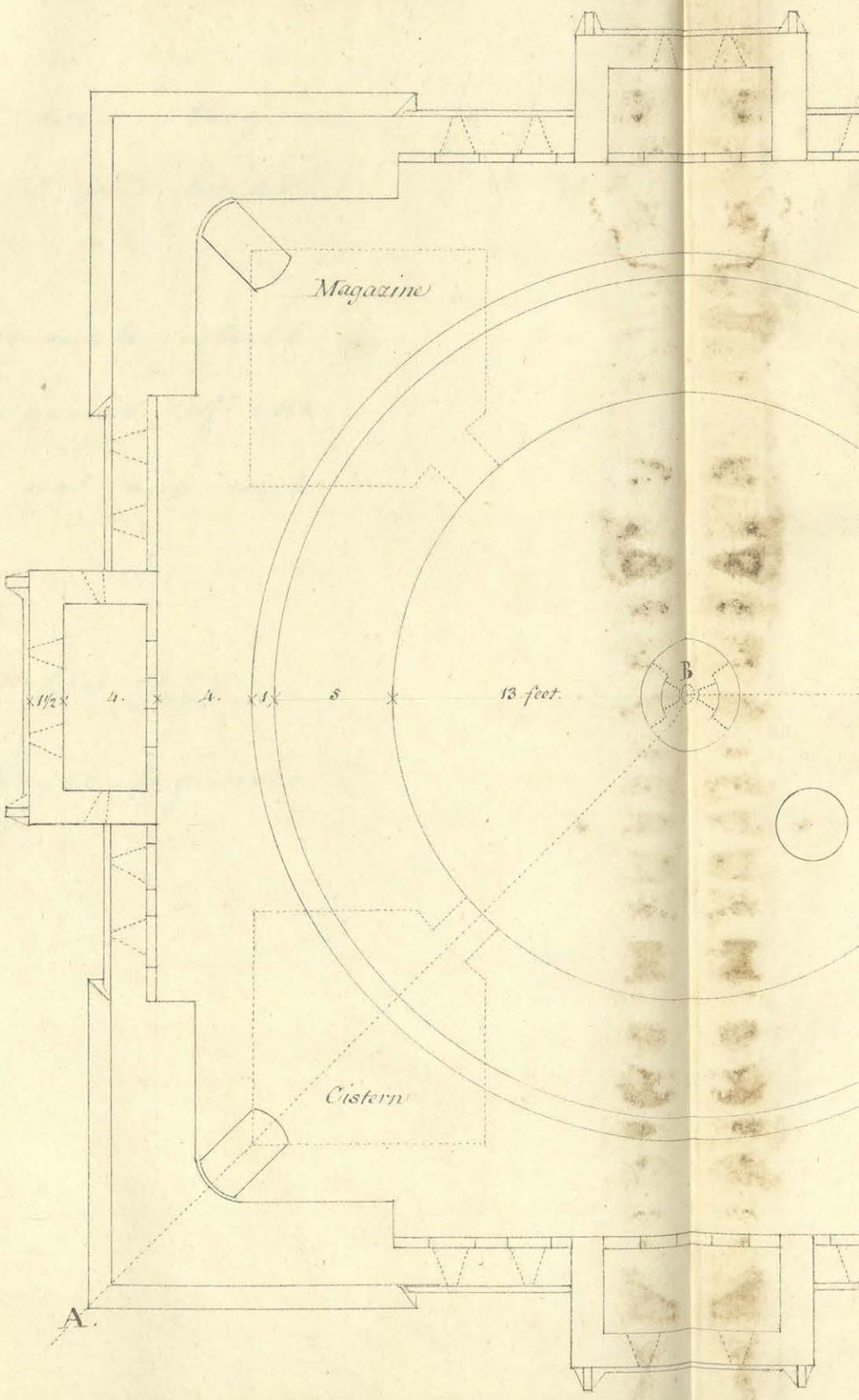

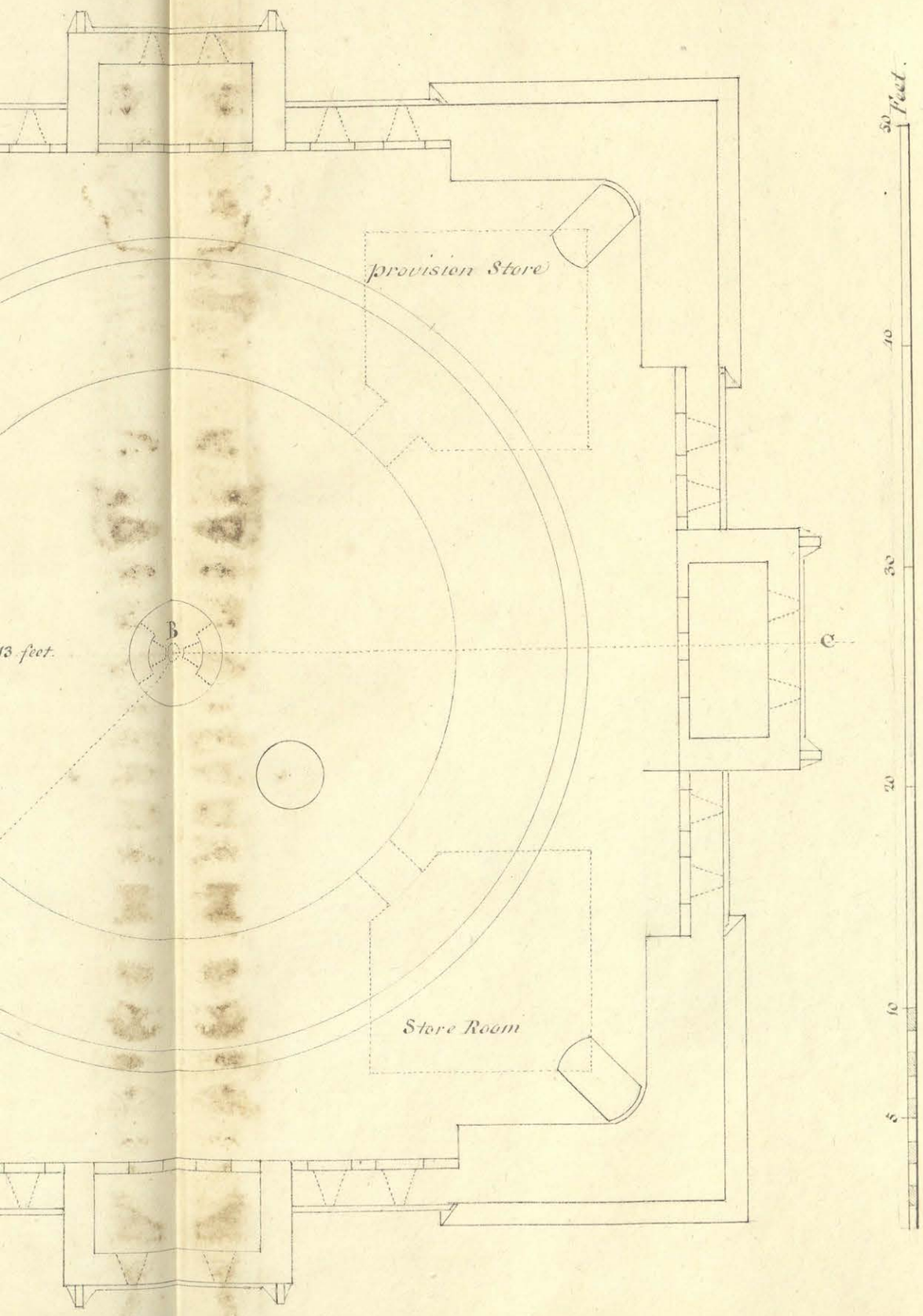

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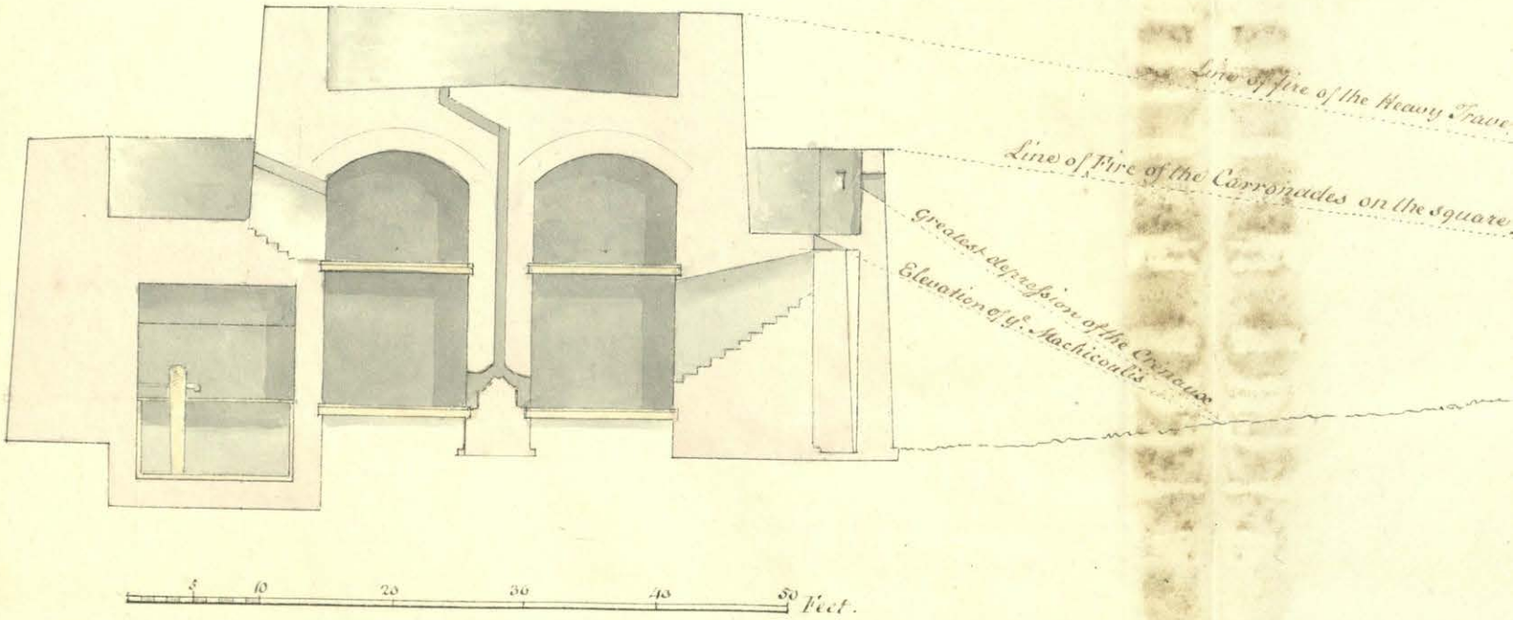

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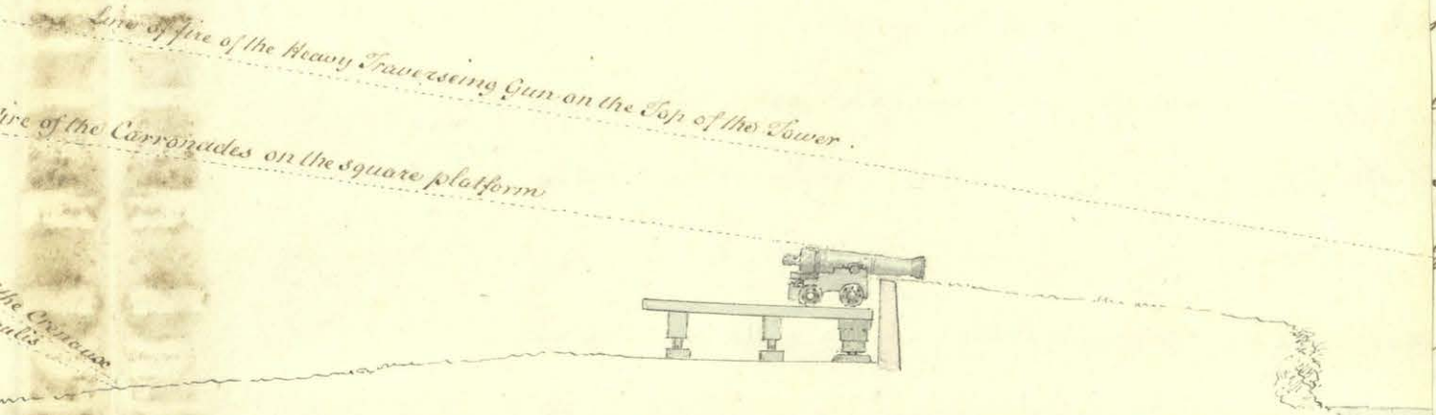

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C. — 8

General Sir David Dundas KB
Commanding the Southern District.

Dover 22 July 1803.

Report of the Coasts of Kent and Sussex between Eastware Bay near Dover and Selsea Island near Chichester.

Eastware Bay near Folkstone.

1. The Battery made during the last war for the defence of Eastware Bay was near 400 feet above the level of the Sea, and was besides too distant from the best landing to do much execution, the ground on which it stood was given up on the Peace, and the Buildings Sold —

2. There is a situation on the lower Cliff about 100 Feet high, much better situated for the defence of this Bay, but the Terre Plein of the Battery must be excavated for 4 or 6 Guns, which with the erection, of a round Tower, Platforms, Parapets, and other conveniencies, will probably occasion an expence of about 2 or 3 thousand Pounds to make it Tenable and in order to form a cross Fire with this Battery, a round Tower should be erected on Copt Point, having two Guns on each side, under its protection, the expence supposed to be from fifteen hundred to two thousand Pounds –

3.— Near this Bay is a situation well calculated for a Barrack to contain a Regiment of 750 Men.

4 — Folkstone Battery may remain as it is —

Hithe Bay.

The defence of Hithe Bay cannot be too much attended to, and the first step I should recommend is that Sandgate Castle should be entirely given up to the Ordnance, and strengthened as a Post of Defence by throwing Arches over some of the Towers, and making such other alte=rations as may render it as tenable as possible —

Shorncliffe.

5. — The Battery at Shorncliffe having a Barrack for 500 men in its rear, may remain in its present State, but I recommend Strong Towers of Masonry to be erected in the center of the Batteries, called Twigo, Sutherland and Monierief, these precautions, supported by 1400

men

Men lodged in the projected Barracks behind Hithe seem effectually to secure Hithe Bay

6.— The three great Sluices in Dimchurch Wall, ought to be guarded, as well as the Sluices at Scots Float and East Guel-ford near Rye, and this done with some precautions to let the Sea Water in, and keep it there, I think we should be able in a few Tides, to fill the Main Ditches in Romney Marsh, that an Enemy could not penetrate in force into the Country if he landed between Rye and Dimchurch.

Dimchurch

7.— Perhaps a small Tower at each of the outward Sluices at Dimchurch and a Barrack for two Companies at Scots Float,

would answer for such a Defence, and if the Bridges on the Rother between Rye and the Forges were secured, the same inundation would cover the Country as far as the Forges near Silverhill —

Dungeness.

8. — The point of Dungeness merits attention, for if the Enemy comes in the night the Light House will be a guide for his Vessels to steer by — The Redoubt near this is perfectly incapable of resis-ting a Coup de Main, and in its present State can only be considered as a post of Alarm, the best improvement I can at present suggest, would be to reduce the Artillery from eight to four Guns 24 Pounders, to mount them on traver-sing Platforms at the alternate angles, to compleat the Parapet all round, and erect a

a round Tower in the center.

9. — The four Batteries on Dungeness, of four Guns each, would also be much strengthened by a central Tower, and is what I recommend. these Batteries besides obstructing the landing of an Enemy, afford some protection to Trade. Dungeness

10. — The intervals between Monrief Battery and No 2 in Dungeness, as also between No 4 and the old Harbour of Rye, are not defended by Batteries, on account of the difficulty of landing, chiefly arising from the great distance to which the Tide ebbs out, and that distance consisting of Sand Banks formed into ridges by the Sea —

Rye

Hastin

Rye, 11 — The Shore between the old and the new Harbour of Rye is well secured by nature, but from the latter to Fairlight requires attention; the distance is about 2 3/4 Miles, and if occupied by three Towers with Batteries of four Guns under each, and these supported by a Regiment of seven or eight hundred Men, lodged in Barracks between Winchelsea and Rye, I conceive this part of the Coast would be guarded in a manner adequate to its importance and Situation; But on the 29 June last, I saw at Rye a Heavy Brigade of Artillery, and I believe not an Infantry Soldier within 12 Miles of them.

Hastings. 12 — From hence to Hastings the Clay and Rocky Cliffs are inaccessible

ex.

except a few passages, which should be occupied by Troops the moment an Enemy is known to be fully prepared for Sea.

13 — From Hastings to Langley Point a space of about 13 Miles, extends the famous Bay of Pevensey, along which nature has thrown some difficulties in landing except at High water, but no art has been employed to increase them — Pevensey Bay.

14 — The Barracks at Bexhill are placed near the most favourable Ground for an Enemy to move on, and about six Miles from Hastings, and such a support being provided for Towers and Sea Batteries, I do earnestly recommend Bexhill

that they should be erected, perhaps as the Forces of the Enemy are encreasing, it may ultimately be necessary, to have a Tower in every Mile; but I would begin by placing them, so as to defend those parts, where landing is the easiest; and where we could command the Sluices — always observing to leave such intervals, that this Plan may in time be complete —

Langley Point.

15 — Langley Point is occupied by two formidable Batteries, the fronts of which are proposed to be palisaded, and as an additional Strength against a Coup de Main — Central Towers should also be erected. —

E Bourne.

16 — South or East Bourne, are situa-

tedns

=tions where Barracks should certainly be provided for a Regiment of Infantry.—

17.—— From East Bourne to Seaford, the Chalk Cliffs are inaccessible except at the Cockmare, and a few other passes all of which should be well reconnoitered by the Officers quartered near them, so that they may be instantly occupied when necessary. Beachy Head.

18.—— The Bay of Seaford is barely three Miles long, but the Beach along the whole, affords very good landing, it is defended by three Batteries supported by Barracks to contain a large Regiment, and altho the Batteries are of a very defective construction, Yet with such a Force it does not seem Seaford

to

Brig

Shore

to require additional works of any consequence.

19.— From Seaford Bay to Brighton are Chalk Cliffs inaccessible except at a few Passes, which should be known and guarded when necessary.

Brighton

20 — The two Batteries in the Town of Brighton are better calculated to keep off Privateers than to oppose a landing, but still the Force stationed here, and the nature of the Coast as far as Shoreham, present difficulties that it is probable an Enemy will not intentionally attempt a landing here.

Shoreham

21 — Shoreham Harbour to Little Hampton about 12 Miles, the Coast is en-

entirely without defence, but the Sea ebbs to a great distance and makes it very hazardous for an Enemy to land unless he could come in exactly at high water, therefore it does not seem advisable at present to provide Coast Defences unsupported as they must be by any moving Force, and probably the first step ought to be erecting Barracks for which there is a very centrical and favou-rable situation on Clapham Common just behind High Down Hill —

22. — The Battery at Little Hampton at the Mouth of the Arun, is of an old con-struction, but scarce worth the expence of improving untill other Defences are ordered for this part of the Coast. Little Hampton.

Barn Rocks and Selsea.

23 — Between the River Arun & Barn Rocks, a distance of about eight Miles the Coast is without any defence whatever, and is of the same description, with that on the other side the Arun, at Barn Rocks there are placed two Guns, and four Miles further on Selsea Island is a Battery of three Guns — these Batteries in some degree command (tho at a great distance a good and extensive Anchorage, called the Park, and was it not for our very good superiority at Sea, this anchorage might tempt an Enemy to come here, altho the landing is not good and is also intersected by Pagham Harbour whose entrance is only fordable for a few hours each Tide.

24 — This Division of the Coast is nearly in the same predicament with the adjoining part already mentioned and will equally require to be attended to. There are small Barracks for an Officer and Men at each of the last mentioned Batteries, but I believe they are now unoccupied —

Wm Twiss Colonel
Commanding Re Engineer

Remarks by General Sir David Dundas KB.

It is desireable that till the Defence proposed by Colonel Twiss for Eastware Bay near Folkstone can be perfected — That a

Battery at Eastware Bay.

Paragraph 1. 2.

a Battery of three or four Guns should be reestablished, at or near the same Places as last war.

Barrack at Folkstone. 3. — Folkstone has been already pointed out as a desirable situation for part of the Force ultimately intended for that Neighbourhood and Hithe — viz 700 Men.

Sandgate Castle 5. — It has been reported and agreed that Sand-gate Castle, should be made a good Musketry Post, and that cannot be too soon done.

Dimchurch 6. 7. — Certainly desireable.

Dungeness 8. 9. — as proposed — But building Towers is a work of some time

Rye 11. — What is proposed is very desireable — Twin-

Winchelsea and Rye have been already pointed out as Stations for 1000 men. The artillery Brigade marched there according to original Disposition — } Rye 11.

Infantry Barracks are intended at ——— } Hastings 12

The Towers recommended along Pevensey Bay are very desireable — Infantry Barracks are intended — } Pevensey Bay 14

The additions to Langley Point are desireable — } Langley Point 15

Infantry Barracks intended at ——— } E Bourne & Newhaven 18

Infantry Barracks intended at ——— } Shoreham Worthing L Hampton Bognor 21 . 22

Infantry Barracks intended at ——— } Selsea Barnrocks Chichester 23 24

D. Dundas Genl.

C. — 9.

The Earl of Chatham

& & &

Horse Guards
August 11th 1803

My Lord

I herewith transmit to Your Lordship a Report made by Colonel Twiss of the Royal Engineers to General Sir D Dundas Commanding the Southern District upon the defences necessary for that part of the Coasts of Kent and Sussex situated between Eastware Bay near Dover, and Selsea Island near Chichester.

I

I am fully impressed with the necessity that this exposed and important Line of Coast should be ma=terially strengthened, and that the Batteries, the fire of which is intended to cover the particular landing places of the greatest local impor=tance should be placed in that State of security as not to require being necessarily abandoned upon the lan=ding of the first part of an Enemy's Force.

Your Lordship will remark from the peculiar description of arma=ment with which this Coast is threa=tened composed of a multiplicity of small Vessels, that it is highly probable the disembarkation of an Enemy will

be undertaken for a considerable series of time after the arrival of the leading Vessels upon the Coast, which renders the possession of the Sea Batteries of the greatest moment.

Under this impression I strongly recommend to Your Lordship's consideration, the expediency of adop-ting the Towers proposed by Colonel Twiss, perhaps the least expensive of all permanent works and calcu-lated to supercede the necessity of temporary defences resorted to at the commencement of every new War.

I have some time since addressed Your Lordship in regard to Sandgate Castle being made a

te-

tenable Post for Musketry, and which is again strongly urged by General Sir David Dundas

I am My Lord

Yours

Frederick

D — 10.

General Sir David Dundas K B.
&c — &c — &c —

Horse Guards 2d July 1803.

Sir.

Your Report of the 27th Ultimo having been laid before Me, wherein you state the most advan=tageous Situations for Establishing Barrack Accomodation for an Army of 20 000 Men in Kent, and for a like Force in Sussex — After an attentive perusal of the same, and the reasons which so clearly point out their impor=tance to the General Defence of the

southern

Southern District, have met my entire approbation, and the necef=sary Instructions will be given to the Barrack Master General to use every effort to make Provision accordingly against the Winter Season, and in the mean while you will direct such Encampments to take place as the encreasing numbers of Your Force or apparent probability of attack may render expedient.

The consideration of this subject so intimately connected with the General System of Defence for the Southern District, has necessarily involved in Your Report considerations of the first moment in regard to the local importance of particular points

and upon which my attention has frequen-
-tly dwelt with great anxiety —

The opinions I had formed in
regard to Chatham, have not only
been confirmed by the very judicious
observations you furnish me with
in your Report, but have been so
strengthened as to induce me to con-
-sider it an indespensable Duty to
direct you to proceed with all pos-
-sible Expedition to take such prepara-
-tory measures as will determine the
Position and Nature of the Field Works
which you point out as essential
for protecting the Dock Yard, and
affording security to a Body of
Troops on the right Bank of the
Medway.

You will understand my Sen=
=timents to be the construction of Field
Works, with a view to the formation
of a Tête de Pont — which materially
differs from the extensive Plans here=
=tofore under consideration for the
Defence of that Point —

I shall next call Your at=
=tention to the propriety of traing an
entrenched Camp on the Western Heights
near Dover, within which a Body
of Troops might be left to act on
the Enemys rear, should he make
his landing good and attempt a
forward movement through East
Kent —

Although I have particularly

specified the aforementioned two Positions, I request you will consider yourself called upon to suggest the establishing of Field works in such other situations within your command as may be of importance in impeding the Enemy in his progress towards the Capital, and which I conceive may become highly important in deciding the operations of our own Army and determining those Roads and Positions of Country which ought to be obstructed by the Labour of Pioneers — Nor am I without sanguine expectations from the benefit of your experience that a Plan may shortly be matured which will render the approach of an Enemy

towards

towards the Capital upon any direct line, under all circumstances, an operation of great time, if not altogether impracti=cable.

As to the manner of carrying such measures into execution, I shall at present only observe, that upon receiv=ing from you any Specific Plan of Works or proposal – I will arrange with His Majesty's Government the means of car=rying them immediately into effect.

I shall direct Lt Colonel Brown Asst Quarter Master General, of whose abilities as an Engineer I know you enter=tain a favorable opinion, to proceed to Chat=ham, & any other Staff Assistance you may require, shall be forthwith given you –

I am Sir Yours

Frederick

D — 11

Right Honble Lord Hobart.

&c &c &c

Horse Guards 4 July 1803

My Lord

I herewith enclose for Your Lordships information, an Extract from a Report received from General Sir David Dundas, stating the great importance of strengthening the Works at Chatham — I further enclose a Copy of my Letter to this Officer directing him to take immediate steps for carrying the same into effect, as also for tracing an intrenched Camp in the neighbourhood of Dover, and generally for establishing Field Works in points of material importance to the defence of the Southern District

It is my intention to issue similar Instructions to the Generals Commanding other Districts, according to what the importance of each may require -

Your Lordship cannot but be aware that one of the greatest advantages to be derived over an Enemy who must come inadequately prepared with Artillery, is, the opposing his progress by strong Posts upon the most advantageous lines of approach to the Capital, and which he having no immediate means of reducing, must throw him into the most embarrassing difficulties, at the same time affording advantages of the most decisive nature to the Operations of our own Army -

Such preparation cannot but have the greatest weight in the previous Plan for any intended attack, so much so, that I should

consider this species of Defence more likely than any other to prevent an attempt the success of which must be allowed to depend upon arriving at the ultimate object within a very few Days.

Without dwelling further upon Topics the importance of which must otherwise be obvious, I shall proceed to observe to Your Lordship that it appears to me necessary towards the immediate accomplishment of such important objects that the General Officers should employ the Troops (as is customary in all Armies in the Field) in the construction of such Works, obtaining the possession of the Ground necessary, under the authority of the 10th Article of the Defence Bill – I therefore suggest to Your Lordship the propriety of an Instruction being sent directing the Lord Lieutenants of the Coast Counties, as well as

the

the Counties of Surrey, Middlesex & Harford, to give every aid to the General Officers towards placing them in immediate possession of the necessary spots of Ground, where the same cannot be obtained, but thro the medium of their authority as pointed out in the aforesaid Act.

It is further essential that Your Lordship should direct immediate measures towards a Provision being made for the issue of such Money as may become due to the Troops when employed in Working Parties as has been established by His Majesty's Regulations –

I shall hope to be favoured by the communication of Your Lordships sentiments at Your earliest Convenience –

I am My Lord Yours.

Frederick.

E. — 12

General Sir David Dundas KB.

Dover 17 July 1803

Sir

Having attentively viewed the Western Heights near this Town with the idea of improving the Works, begun there during the American War, by a System of Field Fortification, so as immediately to form this Position, into an Intrenched Camp, where a Corps of 5 or 6 thousand Men, might remain in security and with tolerable convenience, and in readiness to move against an Enemy wherever required

I have the honor to report that in my opinion, it would be impossible, during the present Summer, to erect such Works as would render this, a secure Position, for such a Corps, nor could in

in that time a tolerable supply of Water be obtained, besides a Corps stationed here, would have the Sea in its rear, and such strong Ground in its front, and on its left Flank, that it might be kept in cheque by an equal Force, and so situated, would in a great mea=sure be deprived of the security of a Fortress, and the power of moving as a Corps in the Field -

However I do not conceive that this opinion militates against the Idea of occupying Dover Heights with a respectable Fortress, or by several detached Redoubts well revetted, as I am convinced, that by either of these Systems, many essential advantages would be obtained, but the expediency of immediately beginning such Works, can only be determined, by those high Powers, who are acquainted with all the means, and all the wants of the Country

I have the honor to be Sir

Your most obedient humble Servt

Wm Twiss Colr

Commg Royal Engineer

F. 13.

Instructions to the Earl of Harrington.

Horse Guards 26th July 1803

My Lord

His Majesty having been pleased to name Your Lordship to the command of the Metropolis — It is my duty to call Your attention to the leading measures which are confided to Your charge.

It being material to define as nearly as possible the exact limits of Your Command — I have judged it expedient to adopt for this purpose the Map prepared by His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department — with a view to regulating the Duties of the Volunteer Force and for the preservation of good order within the Metropolis.

That Your Lordship may be fully acquainted with the nature and extent of this arrangement of the Civil Power — Copies of the cir-

circular Letters addressed by Lord Pelham to the Magistrates of the several Police Offices, and to the Commanders of Volunteer Corps, also a Return of their existing Numbers - are likewise herewith inclosed -

In all cases of riot or disturbance of the Peace, Your Lordship will pay due attention to the Division of the Metropolis explained in these arrangements - and further support the civil authority with the Force under your immediate Command, and generally in all cases cooperate with and assist the Magistrates when called upon by them for such purposes -

Proceeding to objects of higher importance - I am to acquaint Your Lordship that I have long since entertained an opinion that a solid System of Defence for this Metropolis, may be obtained, by bringing into activity the immense resources it possess's - arising from the extent of Population, and the power over

Horses, Carriages and Stores of every description - with a view to the same being applied (should the danger call for the exertion) towards preparing and defending Military Positions in the immediate vicinity of the Capital and which are singularly addapted for its protection which ever line an Enemy may have chosen for his advance.

In the Year 1801 I directed a Military Survey to be taken of these strong defensive Positions and caused the various measures of detail to be digested and arranged for carrying this Plan into effect - The execution of which falls under two Heads -

The one having for its object the measures depending upon Position and strengthening of Points best calculated to stop the advance of an Enemy.

The other that of employing the resources of the Capital towards the construction of the

the necessary works – and producing large Bo=
=dies of Men for their Defence.

Lt Genl Lord Cathcart is charged with the preparatory Measures in the vicinity of Lon=
=don, and Your Lordship will be aware of the necessity of holding constant intercourse with that Officer, and of affording him every aid wi=
=thin Your power – A Copy of my Instruc=
=tions to Lord Cathcart is transmitted for Your further information

The wisdom of the Legislature has provided under the first and additional Defence Bill ample powers for carrying into effect all measu=
=res necessary to the Public Safety – and His Majesty Secretary of State has instructed the Magistracy of the City of London and the Lord Lieutenants of the Counties of Middlesex & Surrey to co operate with Your Lordship towards this great object

Under this authority I am to

direct that Your Lordship will communicate in what relates to the City of London with the Lord Mayor — For the Tower Hamlets with the Constable of the Tower — For the City of Westminster with the Lord Lieutenant of Middlesex — For the Borough of Southwark with the Lord Lieutenant of Surrey to whom respectively you will submit the expediency of the following measures being immediately taken.

1st — That Meetings should be held of the different Wards in the City and Parishes in the other parts of the Metropolis and that the time of such Meetings should be so arranged as to admit of Your Lordship attending them all in the fewest number of Days possible — By communication with the Alderman of the different Wards, or with the Deputy Lieutenants, Magistrates, Committees or leading Persons in the respective Parishes Your Lordship may possibly find it practicable to attend in succession different

ferent meetings in the same Day.

That a proposal should at such Meetings be made to the Inhabitants to form Volunteer Corps to the greatest extent which they find practicable with a view of rendering it unnecessary for His Majesty to resort to the powers given under the new Act for compulsorily training to Arms — That the Hours and Place of assembly for Drill should be fixed and that Your Lordship would endeavour to provide to aid the Drills of such Companies as had not been able to attain that object by their own exertions -

2ndly — That Places should be fixed upon for the Deposit of the Arms of each Corps under the care of a proper Guard - which ought to be the Alarm Posts of the Corps -

3rdly — That a Return should be made of those Inhabitants who have heretofore been

accustomed to the use of great Guns either on Shore or afloat and who would engage to man the Batteries in the Vicinity of the Capital — Training to which Service when required being considered on the same footing as training to small arms —

4thly — A Return of Persons qualified as Civil Engineers or otherwise capable of direc-ting and superintending the construction of Earthen Works —

5thly — A Return of all Master Carpenters and Smiths who would undertake with their Workmen to prepare the Platforms for the Artillery —

6thly — That a Return should be made of Horses, Waggons and Carts — Specifying their numbers and the name & Place of Residence of the Proprietor —

I am My Lord — Yours —

Frederick

F — 14

Instructions to Lord Cathcart.

Horse Guards 15th July 1803.

My Lord

One of the most important ob=jects which presents itself in the General Scale of Defence, is the security of this Metropolis to be pro=vided for by an application of the resources contained within itself, or placed in its immediate vicinity —

An important part of the various com=binations and arrangements necessary to give effect to an extended Plan for this purpose naturally falls to Your Lordships care and direction in consequence of the command to which His Majesty has lately been pleased to appoint you.

During the last war and more par=

ticularly in the Year 1801 my attention was di-
rected to this object — When I found it necessary
to divide the subject under two distinct Heads —
1st — To call forth the vast resources of this
Capital whether arising from Population or
the power over Horses, Carriages and Stores of
every description; exceeding what is any where
to be found within the same limits —
2d — The application of these means towards
a solid system of defence, in the immediate
vicinity of the Capital, against the approach of
the Enemy on either Bank of the Thames —

His Majesty has been pleased to
appoint Lt General Lord Harrington to the com-
mand of the London District to whom the first
part of these arrangements will be committed.

Your Lordship will undertake the pre-
paratory measures depending upon Position and
the strengthening of those points by which the
progress of an Enemy may be most effectually

impeded.

In this distribution of Duty, Your Lordship will be aware of the necessity of your holding constant intercourse with Lord Harrington towards receiving from him every aid which his command is capable of affording –

An adequate Staff will be named and Your Lordship may otherwise depend upon receiving every assistance which those important duties may require –

Upon a Military Survey of the environs of London, Your Lordship will find the features of the Country singularly adapted for defensive Positions — On the right bank of the Thames, the Line rests on the River above Deptford and passes along the ridge of the Norwood Hills then turning by Streatham and Tooting to the River behind the Wandsworth Creek

The continuation of this Line upon

upon the left Bank of the Thames in front of London, passes behind the River Lea, by Stratford and Lea Bridge to Stamford Hill, from thence takes the ridge of Ground by Hornsey Wood, Highgate, Hamp-stead, and at Wilsden Green again turns by Holland House and little Chelsea to the Thames —

The front of the Position upon the right Bank is to be strengthened by works upon Blackheath, and still more forward by the strong Position of Shooters Hill.

The front of the Position to the left of the Thames it is thought may effectually be covered by inundating the course of the River Lea — It is also thought that the Roding River still more ad-vanced is capable of inundation —

It will also be a matter of considera-tion whether the Villages of Stratford and West Ham may not be held as an advanced work beyond the Lea.

I shall order a very able Plan drawn out by General Sir David Dundas in the Year 1801. uniting to the most comprehensive view the minutest detail necessary for carrying the same into effect, to be delivered from the Quarter Master General's Department for Your Lordships Further information.

Your Lordship will be aware that whilst the great body of His Majesty's Forces is detached towards the Coast threatened by the Enemy that the Body of Troops disposable for other Services is wholly unequal to the preparation necessary for carrying speedily into effect so extended a Plan.

Under this impression I am to direct Your Lordship to take the earliest opportunity which may be afforded by Meetings of the Lieutenancy and Magistrates of the Counties of Middlesex and Surrey generally to express the opinion which I have long entertained of the possibility of placing this Metropolis in such a State of

security thro the application of its own resources; without using exertions at all burthensome, when the extent and nature of the danger is considered, against the pressure of which they are calculated to provide.

My expectations of success in the attainment of this great object rests upon the judicious application of those exertions which the Zeal and Loyalty of the People may be willing to make under that act of His Majesty's passed for the further security of His Realm.

Under which I conceive bodies of Pioneers may easily be obtained from amongst the Inhabitants of almost every point which it might be required to strengthen.

Former Habits of Military and Seafa=ring life may produce numbers already acquain=ted with the Service of the Great Guns to be

placed

placed in the different Batteries — Nor am I without the expectation that the Loyalty of Persons educated as Civil Engineers and others well versed in throwing up of Earth for the embank=ments of Canals &c — would produce a Class of Va=luable Officers to direct and superintend the constru=ction of the works

I recommend to Your Lordships attention such previous arrangements being made as will provide for the performance of these different duties when the moment of danger approaches which will render it unnecessary to do more in the first instance than to trace the different works by the planting of Pi=quets; occasioning little or no inconvenience to the Proprietors of Ground —

Lastly I should look with con=fidence to the Metropolis sending forth in an hour of danger large Bodies of Men to the support of those works; and to its

resources furnishing amply what might previously be necessary for the transport of Artillery and Stores as also for their construction.—

I am My Lord
Yours
Frederick.

G. — 15.

Lieut General Lord Cathcart.
& — & — &

Horse Guards 12 Augt 1803

My Lord.—

I have duly considered the further Report of Mr John Rennie, made under the directions of Your Lordship, in regard to the River Lea (in date August 8th) as also the

the answers given by the same Gentleman to Your Lordships Queries, the object of which is to ascertain, the depth which may be given to the River, by constructing certain Dams and Sluices, and the practicability of cutting off the four Branches of the Lea which are on the left Bank, so as to prevent the drain which they occasion from the course of the princi= pal Branch of the River –

The tendency of Your Lordships Queries, as also of Mr Rennies second Report being meant to establish the possibility, of rendering the Lea defensible, without resor= ting to the General inundation of the Valley, as was first proposed.

Having maturely considered the whole of these Documents, and it being like= wise shewn, by Mr Rennies first Report, that not less than twenty six Days would

be required to give security to the front of the Position, by a general innundation, I have judged it most expedient to adopt the last Plan, to use every means which can add to the depth of the Main Channel of the River, cutting off the four Branches by Sluices, at the point of their departure from its course –

With a view to the more speedy accom= plishment of the Work – I suggest to Your Lord= ships consideration whether the same expedient proposed for the Mouth of the Creek might not be adopted upon a smaller Scale and at a much less expence at the Tail of the four Mills – Trusting to the temporary expedient of sinking a few Vessels if necessary lower down the course of the River –

Your Lordship will however deter= mine this point without further reference.

I deem it material, that those

two

two Sections of the River, formed by Budding Mill Stream and Distillers River, should be prepared for Innundation, for the purpose of giving additional Security to that part of the Position, where the Bend of the River would otherwise favour the real approach of an Enemy.

I am fully aware that adding to the depth of the Canal betwixt Old Ford Lock, and Lea Bridge, would be a material advantage to that part of the Position, considering however, that this object cannot be obtained without interrupting the Navigation for one Month, I do not think the advantage which would result, sufficient to counterbalance this Public Inconvenience —

I do not feel it incumbent to enter into greater detail upon this subject, and shall therefore only direct Your Lordship, on whose local knowledge and judge-

=ment I can perfectly rely, to enter into the proper contracts with such Civil Engineers as may be best enabled to give immediate effect to the general ideas which have been determined — A copy of the contracts so entered into to be immediately transmitted to the Quarter Master General, for the purpose of being forwarded to the Treasury, by which Your Lordship will not understand that any delay is to take place in the execution of the work.

I am Mylord

Yours

Frederick

H — 16.

The Earl of Chatham.

& & &

Horse Guards 9 Augt 1803.

My Lord

Your Lordship is already acquain=ted with the importance which is attached to the situation of Shooters Hill whether as forming the left of the Position extending by Chiselhurst towards Bromley, or as forming a necessary advanced work to cover the left of the London Position which from the nature of the ground to be occupied, is more particularly an object of jealousy -

Independant of these great ob=jects, Shooters Hill appears to be a point well calculated to afford the principal Strength of a Position which may be taken for the security of

of the Arsenals of Woolwich Deptford &c —

The weight of these considerations di-
-rected to objects of so much importance to the
Country has induced me after mature delibera-
-tion, strongly to recommend to Your Lordship
the erection of a permanent work upon this Site —

Without precluding the benefit to be
derived from more scientific observations — I
shall generally remark to Your Lordship that
the extent and formation of this Ground,
as also the evident necessity of its being
occupied by a considerable Body of Troops,
shows that an intrenched Camp with strong
Batteries or Redoubts upon the salient angles
seems to be the work of a Nature best adapted
to the local situation and objects which
have been enumerated —

It may however upon investigation
appear more adviseable to occupy the summit
of

of the Hill by a Strong and Regular work com-
-manding as far as possible the different
Earthen works and abbatis in those advanced
Situations which it is absolutely necessary
to occupy when the Ground is taken up as a
Position —

The accompanying Sketch will
serve to elucidate these Ideas —

The importance of a speedy determi-
-nation, will induce Your Lordship to give this
subject the very earliest attention with a view
to determine in the first instance what the
nature shall be of the permanent work to be
erected — which ascertained — I shall propose.

1st —— If the permanent works are to be
of the nature of Lines for an entrenched
Camp, that the works should be immediately
traced under the Authority of the Ordnance
with a view to their being proceeded upon

so as to render them as soon as possible useful as Field Works – The perfection of the Profile – The Revetement and planting of Pallisadoes to be forwarded with all dispatch when the object most wanted is attained –

2d ____ Should it be thought preferable to crown the summit of the Hill by a strong Fort, I shall immediately direct (while that is proceeding upon under the Board of Ordnance) the construction of such Field Works as may be deemed necessary to enable the extent of Ground to be occupied by the Troops placed in this Position –

I am My Lord

Yours

Frederick

I ——— 18.

Proposed Alarm Posts for the Volunteer Infantry of the Metropolis; each Posts detaching Guards to its right and left to keep up a commu-nication with the adjoining Posts of the same Cordon

Tower Division.		City Division	
1st Cordon	2d Cordon	3d Cordon	4th Cordon
Well close Square	Minories	London Bridge	Black Friars Br.
Goodman Fields	Aldgate Church	Grace Church St	Doctors Commons
WhiteChapple Church	Hounds ditch	Royal Exchange	St Pauls
In the Fields between	Bishopgate St	Excise Office	Christ Hospital
the Tower & the Ins	Shoreditch	Moor Fields	Smithfield
Burying Ground	St Leonards Ch	Artillery Ground	Charter House
Bethnel gr: Work H		St Lukes Hospital	Clerkenwell green
Norwell Place Turnp:			New Prison
			New River Head

Western Division.

Right		Left	
5th Cordon	6th Cordon	7th Cordon	8th Cordon
The Temple	Adelphi	St Johns Westnr	Green Park
New Inn	Covent Garden	Westminster Br	Berkeley Square
Lincolns Inn	Newport Market	Kings Mews	Grosuenor Squr
Red Lion Sqr	Soho Square	Golden Square	Portman Square
Bloomsbury Sqr	Middlesex Hosp	Hanover Square	
Foundling Hos	Fitzroy Square	Cavendish Square	

NB — If the Western Division does not produce a sufficiency of Troops the four Cordons allotted to it must be reduced to two.

Cordons

No 1 — To be occupied by the 1st Line of the Tower Division —

2. ——— 2d Line of the Tower Division —

3. ——— 1st Line of the City Division detaching one Battalion to the London Docks.

4. ——— 2d Line of the City Division detaching three Companies to the Temple.

5 (except the Temple) 1st Line of the Right Wing of the Western Division.

6 ——— 2d Line of the Right Wing of the Western Division.

7 ——— 1st Line of the Left Wing of the Western Division.

8 ——— 2d Line of the Left Wing of the Western Division detaching 50 men to Chelsea Works.

K. — 19

The Earl of Chatham.

& — & — &

Horse Guards 9 Augt 1803

My Lord

I herewith transmit for Your Lordships Information Copies of two Letters dated the 29th and 30th ult: from Maj Genl Mercer of the Royal Engineers to Lt General Simcoe, relating to certain Field Works proposed by the Lt General to give additional security to Plymouth; as also an extract from a Letter from Lt Genl Simcoe to the Quarter Master General, in reply to the observations of Maj General Mercer.

The points in question are the Establishment of a Redoubt for the protection of the Ycalm River, as also the erecting another

Field

Field work in advance of Plymouth upon Ground called Clarkes Summer House, for the purpose of obstructing the approach of an Enemy against the principal Works of the Place –

Maj General Mercers objections to an extensive work upon the Mouth of the Yealm, rest chiefly upon a supposed want of Force for the general protection of the Works, which might render it unwise in his Opinion to detach so largely for this object – He also considers that strengthening the Church Yard of Wenbury, would answer the purpose of a Redoubt to cover the Sea Battery.

The extended preparations for defence now authorized for the first time by the Govern= ment of the Country, must prevent my dwelling upon the limition of Works thought necessary for the defence of any material object; as I trust the moment is not distant when sufficient numbers will be found for the protection of all great and

important Points –

I am also averse, unless the necessity of the case renders it unavoidable, to the occu-pying or disturbing the convenience of a Place set apart for Public worship upon a principle of Economy –

In the case of the Work proposed at Clarke's Summer House, Genl Mercer independant of the objection of detaching for the defence of Outworks does not think it adviseable to establish any Work upon the Table of that Hill as from the great elevation of the Work the Enemy may pass during the Night either to the right or left —— The Major General however far from disputing the local importance of the Ground observes that Clarkes Hill and other similar points may be occupied with advantage by Flying Batteries supported by small Columns —— Throughout, M Genl Mercers reasoning is distinct as to its object, and able in the point of view

which

which he entertains of the Subject.

I am however of Opinion that the work in question ought to be constructed — it being the intention of Lt General Simcoe to des=troy the Roads which lead up the Steeps & heights thro the different Ravines, and to advance Guns in various ledges of the Rocky Hill to enfilade the main Road to Plymouth — It would otherwise be sufficient towards deciding the Work that the Lt General who is entrusted with the command of the Western District, conceives that it necessa=rily must force the Enemy to a more circuitous and less advantageous Line of approach a=gainst the principal Works of the Place —

Lt General Simcoe having again strong=ly urged the propriety of establishing a work upon Stone House Hill, I have also considered it expedient to give him full lati=tude upon that Subject. —

The works will be undertaken by the Dt. General under the Head of Field works, but I cannot for a moment doubt in conformity to the expressions with which Mr Genl Mercer so handsomely ends one of his Letters that every aid to be derived from his professional ability will be given as also from the means placed by the Ordnance under his Command, altho his judgement should not subscribe to the propriety of the works in question.

I have much satisfaction in remarking the assurance given by Mr Genl Mercer that the works upon Mount Pleasant are immediately to be improved, and the other works placed in the best possible State under his direction.

The difference of Opinion which has existed betwixt the Officers upon the Spot, has rendered it necessary for me to enter into the foregoing detail — But Your Lordships Military judgement upon the perusal of Lt General Simcoe's

Simcoes Letter, will observe reasons drawn from a more enlarged view of the Defence of Plymouth for my authorizing any ad-vanced works which are thought calculated to obstruct the advance of an Enemy a-gainst the Body of the Place.

Lt General Simcoe intends to obstruct and oppose in front — whilst he carries on a vigorous attack on the rear of an Enemy endeavouring to possess himself of Plymouth.

This Line of conduct which I per-fectly approve, is also supported by Military Opinions furnished from the observations of some of our most experienced Officers — General Lloyd remarks "That there is not a Spot "about Plymouth if properly occupied and "protected by the most inconsiderable works but "will require a Siege to force them which cannot

"be undertaken while we have any Body of "Troops in the Neighbourhood" — It may be observed these opinions may be considered as alone applicable in reference to the Force stationed within the Western District — which leads me again to express to Your Lordship my sanguine expectation that when the portion of the Regular Force ultimately destined for this District is procured by the present exertions of the Country that with the addition of the Volunteer Force of the West of England nothing will be wanting under this Head of the Service —

I am My Lord

Yours.

Frederick

L — 20

Circular to General Officers Commanding Districts.

Horse Guards 11th Augt 1803.

Sir,

I herewith enclose Copies received Yesterday from His Majesty's Secretary of State of the additional Defence Bill, and of two circular Letters dated July 30th and August 3d respecting the measures to be taken under the authority of this Act of the Legislature.

You will observe the chief object of this Bill is to enable His Majesty to exercise in the most prompt and efficient manner His ancient Perogative requiring the Military Service of His Subjects in case of Invasion.

The Act therefore provides a compulsory Clause for the training to Arms

a certain portion of the Inhabitants — but in order to render it unnecessary to resort to the power so given and that as little delay as possible may take Place in rendering this Force effecient — His Majesty has been pleased to determine that not less than six times the No of the original Militia should be trained and if possible under the Head of Voluntary Service offered in the shape of Volunteer Corps —

In My Lord Hobarts Letters of the 30th July and 3d of August you will find particular Details recommended —

His Majestys Secretary of State has called for the utmost activity to be used by the Lord Lieutenants of Counties — and upon an occasion of so much Interest to the Country I rely that every exertion will be given on your part and all aid afforded

to

to His Majesty's Lieutenants, so far as may depend upon Military Council or Opinion.

You will not fail to attend the different Public Meetings held upon this oc=casion and direct every assistance to be given by the Troops under your Command towards the Drill of the Corps in their immediate Neighbourhood –

It is also left to Your judgement to detach Officers or Non Commissioned Officers on this Duty, where it can be done with safety to the Public Service.

I have ordered a Plan of Instruc=tion for Drill and Exercise to be printed a number of Copies of which shall be for=warded for the different Corps within Your District.

The Military Service to be expected

under this Act the Provision of which are so well adapted to the spirit and Loyalty of the People - will shortly admit of ge=neral measures of Defence being resorted to adequate to whatever case of danger may arise upon any part of the British Coast.

It is highly necessary towards previous arrangement that I should learn from You the Place of assembly fixed upon for the Volunteer Cavalry and Infantry within the different Counties under Your Command - as also the establishment and effective Strength of the different Corps accepted.

During the ensuing Period of prepa=ration it is of much importance that you do frequently desire information of the Lord Lieutenants respecting the establishing, ar=ming and drilling the different Corps, and I am

am to desire that a Report may be made to Me from time to time thro the Quarter Master General of the Progress which has been made.

*

This present Bill promising the opportunity of procuring Volunteers to man Coast Batteries (Bodies of this description being considered on the same footing as other Volunteer Corps) I am to direct Your attention to the construction of Batteries upon the Sea Coast in which I place perfect reliance that you will recommend the Establishing of none that are not material towards the defence of important Points and where you are assured of the service of sufficient numbers engaging previously to man the Batteries in the Hour of Danger.

I am Sir

Yours

Frederick

* This last Paragraph sent only to the Generals Commanding the Coast Districts.