

Viscount Howe,
Portsmouth, 24th Feb^r 1783.

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Wednesday morning.

Lord Howe has with much pain observed, the turn
the Debates in Parliament have lately taken. He most humbly
prays that his situation may not weigh in the infinite
goodness he has experienced, to impede any arrangement
deemed most beneficial to your Majesty's service. At the
same time, he begs permission to suggest, that he views the
important charge he has lately had the honor to be vested
with, in the light of a military Post, at which it is incumbent
on him to wait for farther orders.

Portsmouth

24th Feb^r 1783

10th past 10 P.M.

24 Feb 1783

Lord Howe has the honor to submit to your Majesty, that he does not see cause to believe, the object amongst the greater part of the Seamen at this Port, extends farther than to obtain an exemption from foreign service; in imitation of the Regiments first ordered to the East Indies. By officers, an earnest desire for their wages, & immediate discharge, is expressed. This impatience he hopes he shall be able to correct, if the weather will admit of his going off to morrow to Spithead, as the present appearance of it renders probable. and he then proposes to pay his duty to your Majesty on