

5 Nov 1794  
Col. H. Fullarton. Memorandum

Nov. 5 1794

Several misrepresentations having been circulated on the subject of the 23<sup>d</sup> Light Dragoons and 101<sup>st</sup> Foot Colonel Fullarton feels it his duty to those Corps to state the following particulars.

The ridiculous mistatement of men having been intited to act as Fencibles was immediately refuted by referring to all the attestations of the Regiment and by a personal Interrogation of every Individual in the Corps by Major Kelsos on the Parade at Ayr - It may also be added that in the Regimental Books of both Corps will be found the signatures of the recruits acknowledging the receipt of all demands agreeable to their Engagements.

Motives of delicacy made Colonel Fullarton refrain from exposing as they deserved the unfounded reports of insubordination although he had the perfect reputation of them in his possession. - Fortunately the uniform good Conduct of the Corps has given a complete Contradiction to these mistakes in so much that he should not think of referring to any other explanation if he did not find himself accused of neglect and injustice to the Corps by allowing unfounded imputations to remain unanswered.

Colonel Fullarton is aware too how requisite it is in these times that the King should know on whom He may rely and would not suffer any Individual on whom the slightest suspicion could attach

to remain under his Command without most rigorous Investigation.

The rapidity with which the Levy was completed and the late Regulations admitting Officers to raise men for rank unattached to any Corps rendered it impossible to procure a sufficiency of Officers to take charge of the recruits — The good conduct and appearance of the Men however were conspicuous They marched in all directions and behaved in every place without Complaint from any Individual.

A Long and severe Indisposition prevented Colonel Fullarton from attending the inspection at Ayr — Lieut General Leslie inspected the Corps on the 7<sup>th</sup> June and was pleased to express himself in most flattering terms of the Men and Horses. — Next day June 8<sup>th</sup> Lieut General Leslie attended the morning Parade and afterwards walked about among the Men to give them all an opportunity of stating to him whatever might occur. — He has since assured Colonel Fullarton by letter that not one Complaint was made to him and that every thing was in perfect peace and order. Colonel Fullarton therefore could not fail to be surprised when he afterwards learned that the recruits were on that very day reported to be in a state of insubordination and application made to the Commander in Chief to send a party of old Dragoons

A Letter from Colonel Fullarton on this subject dated 8<sup>th</sup> July and addressed to Lord Adam Gordon proved that the only grounds for such proceedings were

were that a recruit was detected from Paisley in  
 seditious Correspondence with his Brother in Lord  
 Muntlys Corps. — He was afterwards with two ac-  
 -complices sent on Board the Squadron by order of  
 Lord Adam Gordon. — That letter farther stated that  
 the recruits were made to believe Colonel Fullarton  
 dying and that instead of being continued as Dragoons,  
 they were on the Eve of being transferred to the East  
 India Company, the order for Embarkation having  
 preceded any order for Inspection. — While the  
 recruits were under these impressions an order  
 was given for marching to Kilmarnock and the  
 men were hastily directed by the then Commanding  
 Officer to receive every fraction of arrears or Bounty  
 due to them But so little time was allowed that  
 Mr Walker who went to Ayr on the part of Colonel  
 Fullarton to settle every demand had only 36 Hours  
 for that purpose owing to the necessity of the Regt  
 marching previous to the Election at Ayr. — In  
 consequence of the ill timed payments which were  
 made a few of the recruits got drunk. — One of  
 them whose demand for want of time it had not been  
 possible to settle declared on the Parade that he  
 was not bound to march till his demands were  
 paid. — So quietly were the men inclined that  
 notwithstanding the strange reports with which  
 they had been agitated not one of them supported  
 this refractory recruit. — His conduct however  
 occasioned a sort of altercation with him on the  
 Parade which lasted 10 or 15 minutes. — Next  
 day the Corps marched quietly to Kilmarnock  
 remained

remained there without disturbance and as soon as the Election was over at Ayr returned with perfect regularity.

The Magistrates of Kilmarnock have declared in explicit terms that no irregularity was committed against any Inhabitant of the Place and that no complaint was made against any Soldier of the Regiment.

When the Corps marched from Ayr to England the Provost by authority of the Magistrates & respectable Inhabitants expressed to Colonel Fullarton by letter in the strongest terms the uniform good Conduct and peaceable behaviour of the 23<sup>d</sup> Light Dragoons from the first moment of their being stationed at Ayr. — On their march across England their Officers as well as the Innkeepers on whom they were billeted bear general testimony of their good Conduct without an instance of Complaint. — During their Encampment at Netley no Corps has behaved with more perfect regularity.

The difficulty of procuring Officers to purchase in the new Corps was found to be so great that Lord Feilding and Colonel Loftus receded from the Engagement of raising Men & Horses without any Expence to Government and obtained an arrangement calculated at £40 per Man and Horse. — Lord Amherst very politely communicated to Colonel Fullarton that he  
thought

thought him entitled to the same allowance but as he had made a specific offer to take all the Expence upon himself he did not feel it consistent with his modes of acting to recede from a proposal offered and accepted. — He had therefore no other fund than the price of the Commissions for defraying the Expence of the undertaking. — The necessity of procuring efficient Officers to form the Regiment obliged him to recommend the Riding master to a Lieutenancy and the Adjutant to a Cornetcy at his own Expence in order to induce well qualified men to accept of these appointments. —

The Regiment is now gone into excellent quarters at Salisbury. — Colonel Fullarton trusts it will be suffered to remain together as long as may be requisite to complete the Men and Horses in their Discipline. — In point of good Conduct and appearance there is hardly any thing to amend. — Although so long embodied the Regiment is complete and not an exceptionable Man in the Corps. —

During Colonel Fullartons long indisposition he has been much indebted to the Exertions of Lieut Colonel Hardy who has in all respects conducted the business of the Regiment to his Satisfaction. — Every Commission in the Corps is filled up with proper Officers Excepting

38  
3 Lieutenancies which still remain on his hands.

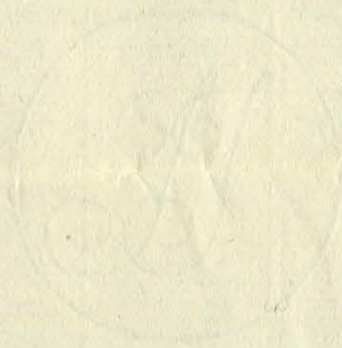
With respect to the 101<sup>st</sup> Co. Fullarton feels himself under great Obligations to Lieut Colonel Baillie for his meritorious Exertions in Command of the Regiment. — A Number of intelligent and efficient Officers have also been recommended although there still remain several Vacant Commissions.

When the Regiment was ordered to leave Scotland the Provost and Magistrates of Stirling were pleased to express in very flattering terms their Sense of the good Conduct and Appearance of the Corps which had been quartered in that Town. — Since their arrival in Ireland they are generally admitted not only to be one of the best Bodies of men but one of the most orderly Corps that has been sent to that Kingdom. — Neither have they afforded one instance of irregularity or Complaint since the first moment of their being Embodied. The official Remonstrance therefore made from Ireland on hearing that the 101<sup>st</sup> was ordered thither could only have originated from an unfair intention to Misrepresent a Corps which had never given any offence or from an inadvertant application of  
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misstatements circulated on the subject  
of another Regiment.

Colonel Fullarton has neither spared  
Labour nor Expence to render these Corps  
equal to any Regiments in the Army and  
he would be much mortified if any Individ-  
ual proved himself more zealous in the  
Service of the King.

W Fullarton



Col. Fullarton's  
Statement

Respecting

23<sup>d</sup> Light Dragoons

and

101<sup>st</sup> Foot

3<sup>rd</sup> Nov 1794

5 Nov