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PROCLAMATION for pardoning Deserters from His Majesty's Regular Forces.

War-Office, October 8, 1805.

WHEREAS it has been represented to the King, that there are, at this Time, several Deserters from His Majesty's Regular Land Forces who might be induced to return to their Duty by an Offer of His Majesty's gracious Pardon, and that such an Instance of His Royal Clemency would have a due Influence upon their future Behaviour; His Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant His Free Pardon to all Deserters from His Regular Land Forces who shall surrender themselves, on or before the Eighth Day of December next, to any of His Majesty's Civil Magistrates, to the Commanding Officer of any Regiment, to any of the Superintending Field Officers of the Recruiting Service, whose Stations are mentioned in the Margin hereof, or to the Inspector-General of the Recruiting Service in the Isle of Wight.

Such Deserters, if able-bodied Men, and fit for Service, shall be appointed to such Regiments as His Majesty may be pleased to command, and, when so placed, shall not be liable to be claimed by any other Corps to which they may formerly have belonged.

Every Deserter not actually serving in any of His Majesty's Regiments is to surrender himself for General Service.

Deserters serving in other Corps, (Militia, and Army of Reserve excepted,) are to continue therein upon declaring themselves to their respective Commanding Officers, who are to report the Circumstance to the Secretary at War and the Adjutant General, and they shall not be liable at any future Time, to be claimed by the Regiments in which they formerly served: but this Clause is not to extend to Deserters enlisted by the Corps for raising Recruits for general Service, which Deserters are only to be entitled to their Pardon, on declaring themselves to be such, and will be transferred to such Regiments as His Majesty may be pleased to command.

The Magistrate to whom any Deserter from His Majesty's Regular Forces may surrender himself, is authorized and required to certify the Day on which such Deserter surrendered himself, which Certificate is to continue in force until the Arrival of the Deserter at the Head-Quarters of the nearest Military Post, provided he proceed at the Rate of Ten Miles a Day, unless prevented by Sickness, to be certified by some Medical Practitioner on the Back of the Magistrate's Certificate, or to be otherwise proved to the Satisfaction of the Officer commanding at such Military Post.

No Soldier who may desert after these His Majesty's gracious Intentions are made public, shall be included in the above Pardon, but be proceeded against with the utmost Severity. Nor shall any Soldier who surrendered himself upon any former Proclamation of His Majesty's Pardon, and who afterwards again deserted, be included in the above Pardon. And it is to be clearly understood, that this Pardon is not to extend to any Deserter from His Majesty's Militia Forces, or from the Army of Reserve, or Additional Force; but all Soldiers who shall have enlisted for general Service from the said Forces, and shall subsequently thereto have deserted, will be included in this His Majesty's gracious Pardon.

By His Majesty's Command,
W. DUNDAS.

War-Office, October 22, 1805.

- 3d Regiment of Dragoons, John Massey, Gent. to be Cornet, by Purchase, vice Darwin, who retires.
- 8th Regiment of Light Dragoons, Captain John Lord Burghersh, from the 23d Foot, to be Captain of a Troop, without Purchase, vice Hawkins, deceased.
- 14th Ditto, Ensign E. P. Dormer, from the 62d Foot, to be Lieutenant, without Purchase.
- 15th Ditto, Ensign Robert Ball, from the 31st Foot, to be Lieutenant, without Purchase.
- 1st Regiment of Foot Guards, Henry Thistlethwaite, Gent. to be Ensign, without Purchase.
- Thomas Lillo, Gent. to be Assistant-Surgeon, vice Stephenson, who resigns.
- Goldstream Regiment of Foot Guards, ——— Freemantle, Gent. to be Ensign, without Purchase.