

# On Her Majesty's Service



REPETITION OF HISTORY THREATENED INVASION OF ENGLAND BY NAPOLEON BONAPORTE. HOME GUARD OF 1794, COPY KETTER FROM OLD FACTORY BOOK 1940 Home Gnord Recruiting Poster Gason On 1794 Vol. Co. recruiting Doster

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#### REPETITION OF HISTORY

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# INVASION OF ENGLAND

#### NAPOLEON BONAPARTE

THE "HOME GUARD" OF 1794

Copy of Letter from Old Factory Letter Book.

Royal Powder Mills, Waltham Abbey.

3 May, 1794.

Sir.

We beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ulto, respecting the persons employed in the Royal Powder Mills at this place learning the management of Field Pieces—in order that they may be serviceable as Artillerists in case of Invasion or other internal commotion.

On receipt of your favour we assembled the men together informing them thereof, invited such of them as were willing voluntarily to learn the same in their own time after working hours in the evening and acquainting them that they were not to expect any pay for learning the same or anything more than the respect they would be entitled to for their readiness to serve their Country as far as in their power.

We have the pleasure to inform you that they all instantly unanimously declared their willing to learn same. We beg to acquaint you that all the men (who are able) that are employed in the Royal Manufacty. at this place may learn the use of Artillery without in any degree impeding the Manufactory if \*His Grace should be pleased to send us some small pieces for this purpose, except the Millmen, who being employed alternately 24 hours could not be spared. We have therefore about 60 men who are able and ready to learn, seven of which having been in the Royal Artillery are able to instruct the rest. In respect of the inhabitants of Waltham Abbey joining in this matter, we are of opinion that when it became generally known, by our men being employed in learning, that there are many persons in the Town who would join them.

Should His Grace approve thereof we beg to assure him that we will give every attention thereto and do what lies in our power to forward them in learning the same.

If His Grace would permit us to fire, suppose three rounds of powder from 6 guns at 1 lb. per charge on a Saturday evening we presume it would be a great inducement for the neighbouring young men to attend who in general, never saw a gun fired.

We are, Sir,

Your mo. obed. and mo. humbl. Serts.,

(Sgd.) Jas. Wright

R. Coleman

John Findlay, Esq.

(\* The Duke of Richmond, Master General of the Ordnance, etc.)

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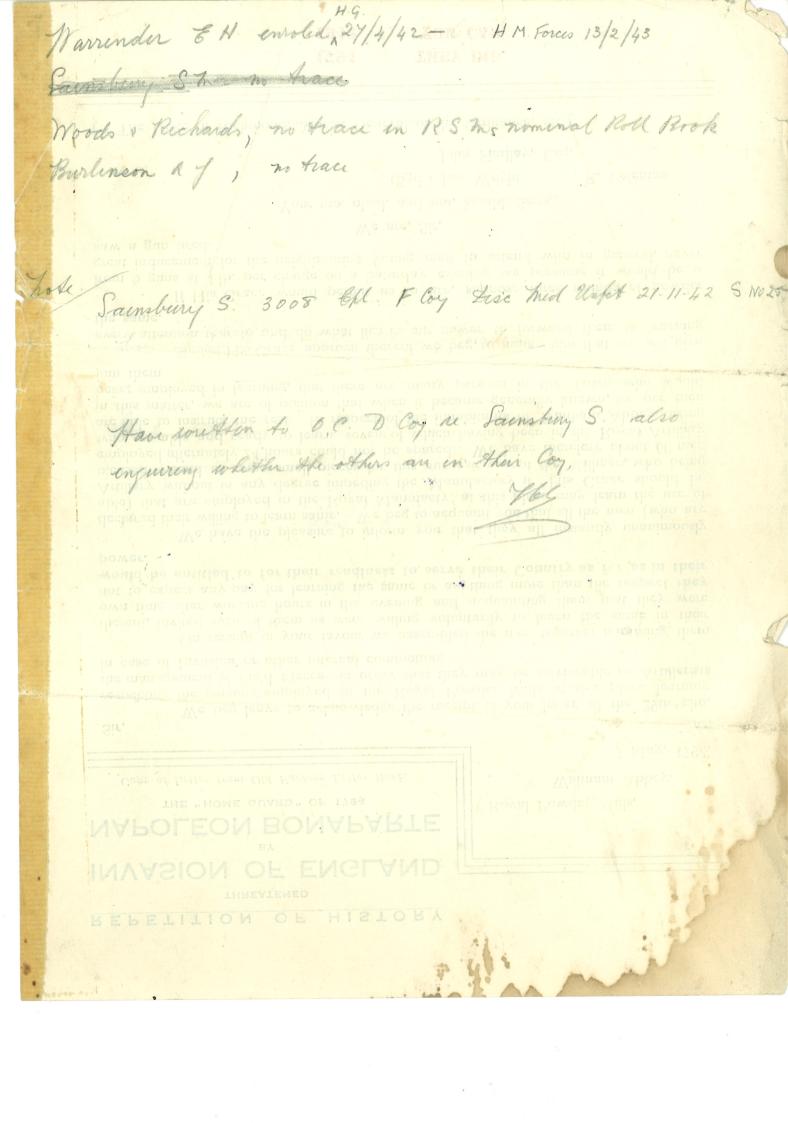
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