

Cochrane to Croker

3 October 1814 (cont.)

battalions of marines and the additional aid which can be spared from the shipping the Rear Admiral will have a force of about fifteen hundred men with which he will be able to occupy the attention of the Enemy whilst we are carrying on our operations in Louisiana.

You forgot to name the Troops upon the Margin of your Letter, as also the number of Troop Ships; I am well pleased however to observe that every Ship is to bring out two Flat Boats as we are much cramped in our means of landing a sufficient body of men to resist the immediate attack of an Enemy.

I am much afraid that it will not be in the power of Rear Admiral Brown to procure the number of small Vessels you speak of (ten to twenty) of a construction calculated for the shoal water in the vicinity of New Orleans.

The 5<sup>th</sup> West India Regiment will be of much use and I hope that the other may also follow; but as the West India regiments composition does not make them equal to British Troops in numbers fit for active service I trust that none but the really effective may be allowed to come with them.

I am glad to find that the Rifles and Carabines etc are on their way out, I hope they are accompanied by some hundred stands of Dragoon Accoutrements for the Indians as well as such Cavalry as we may be able to form from the Regiments and Ships of War.

In relation to the Temporary rank of Colonel which I wished Major Nicolls to hold whilst acting with the Indians, it is conformable to what was adopted all through the American War when provincial rank was given as high as Brigadier General, and even to those who had never held any Military Rank whatever - With the Indians it is absolutely necessary to impress them with the belief that their Leaders are Men of rank and consequence or as they stile them, Great Warriors - they are accustomed by their intercourse with the United