Goulburn to Croker
19 January 1814 (enclosure to ltr of 21 Jan. to Cochrane)

To John William Croker Esq.

Downing Street
19 January 1814

Sir.

It having been represented to His Majesty's Government that a large proportion of the Negroes and Colored Inhabitants of the United States have expressed a desire to withdraw themselves from their present situation with a view of entering into His Majesty's Service or of being received as Free Settlers in some of His Majesty's Colonies, I am directed by Lord Bathurst to request you will move the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to instruct Sir Alexr Cochrane to afford to all persons, who may manifest such a disposition, every facility for the accomplishment of their Wishes.—

In conveying to him such Instructions it will be necessary to restrict the Enlistment of Recruits for His Majesty's West Indian Regiments to Persons withdrawing themselves from Georgia and South Carolina, and to limit their number to five thousand Men—

General Encouragement may however be given to Emigration from all the States.

The Disposal of the Persons so withdrawing themselves from the Protection of the American Government will vary according to the circumstance of their being willing, or of their declining, to embrace a Military Life, + In the former case it is advisable that they should be conveyed to Bermuda, where recruiting Parties from the several West Indian Regiments have been ordered to assemble for the purpose of taking charge of them — In the latter should they emigrate from the more Northern States they should be landed at Halifax, if from the more southern at Trinidad, the Governors of which Colonies will be provided with Instructions as to their Maintenance and future disposal.—