

ADM 1/506/775-782  
Cochrane to Croker  
June 20, 1814

It is my intention to send Major Nichols of the Marines with some good Sergeants and Corporals to drill them - They have been particularly desirous of having British Officers among them, if thirty or forty with Sergeants and Corporals could be sent direct from England to the River Appalachicola they will be of the greatest service - the Ships bringing them out to call at New Providence for Pilots.

I propose giving Major Nichols first, the provincial rank of Lieutenant Colonel, and then of Colonel, to give him a consequence with the Chiefs, and I beg leave to propose that I should be specially furnished with the powers to appoint Officers to Local Rank to enable me to accept of the Services of those calculated for this species of Warfare, which is by far the most destructive that can be adopted against such a perfidious Enemy.

As a number of Regiments are in all probability disbanded I trust there will be no difficulty in furnishing me with the Military Stores: five hundred Rifles will be of much use and Tents in proportion to my Force.

Should their Lordships deem it proper to act upon the information contained in Captain Pigot's report I beg to submit the expediency of being furnished with Vessels of light draft of water to carry heavy Guns into Lake "la Pontchartraine" and calculated for the Coast between that and "Bay Mobile": they should be large enough to carry about one hundred men.

I am, Sir  
etc etc etc  
Alexander Cochrane  
Vice Admiral and Commander in Chief.