

ADM 1/4360/[69-72]  
Cochrane to Croker  
(continued)

(3)

I am glad to find that the Rifles & Carbines etc are on their way; but I hope they are accompanied by some hundred sets of Dragoon accoutrements for the Indians as well as such Cavalry as we may be able to form from the regiments and ~~are carrying on operations in the~~ the 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, where provincial Rank was given as high as that of Brigadier General, & even to those who had never held any Military Rank whatever. With the Indians it is absolutely necessary to impress a belief that their leaders are men of rank & consequence, or as they style them, "great warriors". They are accustomed by their intercourse with the United States to see how Military Rank is prostituted, & that even the taverns are kept by persons bearing the ranks of Colonels, Lt. Colonels, etc. This being the case I judged it for the advantage of M. M. Service to place Major Nicolls in a situation beyond or at least of equal Rank to persons of that description.

After the Service has been completed at New Orleans & the country properly secured I beg leave to propose that should there be more troops than are necessary for the security of our conquests they shall join the Marines upon the coast of Georgia & Carolina; and if an additional force can be sent from home so as to compose a body of six thousand men I am fully satisfied that these two states will be at our mercy. And that by recruiting men during the winter I expect to add at least 2,000 men to that number before