

I have no other views, Sir, in this undertaking, than such as arise from a desire to render my country, and the army, in service; and being well convinced of the goodness of my cause, all I wish for is a fair and impartial trial. But this I freely declare I cannot expect at Portsmouth or Hilsa: there the regiment is quartered, there the accused must have formed connections, and there all the witnesses I may call upon will be totally in their power. I certainly am entitled to his Majesty's protection on this occasion. In London I should think myself perfectly safe, and should give my evidence without fear. At Portsmouth I shall be a friendless unsupported individual, surrounded with an host of enemies, and I should look upon my life as being in danger.

I therefore desire, Sir, you will be pleased to submit to his Majesty my humble request, that the Court-Martial, for the trial of Captain Powell, and Lieutenants Seton and Hall, of the 54th regiment, may be held in London.

If it be improper, Sir, for you to lay my request before his Majesty, I beg you may inform me of it as soon as may be convenient, in order that I may apply through another channel.

When I shall receive information, that this my request has been submitted to the King, and shall hear his Majesty's final determination, I shall immediately send you the names of my witnesses.

I am with the greatest respect, &c.

London, 25th Feb. 1792.

WILLIAM COBBETT.

Horse-Guards, 28th Feb. 1792.

SIR—I take the first opportunity of acquainting you that from an earnest representation from the prosecutor there is reason to believe that the Court-Martial of which you are appointed to be president, and whereof I apprised you in a former letter, will be held in London in which case I shall endeavour to give my personal attendance as Judge-Advocate.

As soon as I shall have an opportunity of receiving his Majesty's further commands, I shall trouble you again upon this subject.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your very faithful and obedient servant,
Major-General Crobie.

CHARLES GOULD.

Horse-Guards, 28th Feb. 1792.

SIR—I was favoured with your letter, by yesterday's post, in answer to mine, wherein I asked whether you wished any persons to be summoned by me. It is not at all necessary that you should furnish me with a list of such witnesses, for whom you do not think an official letter of summons will be requisite. It was in contemplation to assemble the Court-Martial, either at Portsmouth or at Hilsa Barracks; but the prosecutor is urgent that the trial should be had in London, and has offered some reasons which it will be my duty to lay before the King. If you will favour me with any observations respecting those articles of charge which appear to you to be too general, for enabling you to arrange your defence, I will write to the prosecutor, and endeavour to obtain from him such specifications as may enable you to form a competent judgment with respect to the witnesses, upon whom it may be necessary for you to call, as it may be very inconvenient as