

MEAT FOR THE PORTSMOUTH GARRISON IN THE EARLY NINETEENTH CENTURY. AN ATTEMPT AT ‘TRANSPARENCY’ IN AN AGE OF CORRUPTION

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ABSTRACT

In 1804, the Portsmouth area was the base for a number of the regiments of the Army of Reserve. These needed a regular supply of fresh meat, as did the occupants of the military hospital. This article reveals little known information about the provisioning of these forces, the people involved in the supply of livestock to Portsmouth and the prices and costs incurred.

Contracts with the Portsmouth Garrison and the Board of Ordnance with various burgesses in the mid 18th century have been well documented by Surry and Thomas (1976), but nothing has been published about the provisioning of the considerable presence of the Army of Reserve, created in June 1803, some of whose regiments of militia were stationed in or around the environs of Portsmouth. This article rectifies this omission by using information which has been hidden away in the pages of the *Hampshire Telegraph*. The details given increase our knowledge of suppliers, prices, regiments supplied, some of the detail of butchering, and the army organisation created to oversee the operation and account for money spent. This was an attempt at openness, which, as will be seen, could have gone awry.

Corruption, before, during and after the time of the Pitt administration, was rife in Regency England and ranged from the highest in the land to the lowest ranks. Earl St Vincent, as First Lord of the Admiralty, made himself highly unpopular when, in 1801, he sought to introduce real reforms into the whole system of naval administration. No one knew better than he the extent to which endemic corruption and

incompetence affected the fighting capabilities of the navy, which needed to control the seas. He aimed, first and foremost, to clean up the dockyards because, in his opinion, discipline on board His Majesty's fighting ships would be of no avail 'if the ships were rotten, stores defective and the food bad'. He soon found out that trying to reform the dockyards 'was to advance upon a deeply entrenched system of corruption which spread with terrifying completeness on all sides Every branch of the administration from the lowest to the highest was in league to maintain corruption on which they batten.' In January 1802 St. Vincent had recommended to George III that a commission be set up to enquire into the abuses and, by August of that year, inspections had started. Plymouth and Portsmouth were amongst the yards visited. Each place seemed to be worse than the last. When Parliament reconvened that winter, St Vincent, with great difficulty, forced through a bill appointing a commission of enquiry. Next year on 18 May war was declared, plans for reform had to be shelved, and the south of England was threatened with imminent invasion (Sherrard 1933, 187, 188, 192).

This then was the historical backdrop to the renewal of a contract to feed the various regiments, which had been drafted into to defend south-eastern Hampshire. Thus it was that the editor and owner of the *Hampshire Telegraph*, John C Mottley, decided to devote two columns of his paper, on 13 August 1804, to the publication of 'The Articles of Agreement', which had been drawn up for the supply of meat between John Whitelocke, the general commanding the Portsmouth garrison, and

two local butchers This had been signed over three years earlier on 23 March 1801.

It was, in the words used in the paper, 'in consequence of the extent and enormity of speculation, which, to the disgrace of those concerned, was found to have existed in this Command' that the following mode of supplying meat had been set up by General Whitelocke.

The basic terms of the agreement (appendix 1) required the publication of monthly accounts by the army, covering both the source of supply, quantities bought, and prices paid and also the later disposition of butchered meat. Smithfield or other markets were to be visited by buyers, funded by the regiments to be supplied, and livestock was to be purchased at market price. The expenses from driving the cattle or sheep to Portsmouth, butchering and delivering to the troops, would be reimbursed at 27 shillings for each beast and 3 shillings per sheep. Accounts were to be prepared monthly by an army committee, which included the paymaster of the district and a captain or intelligent ('sic') officer from each corps, and were to be sworn before a local magistrate. Significantly, a £2000 bond had to be paid to ensure 'true and perfect performance'. The editor went on to say that 'it is not unreasonable to calculate the saving to the public, from the percentage of money formerly given in one shape or another by Butchers to obtain the serving of Regiments, all of which was, no doubt, laid on the price of meat. And it is further presumed that the actual Market Price of Meat would have been much enhanced, if the Military had drawn their supplies from it'.

The two butchers who were awarded the contract were William Padwick and William Edwards. At this time, there were two William Padwicks in Portsmouth, father and son, but it was probably the father who signed the contract and ran the business. The Padwicks had premises, rated at £18, in Warblington Street, and stores, rated at £14 in Whitehart Row; they also owned tenements in Hogmarket Street, Red Lyon Street (PCRO 81A/3/1/54), and also land in other parts of Portsea Island,

which was to be of substantial financial benefit some ten years later.

The first accounts to be published (summarised in appendix 2) for the month ending 24 July 1804 show that 159 beasts (cattle) and 360 sheep had been purchased from fourteen suppliers from Sarum, two from Chichester, two from Weston, one each from London, Gosport and Wymering, and one from Dunhill, whose name was Padwick. This livestock was butchered and supplied to 12 regiments, the military hospital, and detachments at Hilsea. The contractors had also to account for hides, fat, and offal which would be sold, from time to time (*HT* 13 Aug. 1804).

The accounts for August were duly published in the issue dated 3 September; in addition to cattle and sheep, 10 hogs were also purchased from a supplier on Portsea Island (*HT* 3 Sept. 1804).

A fortnight later, on 17 September, a letter (appendix 3) was published in the local paper, the tenor of which must have caused some disquiet amongst the military authorities, and quiet satisfaction amongst the meat traders, not party to the contract.

Three butchers, William Knight, Thomas Tollervey and John Pay, in a letter dated 25 August but which, according to the post script added later, 'on account of its length could not be inserted in either of the two last weeks papers', aired their grievances and accused Wm. Padwick and Wm. Edwards of sharp practice. The letter writers claimed that they were motivated, only by 'a wish of seeing this Advertisement coolly investigated, and fairly laid before the public'.

They wanted to know why preferential treatment had been given only to Wm. Padwick, dismissing Edwards as merely 'a sleeping partner' in the enterprise. They queried the market prices shown, the lack of evidence of quality of meat supplied, and the fact that, although the contract had specified a price based on two people going to Smithfield or other distant markets, purchases had been made from Mr (Richard) Pittis of Wymering (Farm) and a Mr Hooper, a butcher of Gosport, who was an agent of Padwick. To top this, they

pointed out that Mr Padwick, the contractor, had bought from Mr Padwick of Dunhill: this was Mr Padwick's own farm, at Steep, on the outskirts of Petersfield, on the road to Stoner Hill. (This farm still exists today.)

With greater irony than they knew, they stated that 'whatever abilities he (General Whitelocke) might possess as a soldier, he certainly makes a bad butcher, and a bad check clerk, not to have noticed, long since, many things'. They could not believe that the original contract for one year had run for three, without putting it out for tender (*HT* 17 Sep. 1804).

As well as being butchers, the three signatories also owned property on the island.

Wm. Tollervey owned a building on the Point which, in 1802, had 11 tenants as well as two dwellings in Broad Street (*PCRO* CF8/47-81). The Gaol rate book for 1805 also showed a Thomas Tollervey with property in Tower St. and Bath Square as well as a place called Tollervey's Yard, which had 5 tenants. Wm. Knight owned land and buildings in Buckland at Malthouse Lane, rated at £53. 6. 0 and John Pay held property in Nichol's Court, Portsea, and rented land from the Ridge family (*PCRO* S13/1). Undoubtedly, the three envious butchers and others would have benefited from the army contract, as they may well have profited from contracts in the past. The Borough Rentals book shows that there was a slaughter house in Warblington Street, run by a William Young, and two more in Penny Street (*PCRO* CF8/47-81). These men may or may not have lost business to Wm. Padwick and the considerable team of employees and contractors that he would have needed to staff a business of the size required to feed units of the Army of Reserve, billeted in Gosport, Portsea Island and the surrounding area.

John Mottley published the letter of complaint without comment. What happened as a result of the publication of the letter in the *Hampshire Telegraph*?

No doubt the military authorities would have wanted to live with the existing contract and to agree to any improvements in 'check and balance' with Padwick and Edwards, rather than change to another, untried contractor. The

troops needed meat, daily, as did the military hospitals, and all these were being supplied to the satisfaction of the recipients for over three years.

A long footnote, to the September Accounts, referred to a meeting held on 28 September, a week after the publication of the disparaging letter, by orders of General Whitelocke, to consider the continuation of the contract with Wm. Padwick. Eight named senior officers unanimously ratified the contract, for which Mr Padwick had shown 'propriety and honesty'. They further recommended that the contract be extended for three years from 28 September 1804, with a quit clause of three month's written notice by either party (*HT* 1 Oct. 1804). The third set of accounts were published on 1 October, and as it turned out, were the final ones to be published. Apart from the regular details of supply and distribution, an item of seven guineas is shown as payment to Mr. Mottley 'for publishing the Agreement for Serving the Troops with Meat, with an account of cattle and issue of same, for the month of July'. There was a note of clarification, perhaps to the authors of the letter, that the commission paid by the army covered the expenses of driving, slaughtering, distribution 'as well as all casualties and contingent disbursements' (*HT* 1 Oct. 1804).

Over the three months of published accounts, Padwick and his partner had purchased 418 cattle, 486 sheep and 17 hogs of which 73 cattle (17%) and 49 (10%) sheep had been bought at Smithfield. However the area that supplied most of the meat was Sarum, with its excellent fattening grounds in the Avon valley - whose graziers/ farmers provided 175 cattle (42%) and 404 sheep (83%). Wm. Padwick and his Gosport agent, Hooper, supplied 36% of the cattle and 10% of the sheep meat. This no doubt could be justified if supplies were wanted quickly or for troops billeted in the Gosport and Porchester areas. The accounts also show considerable stock on hand, the beef being in quarters, at the end of each month, which was probably awaiting imminent distribution. The hides and sheep skins tally with beef and sheep purchased.

The logistics of supplying butchered carcasses to the regiments of militia, who were always coming and going, and spread out over a wide area, in the heat of summer or along the muddy lanes in winter, were quite different to those of supplying the victualling establishments of the navy. Their supplies had to be salted and stored, ready for issue when a ship was about to set sail.

It is not known whether the Padwicks had been involved in supplying the navy before they actually started to supply the army. There is an item in the August accounts which shows payments for a military clerk for the period 25 December 1803 to 24 August 1804, which points to the employment of a man who would be familiar with the army's administrative needs, and also to act as an interface (*HT* 3 Sep. 1804).

However the organisation needed to procure, slaughter and then distribute, contractually within 3 days or sooner in the summer heat (without refrigeration or cold stores), would have needed time to set up. Reliable sources of supply needed to be identified, drovers, skilled butchers and labourers recruited, and, very importantly, a good transport manager with a trustworthy source of waggons and carters found. It is known, for instance, that the King's German Legion marched from Haslar in mid-July 1804 to an encampment, which had been set up in late June, on Critch Plain, where they were inspected by the Duke of Cumberland (*HT* 25 June, 23, 30 July 1804). This area is now part of Denmead parish and borders Creech woods, then an unenclosed part of the Forest of Bere. The Legion itself, mainly veterans of the Hanoverian army, was 5,800 strong at the battle of Waterloo. Similarly the 1st Somersets, somewhere between 600 and 1,000 strong, went into the Portchester and Fortron Barracks on 6 July, marched off to Brighton on 16th, and then returned to Portchester and Fortron on 19 August. Prior to embarkation from Weymouth the 1st Somersets returned to Portchester (*HT* 9, 23 Jul., 20 Aug. 1804).

Finally a good system of administration and accounting was essential to meet the ever-changing demands of the army.

Over the three month period for which

accounts are available, the partnership earned £637 commission (gross income), which varied from a high of £268 in July to a low £157 in September (*HT* 13 Aug., 1 Oct. 1804). The proceeds from the sale of offal, fats or hides were supposed to be paid to the respective regiments or the amounts deducted from the money or balance of account with each regiment.

No explanation was ever offered by the newspaper for the sudden cessation of the monthly accounts of the army with Padwick and Edwards.

On 6 August, and prior to the appearance of the letter, an announcement was made that General Whitelocke was to be appointed as Inspector-General and commander of the forces on the Isle of Wight, and was to be replaced by General Oakes, then serving in Malta. Until Oakes arrived, the garrison would be under the command of the Hon. General Phipps (*HT* 13 Aug. 1804). Phipps may well have decided that further publication of the army's accounts in the local paper was both time consuming and would serve no useful purpose. Not only would it stop the focus of the public's attention on the contract but, probably, and more importantly, it would prevent details of the various regiments in the area being supplied to Britain's enemy. It was well known that Napoleon had spies and sympathizers who were feeding information across the Channel, and he had ordered his chiefs of staff to obtain English newspapers for their military and naval intelligence (Bryant 1944, 130). John Mottley's paper, with its military details and naval news of ship movements, promotions, etc., was a prime candidate for such useful information.

An advertisement appeared in the *Hampshire Telegraph* of 9 January 1805, issued by 'The Committee for regulating the Meat Concern in the District of Portsmouth and its Dependencies' based at Hulsea Barracks. This said that they would be ready to receive sealed tenders for all the fat arising from beasts and sheep, killed for the troops; the fat was to be collected from Mr Padwick's slaughterhouse, Portsmouth. Further particulars could be obtained from him at his address, 34 Warblington Street.

For all the assurances given in the footnote

to the third set of accounts, it appears that Tollervey and company escalated their dissatisfaction, because a military inquiry into the contract did occur. The proceedings were not published in the paper, but an advertisement appeared in the issue dated 31 August, 1807:-

'Improvident Contract' This day is published, price one shilling and sixpence, An Address to the Hon. COMMISSIONERS of MILITARY ENQUIRY, shewing the impropriety of a contract made between Major-General Whitelocke and Messrs. Padwick and Edwards, for the supply of meat to the troops in garrison at Portsmouth and its dependencies. By Thomas Hearn, of Newport, Isle of Wight.

Another enlightening snippet of news appeared in the *Hampshire Telegraph* dated 26 October 1807, which is quoted here in full: 'To prevent any misrepresentation as to the intended alteration of the mode of supplying the troops in this District, with beef and mutton, Major General Sir George Provost, thinks it proper to declare, that he is perfectly satisfied with the conduct of the present Contractors, Messrs. Padwick and Edwards, whose accounts have been fully approved of by the Committee appointed to inspect them.' We are left to draw our own conclusions because no further mention is made of the meat contract.

William Padwick therefore had the contract for at least seven years and benefited financially from the arrangements with the army. The volume of meat supplied surely increased during the latter part of 1804 and early 1805, when it was recorded that 'a large and more important force was concentrated at Portsmouth under Lieutenant-General Sir James Craig'. On 18 April, a force of 45 transports carrying 7,000 troops, escorted by two battle-ships, set sail for the Mediterranean.

The Padwicks were also to benefit handsomely from the government when, in October 1814, they were awarded, after a dispute, over £14,500 for land they severally held at Hilsea which was needed to improve the fortifications of the island, with the creation of the Hilsea Lines. They had sought £16,750, were offered

£12,250, and were awarded £14,525 (*HT* 31 Oct. 1814).

Major-General Whitelocke did not fare so well. A fellow general, Lord Paget said: 'How the Devil such a man as this could have been appointed to such a command (of the army in Buenos Ayres) has been the subject of amazement to the whole Army, for, independent of his manners, which are coarse and brutal to the most insupportable degree, he is notoriously known to have the greatest antipathy to the smell of gunpowder' (Bryant 1944, 218n). In 1807, he had capitulated just when victory had been in his grasp. He came home from South America in disgrace.

Finally, it is possible to identify the location of some of the various farmers named. Obviously it was more cost effective to arrange to collect cattle and sheep en route from Petersfield or Salisbury, than for farmers to take stock to market and then for the same stock to be driven back in the reverse direction.

In the Petersfield area, Padwick could have avoided the Sheet/ Portsmouth turnpike road by collecting cattle from Adams at Sheet and by using what is now Ridge Common Lane to reach Stroud and thence Ramsdean to meet Henry Binsted or Mr Silvester of Weston, before driving them over Ramsdean Down, and along the South Downs Way to Leydene, and thereafter descending towards the unenclosed Forest of Bere through the parish of Hambledon.

In the Wiltshire area there is a regrettable lack of rural directories. *Holden's Universal Directory* only covers towns and large villages and seldom identifies farmers; other, later, directories have the same shortcoming. The lack of first names in the list of suppliers added a further complication. Enquiries about the livestock trade with Portsmouth in the Regency period drew a blank with the Wiltshire Record Office, and similarly with the Salisbury Local History Group, although a Joseph Sweetapple butcher was located in Butcher Row, Salisbury, in 1830 (Rogers 1992, 86). A county map shows 'The Salisbury Way', which ran eastwards, south of the city, through Britford and on to Kimbridge and a more southerly, eastward route through Downton (Watts, n.d.). Until

these livestock suppliers can be located, it is hard to identify what two centuries ago were well-used Wiltshire droving routes towards Gosport and Portsmouth. It seems reasonable to deduce that the numbers of livestock for the army were augmented by those needed for normal commercial purposes, thereby increasing the profitability of the droves.

There is a need for further research into the Wiltshire farmers, their breeds, and their droving routes used to reach Gosport and Portsmouth, in the early nineteenth century.

These newspaper articles have lifted the veil on the operation of military contracts, albeit for only a three month period in 1804. Much

interesting detail has been provided which, it is hoped, will provide a stepping stone for further research into provisioning the army and navy in Hampshire during the Regency years.

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APPENDIX 1

Articles of Agreement 23 March 1801
 (*Hampshire Telegraph* 13 August 1804, p.2, col. 4 and 5)

ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT

Had, made, concluded, and agreed upon this twenty-third day of March, in the forty-first year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth, and in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and one, between William Padwick, of Portsmouth, in the County of Southampton, Butcher, and William Edwards, of the same place, Butcher, of the one part, and John Whitelocke, Esquire, a Major General in his Majesty's Forces, and for and on behalf of his Majesty, of the other part.

Whereby the said William Padwick and William Edwards, for the considerations hereinafter mentioned, do, for themselves severally and respectively, and for their several and respective heirs, executors, and administrators, covenant, promise and agree to and with the said John Whitelocke and his successors, in manner following, that is to say, that they, the said William Padwick and William Edwards, shall and will purchase, find, provide, and supply, for the use of several Regiments of Troops employed or doing duty in the Garrison of Portsmouth, at Gosport, Portchester, Fort Monckton, Fort Cumberland, and Hilsea, under the command of the said Major General John Whitelocke, for and during One Year from the date hereof, all such good, wholesome, and marketable Beef as shall be required for the use of each Regiment, or other Troops; and also all such good, wholesome, and marketable Mutton as shall be required for the use of the Hospitals of each Regiment, or other Troops; and shall and will, at their own costs, risque, and charges, bring and deliver the said Beef in quarters, and also the said Mutton, with good and sufficient weight, to allow for cutting the same up into

small lots by the Butchers, of each respective Regiments, to and at such places and at such time or times as they shall be from time to time directed by the said Major General John Whitelocke, or by the respective Commander of each Regiment or other Troops, for three days next ensuing, except at such times when the heat of the weather, or other cause, may render it impracticable to preserve such Beef or Mutton in a wholesome state for three days; in which case such deliveries shall be made in such other quantities, and at such other times, as shall be directed as aforesaid; and the said respective Officers, or either of them, or the Officer or Person employed, or to be from time to time employed by them, to receive such Beef and Mutton, and to inspect the same, shall be at liberty to refuse or reject all such of the said Beef and Mutton as shall not be approved of by them, or either of them. And the said William Padwick and William Edwards shall and will forthwith purchase, find, provide, supply, and deliver, in manner aforesaid, other good, wholesome and marketable Beef and Mutton, on the same conditions, to replace such as may be refused or rejected as aforesaid, during the continuance of this contract.

And in case they shall refuse or neglect so to do that then it is lawful for the said respective Officers or Persons, or either of them, to purchase such either good, wholesome, and marketable Beef and Mutton from any Person or Persons whomsoever, at such price or prices for which the same can be procured and obtained, and to charge the costs and expences thereof to the said William Padwick and William Edwards, their executors or administrators; or else, to deduct and keep back the same from, and out of any money or balance of account which may be from time to time due and owing to them from each respective Regiment, or other Troops. In consideration whereof, the said John Whitelocke for, and on behalf of his Majesty, doth hereby covenant, promise, and agree, that the respective Commanding Officers of such Regiments, or other Troops, for the time being, under his

Command, shall and will well and truly pay, or cause to be paid, unto the said William Padwick and William Edwards, their executors or administrators, at the expiration of every calendar month, all and every such sum or sums of money, or prime cost, as shall be actually paid, laid out, and expended by them, in the purchase of each Bullock, Beast or Sheep, in the respective markets when the same shall be bought by them or either of them; free and clear from any expence attending the buying, driving, keeping, killing, or delivery of every such Bullock, Beast or Sheep, or such Beef or Mutton; and also the sum of One Pound and Seven Shillings of lawful money of Great Britain, for each and every Bullock or Beast and the sum of Three Shillings of like lawful money for each and every Sheep, as and for a compensation or profit and commission to them for their trouble in purchasing, driving, keeping, killing, and delivering of the same.

And the said William Padwick and William Edwards and each of them do further covenant, promise, and agree to and with the said John Whitelocke, and his successors, that they will pay to the commanding Officer of such Regiment, or other Troops, all such Sum and Sums of Money as they shall from time to time actually receive or which shall be produced by the Sale thereof, or all the Hides, Fats, and Offals, of each Bullock, Beast or Sheep, or else permit to suffer them to deduct the amount thereof, from and out of any Money or Balance of Account which may be from time to time be due, and owing to them from each respective Regiment, or their Troops, and also that they shall and will, at the end and expiration of every Calendar Month, or oftener if required to so do, deliver an Account or Accounts to the said John Whitelocke, or to the Commanding Officer of each respective Regiment of all such Bullocks or Beasts and Sheep that shall have been purchased, and the Beef and Mutton delivered, and also Hides, Fat and Offal, that shall have been sold from time to time, and shall and will authenticate the truth of all and every such respective Accounts upon

oath, to be sworn before a Magistrate or Master Extraordinary in Chancery, provided always, and it is hereby further declared and agreed by and between the said parties to these presents, that it shall and may be lawful for either of them, upon giving two months Notice writing, to ('2 indecipherable words') and make void this present Contract any thing herein before contained to the contrary thereof in any wise notwithstanding.

And the said William Padwick and William Edwards do hereby severally and respectively, and each one for the other of them, bind and oblige themselves, their heirs, executors, and administrators, and every of them, to the said John Whitelocke and his successors, for the use of his Majesty, his heirs, and successors, in the penal sum of Two Thousand Pounds of lawful money of Great Britain, to be paid to the said John Whitelocke, or his successors, for the true and perfect performance of all and every the several covenants, conditions, and agreements, hereinto before mentioned and contained, and which on their parts and behalves ought to be observed, performed, fulfilled and kept as aforesaid.

Lastly, it is hereby expressly covenanted and agreed, by and between the said parties, to these presents, that the said John Whitelocke, and the said respective Commanding Officers of such Regiments, or other Troops, nor either of them, shall not in any manner be liable, in their, any, or either of their own Persons or Estates, to any Action of Covenant, or in any manner answerable in their any or either of their private capacity, by reason or means of their being (on his Majesty's behalf) parties to these presents.

In witness hereof, the said Parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first within written.

WM. PADWICK
WM. EDWARDS

Sealed and delivered (being first WILLM. BOOTHBY duly stamped) in the presence of WM. CHAPMAN.

APPENDIX 2

(Part 1) *Consolidation of the monthly accounts of the Army with Padwick & Edwards*

From the detailed monthly accounts in *Hampshire Telegraph*, 13 August, 3, September, 1 October 1804

25 June – 24 September 1804

<i>Place</i>	<i>Supplier</i>	<i>Beast</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Hogs</i>	<i>Total £</i>
London	Earl	60			1417
	Freeman	2			42
	Andrews	3			88
	Walker	8			196
	Indes		49		81
Sarum	Burge	3	69		247
	Rabits	13			216
	Mills	3	58		241
	Jeffery	4	77		324
	Knight	2			38
	Hannan	10	16		253
	Bartlett	14			340
	Sweetapple	4	40		177
	Simms		21		43
	Chester	7			172
	Eades	11	35		317
	Dawson	64			996
	Lockyer		39		82
	Harding	2			66
	Dashwood	6			84
	Potts	1			13
	Osborne	5			72
	Bone	4			73
	Swain	4			66
	Moore	3			50
	Galpin	2			32
	Kains	4			67

<i>Place</i>	<i>Supplier</i>	<i>Beast</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Hogs</i>	<i>Total £</i>
	Dodds	4			70
	Champeny	9			199
Chichester	Adams	3			88
	Cooke	2			55
	Randall	3			75
Steep (Dunhill)	Padwick	16	58		412
Sheet	Adams	3			42
Weston	Binsted	10			205
	Silvester		15		37
Gosport	Hooper	126			2357
Wymering	Pittis	3			46
Hilsea	Burrell		9		13
Portsea	Lawe			17	58
TOTAL		418	486	17	£9450 *
Commission earned					
Beasts	@ 27s.	£564.6.0		)	
Sheep	@ 3s.		£72.18.0	)	£639.15.0d
Hogs	@ 3s.			£2.11.0)	

* Shillings and pence have been omitted from these financial totals

APPENDIX 2

(Part 2) *Consolidation of the monthly accounts of the Army with Padwick & Edwards*

25 June- 24 September 1804

<i>To whom delivered</i>	<i>Month 1</i>	<i>Month 2</i> <i>(in round £s)</i>	<i>Month 3</i>	
Royal Artillery	106	114	63	
King's Germans	1226	444	217	
Worcester Militia	505	484	486	
3rd Lancaster Militia	485	470	444	
1st Somerset Militia	414	562	—	
12th Reserve	372	372	272	
Royal Marines	79	96	93	
Royal Veterans	219	209	292	
Huntingdon Militia	7	7	—	
Merioneth Militia	58	—	—	
Military Hospital	112	84	67	
Royal Artificers	22	24	22	
15th Light Dragoons	8	4	—	
Detachments, Hilsea	1	1	5	
Beef on hand	175	100	48	
TOTAL	£3789	£2971	£2009	
Weight of meat supplied (lb)	130124	102123	70684	
costed at	7d/lb	7d/lb	6 1/2d/lb	
Quantities of				
Hides	159	143	116	costed @ 9s. 6d
Fat (in lbs)	10641	7335	5064	@ 5 1/2d
Small offals	159	143	116	@ 2s
Sheep skins	360	123	3	@ 2s.6d

A note added to the September accounts:-

The heads of oxen are served to the soldiers at a fixed weight of six pounds each; and the hearts at three pounds each.

Signed by	Alex. Mair,	Colonel and President
	W. Raymond	Captain and Paymaster Detachments
	D. Meredith	Captain Royal Artillery
	J. Gillam	Captain 12th Reserve
	R. Williamson	Lieutenant and Quarter Master Royal Marines
	J. Barton	Captain 1st Somerset Regiment
	J. Bower	Captain Worcester Regiment

APPENDIX 3

*A letter to the editor of the Hampshire Telegraph,
issued on 17 September 1804
Portsmouth, August 25, 1804*

Mr. Editor,

Sir – We were in expectation of having seen in last Monday's Paper, some answer to that extraordinary Advertisement in your Paper of the 13th. inst. published, it appears, by order of Gen. Whitelocke, and signed Thos. Pritzler, Major of Brigade; but as no person more capable has thought proper to answer it, we feel it a duty we owe to our country, ourselves, and the Butchers at large, to take some notice of it. We shall endeavour to be as brief as we are capable, and we are sure 'the will will be taken for the deed', when we declare, we have nothing more in view than a strong love of justice towards every man, and that we are not actuated by any other motive than a wish of seeing this Advertisement coolly investigated, and fairly laid before the public.

The advertisement begins, we conceive, very improperly by saying, 'To do away any apparent probability of success, &c.' which certainly is a short way of doing the business, as it is shutting out competition most completely; for what Butcher, in his senses, after this declaration, would be mad enough to have anything to do with the contract? We contend that the General was bound, as a man of honour, and a servant of the Government, to have encouraged a fair competition; had he acted thus, he would have discharged his duty to his country and would have found many competitors at one half the commission allowed Mr. Padwick.

The contract with Padwick and Edwards was made for one year it appears; is it fair, to the public, we ask, to continue it for three without allowing other of his Majesty's subjects to have fair chance? We contend it is not. We ask who Mr. Padwick is? – does he pay a greater proportion of taxes towards the exigencies of the State, that the whole of this golden shower is to drop on his head? Or from what other cause

can it be that such a preference is shewn to him alone? we say 'alone', for poor Edwards is only what is called in the mercantile world, a sleeping partner, or in the language of the army, retired on half pay; We presume, as good and loyal subjects to his Majesty, we have a right of complaint.

The statement published of the meat served the troops, furnished us and the public with a very just 'picture' of the 'nature' of the savings said to amount to 45,000 l. but in which, by the bye, we are persuaded the General is mistaken. – If this plan has been followed from the commencement of the contract, with Padwick, as it appears to have been for June, as stated, and of which we have no doubt, we mean, allowing of such as much or more per pound for the whole carcass as any individual could buy a single lot or joint at, we only wonder how it is the savings, instead of 45,000l. as stated by the account published, had not been 90,000 l. for on what principle can the savings stated arise?

Is the calculation made from the price of the best ox beef in Portsmouth market? If so, we contend this is not a fair criterion; the price of every commodity should be governed by the 'quality' of the article – we therefore contend that the best ox beef and such as served the army on this contract, are widely different articles – not but the 'quality' on the average might have been sufficiently good for the purpose. If the best ox beef in Portsmouth market has been the criterion on which the calculation is founded, the savings as stated vanishes into the air, for instead of 7d. per pound for the time stated, being allowed, many Butchers would have been glad to have served it of the same quality at 6 1/2d. per pound, or even less; – then, where is the saving we ask, that we have heard so much talk of? – or where is the services rendered by this contract.

The Advertisement tells us there was much speculation previous to the adoption of the plan of contracting, throwing out, we conceive, a

slur on the army, as well as the Butchers; for if the army had been proof against corruption, no harm could have arisen. So far from thinking any saving has been made, we are of opinion, that had this contract never existed, the soldier would have bought this meat as cheap, if not cheaper, and equally good as it has been bought for him. For some considerable time meat has been gradually getting cheaper, and this might possibly have operated on the mind of the General, so far as to think Mr. P. had rendered essential services, when in reality this did not appear to us to be the case. The General must excuse us, when we say, that whatever abilities he might possess as a soldier, he certainly makes a bad butcher, and a bad check clerk, not to have noticed, long since, many things; but even from the account published, we conceive sufficient, not improper, to take his own words; he tells us in the contract he has made with the Contractors, that two persons are employed to go to Smithfield and other distant markets and purchase cattle, at the market price, that the Contractors are allowed for this 27s. per bullock and 3s. per sheep; besides being allowed, it appears by the account published, to take the offal at a very, 'very low price.'

Now, after all this, what will the public say, if, instead of going to these distant markets, they have, in some instances, we conceive not a few, bought a great deal nearer home, by which means, of course, they shortened their expences, and consequently added to their already too great profits, we say too great, because others, equally capable, would have been glad to have done it, at one half the commission allowed, by which means a saving of little or nothing short of 2000l. per annum might have been made to the country, had a fair competition been encouraged. When men feel themselves injured, they do not like to be insulted, and we conceive the statement published is of this description, to the common sense of every man, any ways acquainted or interested in this contract, to tell us the Contractors were 'bound' to go to 'distant' markets, for which they were allowed the enormous commission above stated, viz.

27s. per bullock and 3s. per sheep; and 'then' to see so glaring an account published, in which it appears Mr. Padwick buys cattle of Mr. Pittis, of Wimmering, 'five' miles from Portsmouth, likewise of a Mr. Hooper, a butcher, of Gosport, and an agent of Padwick's in this concern, we believe; 'these are distant markets indeed'; to crown the whole of this – Mr. Padwick buys cattle and sheep of Mr. Padwick of Dunhill, the name of a little farm near Petersfield, 'belonging to and occupied by the self-same Mr. Padwick the Contractor !'

We here call for the just indignation of every man; at the same time we beg to be understood, we do not impute to the General any thing wilfully wrong, yet let it be remembered, the effect on the public is equally the same, for it is evident from the account published for 'only' one month, much has been done in violation to the articles of agreement, consequently the General must admit, it was his duty, as a guardian of the public purse, to have kept the Contractors to the conditions of their contract, and by offering them to depart from it, a door was immediately opened for speculation, which the writers of this as much abhor as the General himself.

If the General will indulge the public so far as to order, for their inspection, a copy of the transactions of this contract for one year only, we shall then see what beasts and sheep William Padwick, of Portsmouth and Dunhill, has bought of William Padwick of Dunhill, and likewise of Mr Hooper, a butcher, his agent, at Gosport; and we feel confident, such information will arise from it, as will forcibly strike the General, of the necessity of removing many things in future, as well as procuring for the public remuneration for the past; leaving the parties concerned to contradict us if they can, we are, Sir, yours &c.

WM. KNIGHT
THOS. TOLLERVEY
JOHN PAY

P. S. Since writing the above, (which on account of its length could not be inserted in either of the two last weeks' papers) another statement has been published, in which the

same practices are continued, and the public are again 'insulted', by seeing 53 beasts and 20 sheep bought of Mr. Contractor Padwick, of Dunhill, and his agent, Mr. Hooper, of Gosport, and for which, the market being such a 'distance', he is allowed 27s. per bullock, and 3s. per sheep, Commission. Sevenpence per lb. was allowed for meat from the 25th July to 24th

August, which we do positively declare, had a competition been encouraged, we pledge our existence, such beef and mutton would have been served the different regiments at 6d. per lb. yet we are told 45000l. has been saved by this famous contract, though for our own parts, we are such 'Thomas's', we cannot yet bring ourselves to believe it.