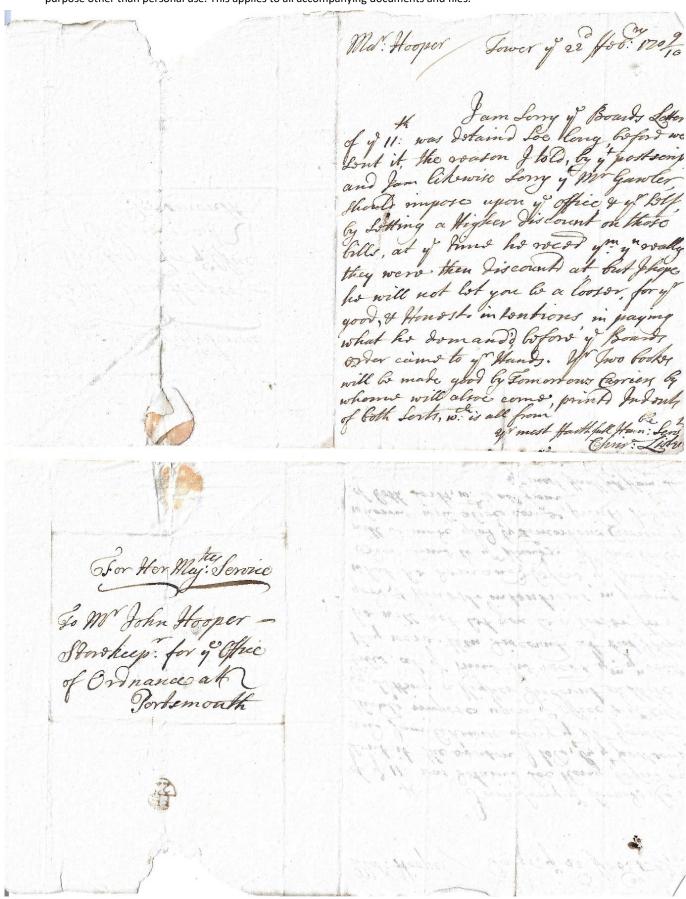
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To Mr John Hooper Storekeep<sup>r</sup> for y<sup>e</sup> office of ordnance att Portsmouth

Date stamped FE/22

Ma<sup>r</sup> Hooper

Tower y<sup>e</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> Feb<sup>ry</sup> 1709/10

I am sorry y<sup>e</sup> Board's letter of ye 11th was detaind too long before we sent it, the person I told by y<sup>t</sup> post sent and lam likewise sorry yt Mr. Ganter should impose upon ye office & yr self by setting a Higher discount on those bills at ye time he reced ym: yu usuall they were then discounted at but I hope he will not let you be a looser for y<sup>r</sup> good, & Honest intentions in paying what he demand'd before ye Boards order came to y' Hands. Y' Two books will be made good by Tomorrows Carriers by whom will also come, printd Indents of both sorts w<sup>ch</sup> is all from yr most thankful Humble Servt Chris lister.

In this letter 'Y' is used to contract 'th' as follows:

 $Y^e$  = the  $Y^t$  = that  $Y^m$  = them We also see:  $Y^r$  = your,  $Y^u$  = you

And:

 $W^{ch} = which$ 

It is interesting to note that the date stamp indicates that the letter was written and received on the same day. This suggests that the post was carried by a daily carriage from London to Portsmouth.