

[Pat. Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee.] (P<sup>r</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Bayfield)

May 2  
Red Book  
No. 27  
Letter 74

The bearer hereof George Bayfeild will deliver two fatted Steers, that I have received since I sent up the last Twelve. I have no receipt for them but from John Crisall, to whom M<sup>r</sup> Bayfield says he was directed to deliver them.

The salt meat provisions I have not yet Removed for the want of Barrells or small Casks & it has not been in my power to procure any. Could they possibly be procured at Annapolis, I could wish to have Ten or twelve brought down, with a few bushells of Salt to repack the meat tis now very fine & well secured in large Casks, but fear twill not keep so well as in Barrells, and these Casks are very unhandy, to remove.

I dont know that I shall be able to procure any more Beeff on the Hoof this spring. However should I receive an order for that purpose, twill induce me to execute it.

[Rich'd Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee.]

May 3

I Finish'd last evening draughting the Militia of this County And am sorry to inform Your Excellency that only 14 Classes of 37 have procured recruits and very few of them have yet received their Bounty the scacity of Cash with us is so great that unless it will please Your Excellency to give some further indulgence I shall be obliged to Issue Executions ag<sup>t</sup> 9 men out of 10 the County through and from them I cannot hope to raise the money in any Short time. The Sheriff informs me he executed a number of persons for 20 p<sup>c</sup> Tax attend'd often to sell their Effects but no one could purchase from all the executions put into his hands for 20 p<sup>c</sup> Tax I have not received a Shilling tho' I have reason to believe he has long ago received the greater part of the money as he is now in Annapolis. Your Excellency may have an opportunity of knowing the reason of his delay of payments why he should not pay the penalty the Law inflicts for not delivering to me the Cash. There are so many complaints of his misconduct in Office, that he deserves no favour, his Practice from Numberless informations is to charge his Commissions on Continental money debts in hard money, if I have grantd execution for 5£ continental he charges 10/ hard money which at an exchange of 120 for one makes the debt & fees 65£ Many of his receipts prove this practice I have one where he received 195£ for 23.12.0. if he proceeds to sell Effects the Costs are more then dubble as this practice is unwarrantable by any Law or Custom I give Your Excellency the information that his Conduct may be further enquired into, the facts can be well supported by the best of evidence I hope some Power exists to suspend him from the execution of his Office at least. The Conduct of our Sheriff makes it much more distressing to me to Issue such a Number of Executions & am well convinced every Advantage