

C. S. C. great Want of that necessary Article, and are afraid it will be some Time before we shall be able to provide them, and that the Soldiers in the mean Time may suffer very much for Want of them. Under these Circumstances & from the Zeal you have manifested in the Cause, we make no Doubt but that you will readily spare all you possibly can, notwithstanding you may have laid them aside for the Use of your own Family. You'll please to write us on this Subject by the first Opportunity and acquaint us what Blankets you may think proper to supply the Public, and the Price, for which we will send you an Order on the Treasurer & order them directly here.

25th March 1776

[Lee's Petition.]

The Humble petⁿ of Robert Lee :

To the Honourable the Council of Safety for the Province of Maryland, Sheweth. That your pet^r on Wednesday the 7th of this instant February being in company at Lower Marlbro (not then being sensible of the engagement he then had entered into and being over persuaded) entered inadvertantly into the thirteen united colonies service not considering the danger and distress his aged mother would be involved in by his engagement with one Frizby Freeland to perform work for him which he cannot under his present situation do: That your pet^r wo^d always be ready to serve his country in defence of Freedom, but at this time it will be the total ruin of his aged parent, as she now lives in the house hired by him of the said Frisby Freeland who will distrain for rent unless he is able to perform his agreement with him: That your pet^{rs} mother is upwards of sixty years of age and has no dependance for support but by your pet^{rs} labour: Your pet^r most humbly pray you would consider him in your kind compassion as a dutyfull child and grant him his discharge, And your pet^r as in duty bound will ever pray &c.

[February 1776]

[Kent and Henry to Council.]

Head Quarters Northampton, Virginia 23th March 1776.

Honble Gentⁿ We Imbrace this opportunity by Captⁿ Kell, who has been some weeks blocked up in this harbour by Tenders, on Monday evening last a Tender came into Cherriton Creek and carried out a sloop belonging to Isaac Vaughn and got Captⁿ Kells schooner under way but luckily run aground