

December 8 being got forward that was expected. I hope to God our Assembly will do something to retrieve the Credit of our Currency as People on all Hands are knocking it down every day. Col Blane hinted to me on his way up that M<sup>r</sup> Rich<sup>d</sup> Dallam had exhibited some Charges against the Commissarys to Baltimore & Harford if any Charges are exhibited against me I shall much oblidged to your Excellency for a Copy of them as I am conscious of no misdemeanor in my Department. but would wish every Public Officers conduct should scrutinised. M<sup>r</sup> Dallam I make no Doubt will, shall therefore be silent untill such a Scrutiny happens and then the Cause of the rise of Grain in this County will be fixed on the right Person.

December 8

[John Dorsey and Company to Gov Lee]

We will charter two Briggs, equal in Goodness & fast Sailing to any on the Continent, one carries 8 four Pounders and the other 10, with small arms Pikes, Cutlasses &c<sup>a</sup> to carry flour to any Part of the West Indies, the Briggs shall be well manned and compleatly fitted and found for the Voyage We will take one half of the Cargoe for the Freight to the Port of Delivery and will bring back one half of the Load or Cargo for the State and agreeable to orders. We will Purchase the Load of Flour on the Usual Commission (and if necessary advance the Purchase money) and we will send a discreet Sensible young Gentleman of mercantile Knowledge to transact the Business in the West Indies each Brig will carry about 600 Barrels of Flour

600 Barrels of Flour will cost say—£60,000

300 for Freight 300 for the State will bring in the West Indies four half Ioes per Barrel, which will amount to £3,600 Gold, this sum laid out in Goods and brought to the Continent, at 80 for one (which is less per Barrel, which will amount to £3,600 Gold, this sum laid out in Goods and brought to the Continent, at 80 for one (which is less than the current Price) will amount to £288,000 Continental Money, by this Calculation the State will only risque £60,000 when the Owner of the Vessel will risque his Vessel and outfits, which will amount to £120,000. The Owner of the Vessel will also have to pay at least £750 in Gold, in the West Indies for Seaman's Wages, and other Disbursements. this will reduce the Owner of the Vessel his half of the Sales of the Flour to £2,850 which brought here will bring £228,000 By the above Calculation which we believe to be just, the Owner of the Vessel risques Double the Sum to Sea (not only *to* but *from* the West Indies that the State does, and the State, if the Vessel returns will receive a Profit of £60,000 more than the Proprietor of the Vessel.

We have some Coarse Cloths to the amount of about £25,000 which will Cost about £26 p yard, which we will sell to the State