

allowance, and we have not more than three days bread at a third allowance on hand, nor any where within reach. When this is exhausted we must depend on the precarious gleanings of the neighbouring country. Our magazines are absolutely empty every where, and our commissaries entirely destitute of money or credit to replenish them. We have never experienced a like extremity at any period of the war. We have often felt temporary want from accidental delays in forwarding supplies, but we always had something in our magazines and the means of procuring more. Neither one nor the other is at present the case. This representation is the result of a minute examination of our resources. Unless some extraordinary and immediate exertions are made by the States, from which we draw our supplies, there is every appearance that the army will infallibly disband in a fortnight. I think it my duty to lay this candid view of our situation before your Excellency, and to intreat the vigorous interposition of the state to rescue us from the danger of an event which if it did not prove the total ruin of our affairs, would at least give them a shock from which they would not easily recover, and plunge us into a train of new and still more perplexing embarrassments than any we have hitherto felt.

I have the honor to be with the most perfect regard Your Excellency's Most ob<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup> Go. Washington

[William Jacob, Baltimore to Gov. Lee.]

[Asks for a captaincy.]

[H. Hollingsworth Head of Elk to the Honble Governor & Council]

And please your Excellency & Honors, Yesterday I rece<sup>d</sup> a letter from the Board of War and another this day relative to the providing transports for the Troops bound to the southward, inclosed are Copys of their letters to which I refer to your Honour as the frost has put it out of my Power to comply with their request, as all the Vessels I have collected, and all that I could collect are now froze up in the head of the Bay, fifteen of which I had embark'd Gen<sup>l</sup> Hogans Brigade & Baggage on board of, and now landing them again on the ice a little above Turkey Point, in order for their going by land, have Provided Wagons &<sup>ca</sup> (at the Generals request who is indefatigable to get forward).

You will observe by the contents of those letters that it is the opinion of the Honorable Board that the Virginia Troops shall go by water, and that Vessels be provided for that purpose that a post be provided that will not freeze I sincerely wish I could comply with their request (but tis difficult) I would therefore advise that the Vessels be prepared at Annapolis no Port to the North of that will do, and those of the Eastern shore in particular are improper as the

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