

[Samuel Chester Baltimore to His Excelency Thomas S. Lee] February 28

S^r Having the honour of your Orders for Recruiting men for the Service of the united States with the Lawes of this State To Direct me and Likewise positive orders not to Inlist Brittish or forreign Deserters

[The enclosed list is not found]

But I find that there are officers in this Town which Inlist Boath Deserters and prisoners of war which I Can by no means Do my orders Being to the Contreary had I had that Liberty I could have Recruited more then the Col. of men for Baltimore County

I herewith send you a List of the men Recruited By me and Delivered To Capt. Samuel Farmer of the third Maryland Battalion agreeable To your orders I Drew on the Sherriff of Baltimore County for 3000 Dollars which I applyed Towards Raising these Recrutes

But Two of these men after Being Duley attested Before a Majistrate Deserted and as Capt Farmer says not Being Regularly passed Before a field officer he Could not Give me a Receipt for them But I had Carried them Before Maj^r Sollers and he said they wair Good men But Gave no further Certifycate

Now should I be at the Loss of these mens Bountey it would Be hard as there is not an oportunity of meeting with a field officer Every Day in Town and as I mentioned Before Brittish Deserters and prisoners of war pass Before our Field officers without Examination

Therefore I should Be Glad of your Honours Further Instructions about the matter

[Conrad T. Wederstrandt, Wye River, to His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee, Esquire] February 29

Sir I had the honor to write to your Excellency the 5th instant since which M^r Richard Keene Commissioner for Caroline County has attempted to seize the Continental flour & wheat I have purchased in part of that County and also to press the Continental Waggon I have drawing the said flour to the Delawar Landings in order to be fowarded to the army pretending to be authorized by Law So to do, in order to remedy to the deffect occasioned by my neglect, which being erroneous is the more sencible, and Gentlemen of the House of Delegates having informed me it was look upon the Law passed appointing Commissioners would facilitate the Commissaries purchases, I am the more Surprized at M^r Rich^d Keene's conduct; therefore must desire Your Excellency's orders how to proceed, meanwhile I have directed the Millers & Waggoners to go on their usual way unless M^r Rich^d Keene should apply by authority and with proper officers in which case I have directed to let him take possession without opposition 'till I am informed by your Excel-