

Brown them to the Consideration of the Honorable the General Assembly,  
 Book No. 8 should you think it necessary, in order to engage them to take some  
 effectual measures, so as the King's service may be established on  
 a secure and respectable footing: you may depend I shall very  
 readily Comply to all the formalities which may be deemed necessary  
 to inspire the greatest Confidence in the operations entrusted to  
 my Care & to deserve general esteem & approbation.

March 4 [Benja. Douglass, Charles County, to Gov. Lee.]

Sir I have received and Stored at Chukamuxon and Pomonkey  
 on Potomack River Seventy five Bushells Corn and one hundred  
 and forty two and three quarter Bushells Wheat, this I have given  
 Certificates for. I have been among the people and have taken and  
 have the promise of one hundred and twenty Barrells more of Corn,  
 which is yet to come in, the Weather has been so very bad that, it  
 is been impossible till now for it to be brought to granerys. I expect  
 to have the whole ready in Ten days from this.

March 7 [George Plater and James Forbes, Del in Congress, Philadelphia,  
 Red Book to Gov. Lee]  
 No. 5

Letter No. 52  
 (See Liber C C No. 22 p. 66)  
 Sir We are honor'd by your Excellency's Favor of 18<sup>th</sup> last.  
 The Minister of France knows very well, however wrong he may  
 have deemed the Measure, that the seizing the french Flour was  
 to relieve the exceeding great Distress of the Army. & we have never  
 understood, or even heard it suggested, that the Conduct of the State  
 was imputed to any other Motive. We have no Reason to think  
 that he doubts the Attachment of Maryland to the Alliance, &  
 have heard him express Pleasure at the Receipt of your Excellencys  
 late Letter, which he says is fully satisfactory. We have set before  
 him, in the clearest Point of View we cou'd, the Extent of your  
 Powers which will not permit the Suspension of any Law, without  
 an Exception for that Purpose, & that it is your Duty to see all Laws  
 executed in the utmost Extent; of all which he appears fully per-  
 suaded. The Consequences which he mentions to have imparted to  
 one of us were, that as he found the Supplies were uncertain, & not  
 to be depended upon, even after being purchased & stored, he could  
 not, under such Uncertainty, invite a french Fleet to our Coast. We  
 have ever esteemed it our Duty & hoped we had discharged it, to  
 communicate to the Governor & Council, in Recess of Assembly, all  
 Matters of Importance acted upon in Congress which may relate  
 to Maryland, therefore am at some Loss for the Meaning of your  
 last Paragraph, as we know of no Matter of Importance, relative  
 to the State lately discussed which has not been forwarded—their  
 is indeed a Report of a Committee on the Application of M<sup>r</sup> Holker  
 for three thousand Barrells of Flour over & above the Quantity last  
 assigned, which when passed, we shall not fail to communicate.