

fore intend sending of it to that place without delay. I thought it would be to the advantage of the State, to have the Barrells nailed, & lin'd therefore have agreed with a Cooper to do the same. as no Person will Either let me have Barrells, Nails, nor do any thing Except what they are Obliged to by Law for Certificates, shall want money to pay for the above Articles & other Expences attending this Business. therefore if Your Excellency thinks proper be pleased Either to send the money or give an order on the Collector for about One Thousand Pounds, tho this seems large, yet it will not purchase more than Twelve or Fifteen pounds would have done before these wretched times. March 17

I am rendred by the Gout unfit for Militia Duty, being Convinced I could not endure the Hardships & fatigues required of an Officer in my Station, should I be Called out on Duty, do resign my Commission which is herewith inclosed.

S<sup>r</sup> Since I wrote the above, I have received your Excellencys letter of the 11<sup>th</sup> Instant, I am Exceeding sorry our Army is in such distress for want of Flour you may depend that I will do all in my power to forward all I have ready to the place within Mentioned, allso will have the Wheat in my hands & what I may get Manufactur'd & the Flour arising therefrom forwarded without delay. if the £8000 mentioned in yours intended for all the Commissioners, the sum requested by me need not be sent—if not I cannot possibly do without it therefore hope your Excellency will Either furnish me with the money or an Order as soon as possible.

P. S. I have taken some Indian Corn but as the same is not shell'd Cannot Ascertain the Quantity but Expect there will be Two Hundred Bushels.

[Elija Cole Cecil C'oty Head of Elk to His Excellency  
Thos Sim Lee]

March 17  
Red Book  
No. 23  
Letter  
No. 78

Gentlemen Since your last Information to us We Have Been forwarding All the flower We Possibly Could, Being In some Measure Acquainted With The Scarceness in Camp, forwarded from Tow To Three Hundred Barrells from the Mills Heare, A Day or Tow Before We Receivd your Last Instructions, But for Want of flower Barrells Cannot send On The Remainder As fast as We Could Wish, The Coopers In general Are Poor and say they Cannot Work for Sertificates, The Demand for Casks Heare Is very Considerable as there Is a good Deale of Wheat sent To This Place To Be Man-efacter'd, Therefore Beg you To furnish us With some Money For That Purpose, Or In Case There Is None To Grant us An Order On The Sherif of this County for a sufficient Sum, We Have Been oblige To Lay out all The money We Could Colect for Barrells as It Apeared Impossible To Procure them Otherways and We Could see No other way of Hastening on the flower.