

Officers and Commandant who I expect this day & am sorry to say April 27
 we have neither vessells or provision (of the meat kind) at this
 post sufficient for their daily consumption much less for their embarkation) yesterday I was apply'd to from Wilmington by the
 Commissary there acquainting that the Artillery was there on their
 way to this place and could not proceed for want of Provisions of
 the flesh kind. I cou'd not send them any as we have not three days
 provisions of that kind here. I have apply'd to M^r Ewing late Com-
 missary who assures me he has none but a small Quantity at M^r
 Jn^o Pages Commissioner of Kent County, (which seems to be in
 dispute) I have sent a Vessell this morning to M^r Page requesting
 the Provisions on any terms not doubting but the State will pay him
 for such part as is not already paid for and flatter myself of its
 coming. In the mean time am obliged to send out and procure fresh
 Shad for the whole Troops this will do a day or two yet. (but not
 longer) I must therefore beg the favor of your Excellency and
 Honors to take Immediate order in it & direct as you may think
 Necessary. I have not half Vessells enough and shall want at least
 200 Barrells Pork and Beef but if part cou'd be had, the other might
 meet them on their way down the Bay shall want a quantity of Pork
 for the Artillery and put the Baggage which go by Land, by way of
 Harford Baltimore and Alexandria to Petersburg, as I am order'd
 to see them through this State by the Board of War and Q. M. G^l
 and am also order'd by the Navy Board to have a quantity (24
 pieces) of Cannon haul'd from M^r Hughes Furness to Baltimore and
 to see them forwarded to Philadelphia suppose it may not be amiss to
 furnish me with orders for the Commissioners of Baltimore, Wash-
 ington &c^a Counties to serve my order with Forage, as it will take
 at least 24 Waggons for this Service and they cant take Forage
 from here, nor have I money to buy it, your particulars orders in
 this as in all other the matters related of, will much oblige Gentlemen
 Your Most Obed^t Hum. Servant

[John Stull, Washington County to His Excellency
 Thomas Sim Lee]

April 28

Sir I take the Liberty to Inform you that Thomas Taylor a
 Greable to your Reprive Did inList in the Service of the United
 States has since Deserted with Two others Stole three horses they
 are a Gain apprehended and now in our Gaol I w^d be Glad your
 Excelency w^d Take order with said Tayler as he is an Extraordinary
 fellow and prehaps Get a way

[Joseph Chapline, Hagerstown, to Gov. Lee]

May It Please Your Excelency: We have Received orders from
 the Committee To Transmitt an account of the purchases made by us
 immediately to them & as there Clark who has omitted his name

Red Book
 No. 23
 Letter
 No. 71
 April 28