

on my part, and therefore I could not but direct the Commissary of Prisoners on Your Excellency's Application and the Board of War's opinion that it was also warranted by a late Act of Congress respecting Prisoners in the like predicament, to propose to the Enemy the Exchange of L<sup>t</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> Ramsay for L<sup>t</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> Conolly. For my own part I have wished to see the Exchanges of prisoners conducted on the broadest & most general footing, in the order of their captivity, as being the most equitable mode, and that all taken from the Enemy whether by the United or Individual States, should be considered as one, common Stock, for the common relief of Ours according to this Rule. This has been the case with respect to the Prisoners made by the Army in every instance of exchanges under my direction; but the system having not entirely prevailed, Maryland has certainly the same right to benefit her Officers by those of her own capture, that other States had. And the indulgence has not been exercised in any instance in favor of a more deserving Officer than Col<sup>o</sup> Ramsay. He set out for New York yesterday and would carry with him the proposition for his release.

I have the Honor to be with great respect & esteem Y<sup>r</sup> Excellency's Most Obed<sup>t</sup> Servant

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to Gov. Lee in Council]

May 4

Gentlemen Your several letters of the 29<sup>th</sup> April 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> May came duly to hand by the first, I received your orders on the Commissioners of Baltimore & Washington Counties for Forage, 30 Bb<sup>ls</sup> Pork & ten Thousand pounds by M<sup>r</sup> Wormsley, and by the other 30 B<sup>bls</sup> beef and pork Capt<sup>n</sup> Price.

have communicated them to Col<sup>o</sup> Gunby Commandant who is Indefatigable in forwarding the service and writes your Honors on the occasion, as the first Division is not yet embarked (tho' I expect it this day) I cant say how many Vessells may be yet wanted but from the number already obtained suppose we have near enough, and as I mean to urge that the second division should follow the first as soon as possible suppose it may be proper to stop the Impressing Vessells, as there appears to be enough already impressed if they were all forward, and if they should not come forward in time we shall send the Troops down to them by those we have. I would have your Excellency and Honors take no further Trouble about the Provision for this division as we have enough for the present movement but fear Salt provisions will be wanted for the Northern Army. Wheat and flour seem to be pretty plenty. My orders are from Gen<sup>l</sup> Guest to order on the 2<sup>d</sup> Division as soon as the first are embarked which shall be strictly observed. Col<sup>o</sup> Gunby writes you regarding the Signals and Troops