

September 13 I flatter'd myself wth expecta^{tn} of being permitted to go for a few days to my plantation; if I cd be allowed the Liberty I sh^d consider it as a great obligatⁿ tho' I w^d not be understood to desire any thing th^t w^d be improper

September 13 [John Steward Balt. to His Excellency Thos Sim Lee]

Sir I do myself the Honor to inclose you a letter which M^r Leigh Masters who arrived here yesterday in a Flag of Truce from New Providence of which he had the Command. I beg leave to observe that it is contrary to practice of the Enemy to suffer our Flags of Truce to refit in any Port in their possession; as there was no older officer in this Place I have accommodated my Conduct to their customs, in respect to M^r Masters, who has a number of Acquaintances in this place of no very amiable discription I have therefore ordered him to remain on board his Vessel and have prohibited his communicating with any Person except through the mediation of the commissary of Prisoners. M^r Hughs has no British Prisoners here and thinks that it would be advisable if Y^r Excell^y approves of it; to give him with his Vessel a Pass Port to Virginia where he may obtain a number of Prisoners sufficient to Exchange those which he brought;

Unless he obtains this pass Port and Prisoners he cannot without the miraculous intervention of Providence Regain his Port as he has with a force peculiar to himself brought but one man with him to navigate a large Burmudian Sloop

September 15 [Jas Calhoun, Baltimore to His Excellency Govr. Lee]

Sir I am very sorry to find my success in purchasing has by no means equal'd my expectation scarce any wheat or flour has come from the Country this week owing I believe to the busy season it being the heighth of seed time, nor has any wheat come by water I imagine it generally goes towards Elk & Bohemia where the price is higher than with us the last that came here was bought up by M^r Hollingsworth & sent to Elk & several of the Millers from Cecil have been down here to purchase Wheat the price of flour at Philad^a is £100 to £112:10 p^r C^t

M^r Mathews had secured what flour was in Town or in the Mills contiguous before I had it in my power to buy any, his purchases must amount to 5 or 600 Barrels at least part of which is gone on to Elk.

The Country back of this abounds in grain and I am perswaded could we wait until it came regularly to Market & was enabled to pay the cash it might be got on good terms but am fearful to make our present great necessities known or ride about to the Millers & farmers in the Country will be a certain way to raise the price & not