

tions of the Act appointed recruiting Officers. And am enabled by the 15th of C^t to give as high as £1500 for recruits but am sorry to inform your Excellency that I have no reason to believe I shall be able to procure a single recruit. I have inclosed Col^o Waterses Commission he has resigned it in consequence of his residence in Baltimore. Major Bruff has also resign'd and alledges his inability to do duty as the cause. I believe he is very infirm and not equal to the task. I have mislaid his Commission which prevents my sending it by this oppertunity. Those Gentlemans resignations leaves Col^o Hayward without the assistance of a field Officer he has recommended M^r William Waters (of W^m) (who was before the present regulation of the militia, a major to his battalion) to supply the place of Col^o Waters, And Cap^t Thomas Irving That of Maj. Bruff, I am of Opinion that them Gentlemen will be as suitable to supply the vacancies as any in his battalion. And Request the favour of your Excellency to order the Commissions to be made out for them, And Delivered to Col^o Dashiell he has promised to convey them to me, by the first Oppertunity. I am under the necessity of Continuing a part of the Militia on Duty to prevent the ravages and insults of our Enemies. My Duty requires me to say something of the situation of this County but as I intend to Annapolis in a few days shall postpone it until I come up.

October 20

[Joseph Ford Leonardtown to Gov Lee]

Sir I Herewith send your Excellency Returns of all Purchases made by M^r Sims my appointment as Commisary. the Sickly situation of my family and self for some time past and the Unexpected Trouble with the Steers, Bucking them to the Rode, Put it out of My Power to comply with Your Excellencies Command by the 17th Ins^t out of the fourty Eight then Returned four was Strayed before I parted with them, & I have heard of one more since, they were So ungovernable at first, that I had some doubts whether I should get any of them away I expect with the Strays to make up about Thirty Steers in Ten day There will be but little Pork to be had here this fall would it be adviseable to contract for a Quantity of Barrel Staves and Heads I have Shipt off about half the Bacon I Purchased, Craft is so Difficult to be got, that I cannot say when I shall be able to get of the Ballance.

October 20
Red Book
No. 26
Letter
No. 134

The People who I owe Tobacco too for Horns are now constantly Teasing me for it, I should be Glad to discharge their Debts. A good Crop of Indian Corn made with us.