

more. I hope to have a supply very soon no wheat to be had under £25 part of what is gone I have got at that price and some yet to go that was got at 22.10

October 31

[William Smallwood, Camp New Providence to Gov. Lee]

October 31  
Brown Book  
No. 2  
Letter  
No. 73

Sir Since my Last Nothing material has occurred except a Great Scarcity of Provision. Col<sup>o</sup> Polk has not even supplied the Regular Troops. Our principal Subsistance has been brought in by Detachments, which they took from the Disaffected who have gone over to the Enemy, and I have now not less than Two Hundred Men employ'd on that Duty which is the only prospect of supplying the Troops till the Late Provision Act for collecting the specific Tax in Provision is more effectually carried into Execution, which I fear at last will not afford an ample Supply; in addition to what Purchases can be made. Forage is also much exhausted, and cannot long be procured for any considerable Force, Plundering prevails to an amazing Degree by Persons who go under the Denomination of Volunteers. Your Proclamation restraining these infamous Practice, and offering Terms to the Tories, before they obtain Intelligence of the Enemys Landing in Virginia, might have as I wrote you before a Salutary Effect. The British two Days ago were encamped at Lee's Mill, said to be fifteen Miles below the Cross Roads. From this place, Roads lead to the Westward Congaree, Charles Town, and Camden, from which no just Conclusion can be drawn of their Destination, or Views. I shall be happy to see you on with the Continental Troops as soon as they can be equipped. The Present Aspect of our Affairs seems inauspicious. The Enemy's late Descent in Virginia, together with our defenceless Situation and want of Resources, is truely alarming. Pray what has become of the French Fleet? unless something is to be expected from them, our Situation must become ineligible. General Sumpter lies high up on the South Side of the Catawba, he writes me his Number is very inconsiderable; the Georgians have not join'd him as he expected. The other Party, who defeated Ferguson, are dispersed and gone Home, except the Escort with the Prisoners. You will be so obliging to continue to forward any further Intelligence you may receive respecting the Enemy, or other Material Transactions

N B. Axes and intrenching Tools are much Wanting

[Jno Reid Fort Frederick to Gov Lee]

October 31

Sir I would thank Your Excellency to give Capt. Jacobs an order on M<sup>r</sup> Muir for Cloth enough for a Suit of Cloaths for myself & Officers being much in want & will very much Oblige