

December 15 in getting workmen or Tools to do any thing to the Barracks, for want of money, the sheriff being unable to answer any part of the Draughts on him. M<sup>r</sup> Murdoch thinks it will be morally impossible to make any considerable Purchases on Credit. as soon as I get the Troops Tolerably fixed, I think it will be Necessary for me to go to Virginia, in order to forward the Purchase of Beef and Pork. I am sensible of the Politeness and attention I met with at your Hon<sup>ble</sup> Board, for w<sup>ch</sup> I beg leave to Offer my acknowledgements.

December 15 [Mark Alexander to Gov. Lee recommends the appointment of Job Garritson as sheriff of Baltimore County in place of Joseph Baxter, resigned, as he is a "sober, indousterus man and very attentive to whatever buisness he undertakes." He has a good estate and will be able to give "sufficient sureties."]

December 15 [John Hall Caile, Dorchester County, to Gov. Lee.]

Sir As the season for the purchase of Pork is at hand & I have not yet had the honor of receiving any instructions from you respecting that very necessary commodity I beg leave to request you will inform me by the earliest opportunity whether I must endeavour to procure any and at the same time permit me to give you my sentiments on the occasion From the best information I can receive & which I have been at some trouble to acquire there is not any considerable quantity to be sold from the real scarcity of Hogs but I have observed that at this time of the year the people generally make complaints that contribute to raise the price & as frequently without foundation however I am induced to believe there hardly ever was more occasion than at present.

I likewise take the liberty to inform you that I think it probable a quantity of Corn might be bought in this County the Crop being in general exceeding good & the only difficulty that I apprehend wou'd attend a purchase of that article or even Pork is the prevailing on the people to receive money of the new emissions in payment. shou'd you think it necessary for me to attempt purchasing either of these articles or Peas Beans or oats or any of them you will be pleased to send me your instructions respecting the prices I may be allowed to give, and also furnish me with Cash being well assured nothing can be done without prompt payment. The late Commissary purchased a quantity of Wheat with the money he was furnished with for that purpose it is now on hand I shou'd be glad to know if you want to have it manufactured or in what other manner it is to be disposed of I need not remark to your Excellency how indispensably necessary it is in order to make an extensive purchase to begin early, Private Purchasers are allready busied in the purchase of Pork with a View probably of hereafter making a profit on from the publick. Should your Excellency be inclined to instruct