

December 20  
 Little I have to Live upon if your Honour is not so good and the gentlemen of the Council as to take it in Consideration and assist me in paying the Doctor for if your honours thought fit to send me to hospital Again I had Rather Die than go their again you may think that I Drink so that I Cannot be Cur'd but I Declare that I never Do Drink any Spiritual Liquor Since I had this misfortune the Doctor sais he Can Cure me in A very Little time to put me in A salivation and all the Doctors in America Cannot with out So Sir I never Desire any other assistance from the United States if your honours is so good as to help me that way and Sir please to send me A Letter whether you will or Not for I am Not Able to Come to you Sir Doctor Roberson is to Do it whether you send me Any word of assistance or Not but I had much Rather if y<sup>r</sup> honour thought proper to help me A Little for I shall be obliged to pay the Doctor all my self Sir if you please send me word soon

[Jesse Hollingsworth, Alexandria, to Gov. Lee.]

December 21

Sir I Arived at this Place this morning to Breakfast, Aquainted Colonall How of your Design, But he told me that his & Cap<sup>t</sup> Conaways Brigs have gone to See, Cap<sup>t</sup> Yellot has Been Very busy this Day Preparing to Go Down the River, But thinks his situation at Present Rather Precarious, as most of his People have Gon for Baltimore By land, No more then 13 now on bord out of 30, so that Capt Yellot thinks he Will Bee Obligd to Act on the Defensive But if Any thing in his Power to Scare Or take the Enemy in the Bay, as he goes up he Will Do all he Can With Safty to him Self and Vesell, But there Seems nothing here to Bee With him he Leaves this Place Without fail To Morrow Morning, if the Winde Dont Prevent

[Jno Dorsey, Baltimore to Gov. Lee]

December 21  
 Red Book  
 No. 126  
 Letter  
 No. 69

Sir I received by an express this morning your Excellencys letter of yesterday informing of the Enemys Privateers being in our Bay.

In answer to your Excellencys request I beg leave to inform that the Schooner Nautilus being Loaded, is now Shipping her men for the voyage, and will, I hope, be ready to proceed down the Bay in company with any other armed Vessel w<sup>ch</sup> your excellency may be able to get. As to the Fox so much work has and will be necessary to repair the damages received in her last voyage that I do not expect she will be ready before the middle or last of next week to move from this on any occasion; when, as she will be also Loaded, I will chearfully consent to her cruising a few days in the Bay in company with other vessels so as not to loose the convoy of the other vessels now in this Port bound to the Havana.

M<sup>r</sup> Stephen Steward, with whom I have had some conversation on the subject, tells me he will fit out and man the Porpus for the pur-