

March 8 [David Poe, D. Q. M. Baltimore to Honourable Brigadier General Gist, Annapolis]

I Reced your favour of Yesterday and have been Trying what Articles could be procured at this place. I believe the whole may be had except the Plank called in the Invoice, about Three or four Inches thick which cannot be had as there is none of that kind ever comes to this place, and some other of the small Articles will be difficult to procure.

But the great Matter is the Want of Cash, I have none and my Credit is not to be depended on, as I have been too free with it. I am afraid I shall not be able to procure much without Money. There is an order Lyes with the Continental Treasury Board—which I am to Receive a part of to the Amount of 1200 pounds new Money. I Beg that you would make Application to the Treasurer perhaps he may be able to give some Assistance, If so Please send it by the Bearer. Ten sail of Bay Craft sailed this morning under Convoy of Cap^t Martin. I have procured a fine sea Schooner which will be Ready to sail in the morning she Carries about 70 Hogsheads she came up Yesterday—there is four or five Bay Craft will be Ready to sail to-morrow.

[Pat Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee.]

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I had the honor of writing you some time past requesting to be supplied with Cash to pay for the provision I purchased and Salt to cure it but have received neither. The money I had an Order for on the Collector is applied partly in purchasing wheat & I have been obliged to pay some of it for Pork flour Barrells &^{ca} Have also been under the necessity of borrowing about a hundred pounds new Emissions of the collector to Comply with some of my contracts and Still want about a hundred pound more. Must therefore beg I may be supplied either with cash from the Treasury or with an order on the Collector to cover the whole—my Salt is all expended and I have been obliged to purchase to Salt some provision I had collected, I shall now only want a few Bushells to resalt & pack the provision I have on hand & if there is no convenience of sending it from Annapolis shortly, Hope I may be directed to purchase here, as 'tis absolutely necessary the whole should be seasoned before the weather gets too warm. I have now on hand a few fatted Cattle and expect more this week, think there will be Ten or Eleven in the whole, I'm obliged to have them fed high which will be attended with considerable expence—they are now very fine and must fall away unless taken great Care of. I had directions some time past to send what I could then procure to M^r George Murdock in Frederick Town, unless those I now have can be otherwise made use of more Conveniently, I think twould be proper to send them to M^r Murdock without delay.