

March 18
 11 o'clock at
 night
 Red Book
 No. 30
 Letter 111

as I know of no object worthy of their notice above Patapsco Except the Vessles and Stores at this place, or perhaps the Vilage, we are collecting all the Militia (or rather the Inhabitants of the Vilage) to make the best defence we possibly can to night, which should the Enemy come in any force we are scarcely Equal to oppose them, but should they delay it untill morning I am in no doubt of collecting a sufficient number not only to cover the Vessles, and Stores, but give a pretty good account of the Enemy should they be daring enough to attempt anything above the narrows of the River, our Lieutenant is unluckely indisposed and Field officers Live at a distance, Capt Booth is doing all He can to Collect and arm the men as they come in, I am much in haste

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 Letter 115

[Geo. P. Keepports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.] (Fav^d By Mr. Poe)

May It Please Your Excellency Since Writing the 15th Ins^t I have been Prevented Sending the Cloathing Mentioned, To M^r Muir for Want of a Conveyance the Cloathing and the Cloths Purchased of M^r H. Courtney are all Pack'd up and Ready to be Forwarded by the First Good Oppertunity.

I must Beg Leave to Inform your Excellency that the Late Alarm we had Here Occasioned by the Two Ships Going up the Bay I was Called on by the Militia Artillery Officers for Field Peices and Ammunition the First of which not Being Repaired were Useless and of the Latter There was not any Suitable made up (For the want of Money only) which Occasioned much unEasyness and Dissatisfaction with Numbers of the Inhabitants.

I have Engaged a Workman to make Wheels & Repair the Field Peices But he has Declined going on with the Work untill I Pay him as much Money as his work will Amount to Weekly. The Armourers Likewise that I have Employed Cleaning & Repairing the Arms have Refused Doing any more work Several Times but Through Perswasion and Getting Provision for them on Credit have Hitherto Pervailed on them to Continue Working, But shall not have it in my Power to get them to Continue at work Longer without I am Enabled to Pay their Wages for the Want of which they are in the Greatest Distress I yesterday Finished Casting Musket Balls of the Whole of the lead Lead that was in this Place which made about 5000 Ounce Balls the Half of which I have Given out to be made up and am to pay Ready Money for making the Cartridges your Excell^y will see By the Inclosed memorandum what Num^r of Musq^{ts} Cartridges are Ready Made and will Please to order more Lead sent me if you shou'd Judge it Necessary to have More Musq^t Cartridges made up The Great Distress I am in for Want of Money to have the Publick Business under my Care Executed and for my own Subsistance I Hope will Apologize for my Freedom of Making such Constant and Pressing Application for Money and Procure a Speedy Relief