

to force His way from the Guard, the two others will Be delivered to Col. Smith—from the Confession of Pigot we Have Got two other Names which Your Excellency will find in the inclosed letter of Major McPherson, an officer to whose perseverance zeal and worth I am indebted for the discovery of this plot in which (on Account of the gale that Blew a little while after He got into the Barge) His life Has Been very much Endangered

April 17
Brown Book
No. 7
Letter 71

I Had Yesterday the pleasure of seeing Col Smith's Regiment of Militia, and Am Happy in An opportunity to report to your Excellency How satisfied I Have Been with their Excellent Appearance this And other Preparations of defence made By this Town do Her citizens Great Honor. I am under the Greatest obligations to Captain Moore and the Gentlemen of His corps who most obligingly Have Exerted themselves in the procuring of our supplies.

I cannot finish this letter Before I do once more Express to your Excellency the concern I feel for the inconveniences which our passing through this State Brings upon its inhabitants Nothing makes me more unhappy than a necessity to impress Private property thereby distressing our Best Citizens. But Your Excellency and Council and indeed this whole State seem so much Aware of the danger the Southern States are under that upon such lively Representations of it as I Have Received is Because my duty to Hasten My March By uncommon Exertions

[Sam. Smith and Bowly & Stewart, Balt. to Gov. Lee.]

April 17
Red Book
No. 27
Letter 69

When S. S. propos'd our Schooner Rover to Carry a Load of Corn for the State, he understood that it was already provided. We would have no objection to purchase it if the Money was Supplied us, but would not risk furnishing it at a Certain price, what it would Cost would be Charg'd & no more, on no Terms would we furnish the Money, We should gain nothing by the Comm. no person would do it for less than 5 p^{ct} we Could not buy the Corn here, we should order the Vessell to the Eastern shore to which it would be absolutely necessary that our Schooner had protection.

Neither officers nor Men could be procur'd unless they were paid at least Two Months pay each in N. York, the amo^t of which they would Certainly bring back in Goods. I know the Circumstances with respect to the Debt & will take an order on the Cargo for the freight on Condition you will write to Gen^l Clinton to order it to be paid, if it not paid. We will then receive it here. The freight of 2/ p Bu^s we accept.

[T. Stone, Portobacco, to Gov. Lee]

April 17
Red Book
No. 4
Letter 117
[copy: in-
dorsed on
back "Orig-
inal with
Mr. Mere-
dith
Balto."]

Yesterday a Sixteen Gun Brig appeared off Swann Point & sent a Boat with six hands to destroy a vessel on the Stocks near that place eight Militia under Col Harris attacked them and took the Boat & Crew, the Prisoners are Ordered to Annapolis. This morning all