

[Robert Ballard, Baltimore, to His Excellency, Tho. S. Lee.] April 24

I am constrained to ask for a Privilege, which is not induced from want of inclination to serve my country, but from inability. I am call'd on by the Officers of this place to enrol myself as a private on some company of Militia, and to do duty accordingly. By a fall from a carriage, I unfortunately got my Arm broke in such a manner, that I am rendered incapable of bearing Arms. I mean a Musket. I must therefore take the liberty of asking for such exemption as will preclude the officers from all right of calling on me in future. Col<sup>o</sup> Forrest who does me the honor to hand this, will inform your Excellency of the Propriety of my claim.

[Chas. Blake to The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Mat: Tilghman, Esquire] April 24

I rec<sup>d</sup> yrs of the 18<sup>th</sup> requesting a return of provisions, and ordering the bacon in barrels; the Salt provisions are all gone to Annapolis by his Excellencys order, and the flour is now going off to the Head of Chester by Col<sup>o</sup> Hollingsworth's order. I have 740 bus: of Wheat at Wye Mill trifling else where. I have four Waggon which will be down to you by Col<sup>o</sup> Hollingsworth's order in two or three days, to draw any provisions in the hands of the Commissarys to the Head of Chester or where you may direct.

[Dan'l Carroll, Philadelphia, to Gov. Lee.]

The Board of War having spared to the Special Council for the Eastern shore, & to the Virginia Delegates a number of the Rampart peices, I could not obtain an order for more than 500, they have likewise given me an order for 2 four pound Brass Field pieces complete If 4<sup>lbs</sup> Ball should be wanting it will be proper to mention the number you would have. It not being safe to send the arms by water I presume you will order waggons up or some to be procured here.

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The following is an extract of a Letter from Gen<sup>l</sup> Washington. "Head quarters New Windsor Ap<sup>l</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> 81. I have received advices through different chanel corresponding with that transmitted Congress by M<sup>r</sup> Foreman. They strongly assert that a further detachment is going from New York & that it is to be commanded, by Gen<sup>l</sup> Clinton, but they are not equally positive as to the destination being for Delaware In the present State of Southern Affairs 'tis perhaps more probable that Clinton is going to take the Command there.

The Letter from S<sup>t</sup> Pierre dated the 18<sup>th</sup> of March in the enclos'd paper is from M<sup>r</sup> Parsons Agent for Congress—to the Board of Admiralty. The intelligence from the Havanna is thro Don Francisco.

Some exchanged officers arrived here in a flag from Charles Town, they left it 13 days past & informs us that Gen<sup>l</sup> Sumpter had taken the Enemies post at 96 & made about 300 prisoners.

We have reason to believe the Confederacy is taken by two British frigates.