

June 30  
Red Book  
No. 22  
Letter 12

[Dan'l Jenifer, Portobacco, to Gov. Lee]

This Serves to inform your Excellency that after much fatigue or exertion, trouble, and bearing much illiberal abuse; I have compleated the quota of Horses for this County (35 are already branded) tho' not all so good as I cou'd wish, some being impressed against my inclination. My intention was to have furnished the best in the County, but was defeated in my purpose. The N<sup>o</sup> wou'd have been compleated in a few days had it not have been for the Refractoriness of a few and the wickedness of others; in endeavouring by insinuations to down the Credit of the certificates; Thomas Crackels and Sam<sup>l</sup> Mitchell ought to be made immediate examples of as does M<sup>r</sup> Walter Hanson Jun<sup>r</sup> who deserves the Greater chastisem<sup>t</sup> because he is, or ought to a Gent. Crackels sent his Horse to Marlbro and Mitchel hath conceald his. Hanson hath been very abusive and busy in crying down the Cred<sup>t</sup> of the pay Two attempts have been made to get his horse (but both times he and his horse were from home) not that he can well spare him, but all those who speak in the strain he has lately done ought in my opinion to be made Smart. I shou'd Esteem it a favor if your Ex<sup>cy</sup> and the Council woud give immediate orders for the removal of the Horses, as they have been and are still a very heavy Burden upon my son (D<sup>r</sup> Jenifer) He has but few hands and they greatly hurt with the fatigue of Watching every night, a very valuable pasture which he kept purposely for his Mares and Colts He readily gave up to the use of the State. It is now eaten quite bare, and he is oblig'd to have Grass cut every day to feed the brutes with; there not being a pasture worth a button to be had in the neighborhood. The people set to Watch, some times fall asleep and then the Horses Commit Trespasses upon an adjacent Meadow and cornfield; 30 have been in two nights running. I hope Sir that those reasons will be a sufficient apology for my pressing to have them taken away. I cou'd wish Sir that some of the Horses here recd were ordered to be restored and others that are better taken in their place, as there are several very good ones to be had belonging to young fellows, who ought either to spare their Horses, or render personal Service, a valuable horse belonging to M<sup>r</sup> George Kent (who is a good whig) I shou'd be glad to have orders to return as he was the only Horse his wife cou'd ride, when I took him I thought the case urgent and that no time was to be lost or I shou'd not have taken him. As to M<sup>r</sup> Ridgates Goods they are so trifling I have not as yet done any thing with them, more than to forbid the sale of any of the Hats (except the Boys) Enclosd is the Invoice which he delivered me 16 yards of Firze seems to be napt Cotton and the Linnen sorry. The Hats which he calls Carton are Carolina felts and N<sup>o</sup> 1. 2 & 3 of the felts are only fit for small Boys. The others may do for Soldiers which if your Ex<sup>cy</sup> and the Council think worth having I shall take your Ex<sup>y</sup> will see whether this Invoice corresponds with the one sent