

culty I can get a man to assist me in collecting of Cattle from one house to another, and have been under the necessity of turning driver myself—a very disagreeable alternative this warm weather. July 17

[Joseph Dashiell, Worcester County, to Gov. Lee.]

July 17

I Rec^d by Express yesterday Sundry laws &c but was surpris'd that I had not a scrape of a pen from your Excellency—Relative to the prisoner I rote we had in Goal. When we sent Traves away, Since which we have apprehended Elijah Sturgis & one Rugby Slocum, the latter is a vilian that has bin with the enemy Burning & plundering, was Taken by Capt Shadwick, on W Island, and sent to us as he is One of this County.

I most sincerely wish that your Excellency & C^o would Order a Court to try those persons, as they are kept in Goal at a very Grate expence, being oblige to keep a Constant guard, the Goal not being Trustworthy—and I Cannot send them forward to Annapolis for want of money.

I have detained the Vesel of one Samuel Garock, from Baltimore, that Traves Informd me had bin down to portsmouth with him, and had Taken a Protection, not having money to send a guard I Tuck a bond with good Security, that he would appeare before you by the 10th this Ins^t by whom I rote you and requested if he was Detained to know what I was to do with his Vesel & Carco, which Consists of Flower & Iron &c Your not wrighting or mentioning his name gives his Security Grate Reason to fear that he has not made his appearance before you agreable to promise, if he has not Travis can give you all the Information, abought him that is necessary, should be glad to heare from you and have Directions what to do with his Vesel & Cargo, I think it my Duty to mention a practice that is Carrying on here, that must be attended with every evile Consequence, Almost every person that falls into the hands of those Miraudors Give a parole, Under which they wish to hold themselves bound, wheather taken in Armes or not, & as often as they please go to Portsmouth under pretence of having a summons to appeare there, without any licence from Any officer whatever, I am inform'd that Col^o Peter Waters is now gone to Portsmouth upon a summons from One Atkinson a refugee, to answer to his parole, taken by Capt Colliar, last fall if this is to be suffered I am convinced it will be Imposable to do any thing efectual with our Barges, as every peace of Intelligence, that they want they can have we should be extremly Glad of your Directions in this Particular. I submit it to your Excellency wheather the Corn purchased last Winter was a year had not better be Dispos'd of as a good deal of it must be much Damag'd & all of it must be Lost if it is not Dispos'd of before the Hot weather is Over, I rote you by Capt Levin Handy relative to Capt. Waylys Commissions, should be glad that they were sent down, agreable to his request—which I Communicated in my letter by Capt. Handy.