

had a hearing before Colon<sup>l</sup> Smith a few days after he was confined: there was nothing appeared against him: notwithstanding he is always kept in prison without the least appearance of Being releas<sup>d</sup> if M<sup>r</sup> Parks should be Innocent as I believe he is of what is laid to his Charge it is Very hard that he should be kept confined: from his wife and family: I beg your Exelency may take the Prisoners case into consideration and Grant him shuch relief as your Justice and wisdom may think fitt.

August 13  
Red Book  
No. 18  
Letter 125

[Phil. Thomas, Frederick, to His Excell<sup>y</sup> Thomas S. Lee Esq.] August 13  
(By L<sup>t</sup> Col<sup>o</sup> Wood)

I have inclosed A letter directed to M<sup>r</sup> Gerock, one of the Prisoners sent from Annapolis to our Gaol. As it seems to be An Essay on a Religious kind of Trade carrying on, or to be carried on, by the writer & C<sup>o</sup> & it is probable the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Board May think the subject worth their Attention—the Auther is a German Clergyman—It is thought F—l is a M<sup>r</sup> Furnival—the Prisoner had seen the letter before I knew it, and no doubt will endeavour to give his Father Notice that it is in my possession.

P. Guy & W<sup>m</sup> [Cann?] have enlisted. I shall pay the Prison Fees but shall not give them or M<sup>r</sup> Stephenson any other bounty

Balt<sup>re</sup> Town Aug. 3<sup>d</sup> 1781 August 3

My dearest Son! Your last Letter transfused joy & happiness into my heart & bowels and almost overwhelmed me with happiness & heartfelt Satisfaction. Far from unmanly grief grining or whimpering I only wrote from a Sense of true tender & parental affection to my first born & only son. Rest assured that you could not possibly receive with more pleasure and greater Satisfaction what I sent to your Support & comfort, than I have felt in doing it most willingly and cheerfully being firmly resolv'd upon to continue in the same mind & repeat it as often as possible and necessary. You Know, tenderness of Love (especially parental) Softens the mind and may even wet a compassionate and most Affectionate Father's eye with melted tears, without tho' weakening the minds fortitude &c. Believe me, I felt more for your sake's than for my own self, being long ago (these 30 years) accustomed to troubles, Afflictions, injuries, oppressions, calamities, plunderings, & insults from high and low, Phari-sees & Scribes etc, etc.

But hope and wish for your deliverance and pray to God to protect comfort and Assist you now and for ever, Amen.

Now for affecting & interesting news: Know then (I hope to your Sorrow in some manner) that our Sweet & promising fine flower, lately & happily unfolded is decayed, our dear little Samuel deceased on tuesday last at 12 o'clock A. M. having on Monday morning been