

August 22 [Ja^s Calhoun, Baltimore to Mr. Hezekiah Reeder, Com^y of Provisions, Charles County]

As I am frequently called on for returns of the Provisions procured in the different Counties, and they come to me made out in so many different forms (if at all) that it is scarcely possible to make out a general one, so as to be able to tell what quantity of Provisions has been received and what delivered, or what remains on hand, which ought to be done regularly every Month. I have therefore in order to get the returns all alike, made out and now enclose a very plain simple form, which at one view shews the whole up til the first of this Month from the first of February last, which is full as far back as any provisions has been collected under the Act entitled an Act to raise the supplies for the year 1781 and is intended to take in what was on hand at that time of former collections (if any) or what may have been delivered over to you from any other Commissary. Please compleat one agreeable to this form up til the first of August and send me with all possible expedition as it is immediately wanted, And you must also in future make one punctually up to the end of every Month beginning for the first article with what remained on hand the preceeding Month. The greatest difficulty I apprehend will be in ascertaining what of the wheat is ground up but this you can only get the best information in your power from the Millers and if not exact, come as near to it as you can, for it is absolutely necessary for us to know nearly what is in wheat and what in flour. Please send a copy of your return to the Governor & Council as well as one to me

August 22 [Rich'd Dallam, Harford County, to Gov. Lee.]

I have sent down every draught from the Militia or their Substitutes that I could get in the remainder of the draughts I fear will not march without severe measures being Pursued.

The Reports from Annapolis are very discouraging to the draughts & several have run off & left their Families They are told that the Militia draughts & the Substitute to 10th December are kept for days without Provisions & very disagreeable methods used to force them to enlist into the regular Army These Reports are prejudicial to the Public Service and therefore mention them Hoping your Excell^{cy} will enable me to contradict them as false & without foundation, Several of the draughts of this County are Persons of good Carrec^{ors} & of Families of Credit & to them it is worse then death to think of meeting such usage in the service of their Country, their Circumstances at the same time do not enable them to procure Substitutes if they were to be had which are not since the circulation of these reports before men were offering themselves and money was only wanting to hire them.