

duced to believe from a true representation of his circumstances, he wou'd be excused from marching: this we have taken the liberty to make; and hope the justice of the case will be our excuse for troubling your Honor on the subject. August 29

[Nat: Ramsey to Governor Lee]

August 30

Messures Ridley & Pringle now offer Payment for one half of Two Lotts bought at Whetstone Point. As the time for Payment is expired, it is at our Option either to confirm or avoid the Sale, we would wish to regulate our Conduct to suit the Exigencies of the State. The Lotts will very Probably bring more Money at a future Day, 'tho considering the Present scarcity of Specie, we think they are not much below their Value It rests with you to determine, whither the Lands or the Cash is at Present of most Value to the State. The Sum is about 150£ and will act accordingly

[Sogour, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

August 30
Red Book
No. 28
Letter 24

Extremely anxious of intering the field again and the marquis having Engaged his word that he would Exchange me as soon as I might get a proper Command—give me leave to intreat your excellency and the honourable the Council for my appointment to the Command of those two troops which are to be Rised in this state.

An opportunity presents now to render those troops the more useful to the country and in the mean time to the officers imploy'd in it.

The legion of Lausun is on his march to the Marquis camp in Virginia; was I appointed to this Command and authorised to enlist men I engage myself with the assistance of the officers to have the two troops Completed by the latter end of next month—and if by that time acoutrements with some exertions could be got ready we could join the duc de Lausun such junction would be extremely serviceable both to the country and the duc—it would be a perfect agreeable and profitable school for the officers and soldiers of this new corps who might take a right idea of the service in time of war—it could save misunderstanding between Lausun's dragoons and the good inhabitants of the united states and before the enemie it would enable the duc and his troops of making the best of the different intelligence they receive while detached on the lines. This addition of command could but please the duc and this corps consisting chiefly of country born men and acquainted with the language of the country would, in his enterprises on the ennemies be very serviceable to him and extricate him out of the difficult marshy roads and swampy paths of the low counties of Virginia—circumstances of the greater moment to Carry on war to any advantage with light troops.

As I have mention'd to some member of the honourable the Council the marquis de la fayette was to recommend me to the Assembly