

[Tho^s Nelson Jr, Richmond, to Governor Lee]

September 2

On the 31st of August the French Fleet commanded by the Count De Grasse consisting of 28 Ships of the Line & six Frigates with three thousand Land Forces, arrived in Chesapeake Bay. They have made such Dispositions as will prevent the British Army, now at York, from crossing James River, should they attempt to escape to the Southward; & I trust we shall, in Conjunction with the French Troops, be able to oppose to them such a Force as will keep them from penetrating westerly in order to cross the Country higher up. In all human Probability Lord Cornwallis has nearly finished his Career, & will shortly receive his Reward.

We are making the greatest Exertions to procure abundant & permanent Supplies of Provisions for the Fleet of our Allies & our combined Forces; & although our Prospects are good, yet so anxious am I that there shall be no Deficiency on this Score, I wish us to have some other Dependence than the Supplies of this State, Flour is an Article which we may probably most want, particularly for the present; & it is one with which your State, I imagine, can easily & plentifully furnish us. I would therefore take the Liberty of recommending it to your Consideration whether it will not be advisable to have considerable Quantities of it immediately sent down the Bay.

[J. Nicholson, Jr., Queen Anne County, to Gov. Lee.]

September 2

M^{rs} Gordon very lately received a Letter from M^r Gordon from New York, in which he communicates to her his Intention to go this Fall to Scotland, & take with him two of his Chillren, for which Purpose and to settle his Business upon the Continent, he strongly urges his wife to meet him at Elizabeth Town.

Permit me in Company with some others of M^{rs} Gordons Friends to solicit the Favor of your Excell^{cy} and your Honorable Council, to grant her this permission.

M^r Gordons Letter to his wife accompanies this, to Show to your Excellency and your Honble Council that by making this request she is only actuated by Motives of Interest for the welfare & Happiness of a large & in a great measure helpless Family of Children.

[Thomas Sprigg, Washington County, to the Council.]

September 3
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Yours of the 3^d August respect^s the recruits (in which their very Erronius depositions were Inclosed) did not come to hand until Yesterday, I was by no means Ignorant of the Power given me by the Law which your hon^{ts} were please to recite, and can assure you that due Attention has always been paid to every Just comp^t made by any recruit to me from this Co^{ty} and the Strictest Justice done them, as far as came within my knowledge and Power nor had any of them the smallest reason to complain of a deficiency in their Bounty except