would not be best to have her for the state service—man her properly, September 9 let her cruize in the Bay, as we are informed the Enemys cruizers are still in it, & whether if she was sent to York (on account of the little water she draws) she may not be of essential service in the operation there

Gen¹ Chataloux & some other officers are come in this Evening. The Gen<sup>1</sup> says the Troops will most probably be here on Tuesday Evening & presses much making every prepation for getting them forward. Every thing in my power shall be done; but I have thought it necessary to send this by Express that you may pursue such methods as you may deem most eligible.

[Richd Barnes, Leod Town to His Excellency Thos, Sim Lee Esq<sup>r</sup>] September 10

Agreeable to your direction I appointed Mr Robt Armstrong to keep a Person at Point lookout to give me the earliest information of the appearance of the Enemy, in consequence of which I rec<sup>d</sup> the inclosed by express yesterday, and shuld have immediately sent an express to you, If I had apprehended it was part of the French Fleet that we have been informed were in the Bay. Which If true, may make it unnecessary to keep a Person at Point look out, shall be glad of your directions on the Subject. I have appointed Mr Hugh Hopewell to send all the Vessels that can be got to the head of Elk.

[Rob. Armstrong to The Honble Richard Barnes, Esq<sup>r</sup>]

September 9

This morning about Sunrise was discovered three sails a small Saturday distance above Smiths Point comeing up the Bay the wind South Morning West, I stayed sometime in order to see what they were. The wind Changing to North I found them to be two Ships and A Brigg the foremost Ship is now not more than Eight Miles below Point Lookout working up under all the sail that she can make. Agreeable to your Instructions—I have dispatched a Messenger (John Lee) to you. who is to be paid ten shillings hard money for his trouble.

[Tho Beall of Geo. for T Richardson Esqr Geo Town to His Excel- September 10 lency Tho<sup>s</sup> S. Lee Esq<sup>r</sup>] (Hon<sup>d</sup> by Mr. Denny)

I have been Chiefly all through this County and find Beeves in General very Poor & Scarce from present Appearances I don't belive I shall be able to get above two hundred which Number I hope to have brought together as near to this place as Good Pasturage can be had this week—and if there is as many as three Hundred in this County I will have them.

I am getting Hay Corn & Oats in very fast every body in this County seems willing to Supply me with forage. I shall write you Immediately as soon as I can Possibly get the Cattle together-what