

which has made Cattle fit to slaughter very scarce, I have no prospect of getting any Liquors: red money has almost ceased Circulating hard money is the General Cry; October 11

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency Thomas S. Lee, Esqr.] October 11
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 46

And please your Excellency and Honours Your Letters of the 24th of September the 9th of October I received and immediately sent of an Express with the necessary directions to the Several Comm^{rs} of this shore to have the orders therein executed, fully intending to follow as soon as the messenger returnd or as soon as I had accomplished my design here which was to get the Wheat collected and collecting in this County to Mills where it could be Immediately Manufactured and to borrow all the flour I possibly could on state account knowing there was none below. The difficulties which now offers in supplying our Army with Flour presented themselves to me as fully six weeks ago as now which I did myself the Honour of advising your Excellency of in my Letters of the first 15th and 25th of Septemb^r and every means in my power has been using ever since to prevent it, but being confined to this place where only wheat can be manufactured at this dry season, I have been obliged to do my business below by letter and with much difficulty have done a very little here, for want of vessels to forward the wheat from the County commissaries, and I must say have been much disappointed in those I obtained, to give you a detail of which would be rather disagreeable at present, shall therefore only inform you of my present prospect which is that I have been able to borrow about 200 Barrels of flour half of which is delivered the other half making, I had not one bushell of wheat (at Mills that could grind it) on the 15th of September so that the wheat I have since received must go to pay for the Flour borrowed, unless I can borrow again, I could get wheat in plenty here I believe I could get it ground into Flour as I am determin'd to insist on those Mills that have water shall grind nights and Sundays, but this I must stay here to look to myself, otherways it will not be done, therefore I must intreat that you dispense of my going the Tour through the Eastern shore at present, as I can do more good Essential Service here in one week than in three any where else this being the only place at present that business can be done at, and should I leave it the business would not go so well; must therefore Intreat that such of the wheat as cant be manufactured below be sent me here, and the vessels shall be either returned for more wheat or Loaded with flour for the Army—heretofore the Vessels has been so taken up by the Troops and stores that this business has been much retarded, every thing in my power has been, and shall continue to be done and as soon as the Service will admit of it shall immediately visit the several Posts on the Eastern shore,