

[Joseph Ford, St Mary's County, to Gov. Lee.] (Favored by Mr. E. Fenwick) October 20

I should have made returns for last month before this time but have been prevented by a detension of My Book by the Commissioner of the Tax at the Request of M<sup>r</sup> Calhoun, for near a month and have only been in Possession of it Two days and was preparing returns to have sent up by express but happening to meet with M<sup>r</sup> Edward Fenwick going to Annapolis before they were finished I take that oppertunity to enform your Excellency that the People here have by some means got information that the Commissaries in other Counties are paying the whole for the Beef cattle they collect from the people, this has caused some uneasiness among those that I have had of, and difficulties in my collections

I have purchased of the Two last orders 353 Head 153 I have sent to George Town about Sixty to collect as soon as they can be got together and Branded they shall be sent forward to George Town, which I expect will be some time next week I do not think it will be possible to make up the 500 without distressing the People exceedingly I shall make up 400 without much seizure but if the whole it must be done by Violence In my conclusion I must begg leave To submit a supposition of what 400 Beeves will cost with the expence incur'd in collecting and driving to George Town, and after deducting what money I have received from that sum, I should be Glad that your Honble Board would give An Order for the Balance or so much of it as may be thought the Counties Proportion, I shall make particular returns of Last and this Months Purchases with an Account of the expences incur'd thereon by the next safe Oppertunity.

400 Beeve each including the 5 <sup>th</sup> q <sup>r</sup> 435 @ 4 <sup>d</sup> is	£2900
expences collecting & Driving to Geo. Town	300

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3200

Cash Rec<sup>d</sup> by Post & Coll Forrest

1300

Bal<sup>l</sup>

£1900

[Tho<sup>s</sup> Nelson Jr, Camp before York, to Governor Lee]

When I wrote yesterday I forgot to observe to you that the Militia of this State have orders to conduct the British Prisoners allotted for Frederick Town, only to the Borders of your State. Your Excellency will therefore be pleased to make the necessary Preparations for their Reception. I am not so well acquainted with the Geography of the upper Country as to be able to inform you at what Ferry they will cross, but they will be marched by the most direct Route from Winchester to Frederick Town.

October 21  
[Indorsed,  
" Col. Hendricks is requested to give this the most speedy conveyance to Annapolis." "Alexandria 28th Oct. 7 o'C P. M. Rec'd & deliver'd Imediately. James Hendicks "]