

[Chas. Blake, Corsica, to His Ex: Tho^s S: Lee Esq^r]
(p^r M^r Middleton)

October 23

By M^r Middleton I send to Col^o Blaine 17729 pounds of Beef Salted as order'd I wish to have Vessels as soon as possible to send off the rest, as they are growing worse. I have 3 large odd of three hundred head, have sent off 55 head by Middleton; as soon as the hurry is over I shall do myself the pleasure to wait on y^r Ex: with my Acc^{ts} but cannot spare time at present

[P. S.] No Vessels to be had here I wish you'd order Vessels as soon as possible.

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Thomas S. Lee, Esqr, In Council.]

October 23
Red Book
No. 30
Letter 45

And please your Excell^y and Honours. Your Several Letters I have been honored with, am very unhappy that I have not had it more in my power to comply with that of the 24th of September, wherein you request me to have the several requisitions of your Honorable Board Executed, and to make a return of the quantity the Several County Commissaries have a certainty of procuring in a short time.

As to the latter I flatter myself we shall be able and willing to comply with the requisitions of your Excellency & Honors, but to say how soon depends on the event of providence large quantities of wheat is collected and collecting, but the want of water to Manufacture it in the lower Countys, or Vessels to bring it here retards the execution of your orders, and could it be brought here, our streams are now the lowest they ever were in the memory of the oldest man, of course many Mills not able to work, I have given orders to the Several Commissaries to use their utmost exertions and have given them all the powers to impress Vessels waggons &c that you were pleased to Honor me with, and have earnestly Intrusted that they make me returns of the quantity they have a certain prospect of obtaining in a short time, which I doubt not they will do as soon as in their power, but it is a work of some time. I look on it we are obliged to comply with the requisition as soon as possible, the quantity of flour I have been able to deliver since the first of September is about one thousand Barrels at this Post Exclusive of about 200 Delivered at Xteen and Phila^{da} apart of which I have borrowed and am paying, and to pay for in wheat, I have been obliged lately to engage to give wheat at Market price and to receive Common Flour at 16/8 p^c the common Flour thus received has the Midlings in it (but not the Ship Stuff) I have now six Mills in this County going on in this way, and could I get wheat enough sent me could do a great deal, though am prodigiously pushed for money to buy Casks,