My situation is distressing I have staked my Credit & sold my October 25 Property for payment of debts & am still subject & am threatned with such on public Acc^t and a late Act of Assembly deprives me even of the hopes of being enabled to pay. I have flour on hand on which are due considerable sums for Cash Cartage &c.

It has been out of my power to forward it not a Vessel to be had the greater part is sour'd Some Wheat still remains there not being water for the Mills to grind, Could I get from the Sherif the money for wheat I have grantd Executions for the 15 p C & 4/ Taxs I might thereby be enable to goe on, but he does [not] I believe think ever of paying it in, tho' he must long agoe have received the money. I shall be Pleased to hear how I can get it out of his hands

[Pat Sim Smith, Calvert, to Gov. Lee.]

I yesterday received a letter from M^r Calhoun the Commissary General dated the 29th Sept^r requiring me to send the Flour remaining in the County immediately to George Town to be Conveyed to the Army, where it was much wanted. As this is a round about way, to York where the Army lay, and I apprehend there will be a change in the Arrangement from the late Glorious Event. I shall decline sending it that Route, and must request the direction of Your Excellency & Council where it shall be deposited as it may be some time before I could hear from M^r Calhoun.

I have now a large Quantity of wheat on hand & Cant get it manufactured for the want of Barrells, I have taken every Step in my power to procure them without Effect, there being no Coopers here who will undertake to supply me, and unless I can be furnished from Annapolis or else where, fear a great part of the wheat will be lost. I have received £600 Cash by M^r Woolfe, I sent off my third Drove of Cattle for George Town on Friday last and am now Collecting the last drove which will be ready in a few days. I shall wish to know if they are to be sent to the same place or where else.

I will send a list of the Flour used by the Continental Troops whilst at the mouth of Patux^t with the certificates for that & the other provision they seized, to the Auditor General as soon as I get the whole together.

[Stephen Steward to the Council.]

We are much Disappointed In giting a boat to Cary Stephen and No. 27 Captain belt Down the Bay to Yorke If it is Convenient to you to Letter let us have the Platter Carry them Down to Yorke I will hear after Do as much work to hir as will Com to the Hire of hir. Captain Belt will tell you our Necessity so If you Can Conveniently Spare hir you will lay us under the Greatest obligation If there is any services Stephen Can Render the Council at Yorke he will do it with Pleshur

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October 26 Red Book No. 27 Letter 144