

with yours as soon as you can in which I would wish you to charge in one article the amount of the debts you owe in your public capacity at the same time transmitting, on a Separate paper, a list of the particular sums which compose that article and the names of the persons to whom they are respectively due. Red Book
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I should also be glad to be informed, how many of them are ascertained by the printed certificates lately sent to you, and could wish they were all on that footing as well for our own convenience as because I am persuaded it would be beneficial to the creditors and the most probable road to obtain payment for them.

[W. Smith, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee]

April 13

Sir I am now to acknowledge receipt of your Excellencys Letter dated the 5th Instant inclosing a permit for Loading the Schooner Baltimore & the Resolve of the general Assembly respecting the flour to be delivered the french Agent. The Naval officer has also informed me he has received your instructions for permitting the Bread & flour, requested, to be exported to Virginia.

As soon as I have it in my power you shall be duly informed of the Amount of my purchase for the Marine of France. I have pressed all those persons employed by me in that Business to deliver in their accounts as speedily as possible. I am directed by the Honble the Board of Admiralty to take charge of & sell the continental Stores at this place. they inform that 6½ of 12 pounders were lent to this State & employed on board the gallies. I am directed to apply for those guns. Your Excellency will therefore please to give orders for the delivery of them, at this place.

I am quite Satisfied with the explanation of your letter dated the 17th of Jan^{ry} As I supposed the french Agent was in possession of a Coppy of that letter, & that he might be induced, from some expressions therein contain'd to believe, I had done some unjustifiable acts, as well to his Prejudice as to the public, I only wish'd to satisfy him on that head.

As to public clamours & groundless insinuations which have been industriously propogated to my prejudice, by low, designing men, I despise; a little time will shew the falsity of the many reports circulated respecting this Transaction; at the same time I confess I wish to remove any impressions that may have been made to my prejudice from the worthy part of the community, and will readily own I felt uneasy under what I thought reflected on my conduct in the extract of your letter refer'd to.

I am always ready to give the general Assembly every information in my power on this Subject when required