

[Rich'd Barnes, Leo^d Town, to Gov. Lee]

September
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D^r Sir We have in this County for a considerable time past been alarmed by Vessels of the Enemy composed of some Boats and small Sloops. Maj^r Ign^s Taylor House on Wiccocomaco they the other day plundered of all they could take away with them the ballance they wantonly destroyed. They have likewise plundered M^r Rob^t Armstrongs House at Point Lookout, & have taken many negroes together with stock from different parts of the County. In short they are a pack of the most abandoned Fellows that ever hath molested us. They are now in Potomack, and its more than probable will do considerable dammage before they leave us. Their force from the best information I can collect is but trifeling, and in my opinion reflects disgrace on this State, to let them pass unmolested I have been informed they have done considerable damage to many Gentlemen on the Virginia side of Potawmack. We are in this County the most exposed to them of any Co^{ty} in the State without its being in our power to protect ourselves for the want of arms. not more than fifty of these Guns the property of the State sent here will make a tolerable shift. I have so frequently given my opinion of them that I should not now mention them if the People of the County did not urge me to it by their complaints. If those that were here unfit for service were properly sold to the People of the County they I am Satisfied would do their endeavours to get them repaired, which would be making them contribute to the defence of the State. Most of the People that had guns on the commencement of the war have sold them to trading Vessels, the impropriety of which they are now fully convinced of.

[H. Hollingsworth, Head of Elk, to His Excellency, Thomas
Sim Lee, Esq^r, in Council]

September
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Gentlemen I am very sorry to trouble you in the midst of that throng which I know yourself and the Honourable Council must be in nor would I do it at present was it possible to go on with your business without your Aide and direction, on Sunday by post informed you of the quantity of Horses I had on hand and not likely to be released from them as I am forbiden to send any more forward to Philadelphia, or Camp. Colo Yeats now D. Q. M. G^l at this Post refuses to take any but such as are pick'd out, what is to be done with the remainder is Submitted to your direction. the Bakers that I have imployed to Bake the State Stuff and Flour are about to leave me, which I am pleased with as they dont quite answer, should have discharg'd them some time ago and imployed better, but had not money to pay them off, nor have any to do one matter or thing, am obliged to borrow on my own private account for this two Months past to keep the Express going, am now call'd on to make payment and can't do it, must therefore intreat that a Sum be sent