

four to five hundred Each which I have priced and can get them at about 55/ and three pounds hard 7 hundred, but the people will not sell one pound without the Cash being paid them on the delivery, nor will they deliver it without, I am so unhappy on the present occasion that I know not what way to Express it, the Troops will be in, in an hour and no meat for them I have made a requisition on the Village, to throw in a part of their household provisions, and set the example myself by weighing out five hundred weight of Bacon and dryed Beeff, have ordered four thousand weight of good Loaf Bread Baked for the Troops against they come, some of my neighbours are following the example of throwing in a part of their Household provisions, but this will do but little M<sup>r</sup> Williams is Just now returned from making a requisition through the Eastern side of the County, and informs me, he has little or no prospect of obtaining any worth mentioning without the Hard Cash, M<sup>r</sup> John Voorhees writes me a letter Just now received a Copy is inclosed, from the whole it appears that some hard money must be had or the Troops I fear will not be supplied (it is not to be had here) I have now made application to the Commissioners and commissarys of the lower countys of this shore, which if your Excellency and Honours think proper will please to have forwarded to them, with what amendments you may think necessary.

March 3  
Red Book  
No. 30  
Letter 112

If hard money could be sent it appears to me there would be no difficulty in procuring meat, M<sup>r</sup> Baruch Williams who is present now is of the same opinion, pray Excuse this Scrawl as I am interrupted fifty times while I am writing, and obliged to speak to three or four people at once,

P. S. 3 o'Clock P. M. the Marquis and Troops Just arrived,  
if Hard money is sent would recomend that it comes to M<sup>r</sup> Williams as He is the proper person to purchase

[Lafayette, Head of Elk, to Gov. Lee.]

I Have the Honor to inform your Excellency that the troops, Artillery, and Stores destined to embark under my orders are Safely arrived at this place and to my Great disappointment are now detained for want of Vessels. This Affair is so important, Sir, and My Last orders from His Excellency General Washington are so positive, that I am afraid the Least delay may be attended with very Bad Consequences.

March 3  
Brown Book  
No. 7  
Letter 70

Our detachment Being accompaynied By a Large Quantity of Horses and Heavy Artillery, it will Require a Vast number of Vessels, and from what I Hear at this place the totality of the Vessels at Annapolis and Baltimore will Be Requisite for our Embarkation. Another important Article is to collect every Armed Vessel that can Be Had for the safety of our Navigation in the Bay. A sufficiency of Boats to Land the detachment at once, and of dispatch Boats to Carry intelligence are very essential.