

[James McHenry, Baltimore, to His Excellency Governor Lee.] April 7  
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The apprehensions of danger and attack from the enemy's plundering vessels with the recent desertion of several negroes from the neighbourhood of this Town, have induced its citizens to purchase and prepare two look-out boats at their private expence in order to prevent the latter, but more particularly to give information of the approach of the former, that they may have time to embody for its defence. It is calculated, that the price of the boats, the wages of their crews, and some common disbursements, will amount to near 300£ specie per month. The inhabitants of this Town have requested me to lay this before your Excellency, and to beg your order to the commissary here, that provisions may be issued for the boats during this particular service; or till the plan, which they are informed government has before them for the general defence of the bay, shall be put into execution.

[Nathl Greene, Head Quarters, North Carolina, to Governor Lee] April 7  
[copy]

Your Excellencys Letter of March the 19<sup>th</sup> I had the honor to receive the Day before yesterday.

General Gist informed me sometime since of the order for incorporating the new Regiments with the old ones, which had taken place before your Letters arrived and the Officers were on their way home.

When I had the honor of an interview with a committee of your two Houses at Annapolis, and laid before them the distresses of the southern department, and the little force there was there to oppose the Enemy, they promised me I should be reinforced as soon as possible, and might rely upon all the support they could give. But I confess I am not a little disappointed that succour is so long a coming. And I had the mortification to hear a few Days ago that on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March not a man was raised.

Our distress here has not been less than I represented; on the contrary it has been much greater; and had it not been for the very great exertions of Virginia the Southern States must have fallen. But it will be impossible for that State to give effectual aid to this Army while they have such a large Body of the Enemy in the Bowels of the State to contend with.

No one part of my requisition has as yet, been complied with. The Waggon we are in the greatest distress for want of. The Cavalry Horses equally so; and the disappointment of the money has been exceedingly distressing. Not a shilling of money have I had for the most pressing emergency since I took the command in the southern department. In this situation you may readily conceive my difficulties. Maryland certainly has it in her power to releive me. I required of her but a few things and she has given me none of either I wish you may not neglect to give support to the Army too long. If