

it engaged and am Collecting them together—the People are not disposed to let the Public have their Beef agreeable to the Law. When I goe to Persons houses and talk to them about Beef they say their dry Cattle are out and I dont know where to find them. I some days go to twenty Peoples Houses and do not get a Single Beef, I am convinced no Person cou'd have taken more pains than I have done to procure the Cattle. I will do every thing I Posably can

Please to excuse haste the bearer hereof I met on the rode.

[Geo. P. Keeports, Baltimore, to Gov. Lee.]

May It Please Your Excell<sup>ty</sup> Last Sunday I Received From Philadelphia 500 Musq<sup>ts</sup> with Bayonets & 500 Cartridge Boxes The Whole in Good order, some of the musq<sup>ts</sup> Received a Little Rust on the Passage Coming Down But not so much as to Damage them

M<sup>r</sup> Donaldson Yeates D. Q. M. at the Head of Elk who Forwarded the Arms to Desired to be Informed Wether they are State or Continental Property and wether he or I am to Pay the Transportation From Philadelphia which your Excell<sup>ty</sup> will Please to Inform

July 26  
Red Book  
No. 30  
Letter 80

[Matt Ridley, Goods Bridge, Appamattox, to Gov. Lee.]  
(Fav<sup>d</sup> by Dr. Goodwin)

July 26

The day after the arrival of the Troops at Head Quarters I was honored with yours of the 3<sup>d</sup> Curr<sup>t</sup> and in consequence thereof should have immediately returned to Maryland, had we not received orders to go an expedition which threatned personal danger. Under such circumstances I could not in justice to my reputation or the Gentlemen with whom I left home think of looking back. From that period, untill within these few days we have had constant cause to believe danger at hand which has of course operated to detain me. I have thought it much better to sacrifice a little of my time to this business than by a contrary conduct give cause of complaint to the Gentlemen of the Troop who seem much wounded when any individual of it by Absence avoids the difficulties to which they are naturally opposed. I flatter myself your Honorable Board will approve my Conduct.

By the last Accounts part of the Enemy were at Portsmouth & Suffolk & part embarked—the last supposed for New York. I must confess I am rather apprehensive their rout may be up the Bay.

Generals Morgan & Wayne are here with about 1500 Men Infantry & 100 Horse including ours. The Marquis is at Malvin Hill about 12 miles below Richmond. Col<sup>o</sup> Moylan has joined him with about 60 Horse. Col<sup>o</sup> White is expected every Hour with near 200.

Your Honorable Board will oblige me much by forwarding my necessary papers to Baltimore. It may not be amiss to remind you that the Act of Assembly will be proper & the private resolution as