

great want there was of Salt at that Post, on which I immediately November 25  
 purchased two Waggon Load and sent him, which I was obliged to  
 pay for in Specie of my own, although it suited me very ill to spare  
 it. I also intended to forward the quantity you ordered to George  
 Town as soon as it was in my power to procure Waggons, accord-  
 ingly last Wednesday I engaged two Waggons to go to that place,  
 for which was obliged to promise them £6: 15. Specie each, and  
 would have sent them off next Morning, but in the mean time Col<sup>o</sup>  
 Blaine came to Town from the Southward and informed me that he  
 had directed all the Cattle that was in the hands of M<sup>r</sup> George un-  
 slaughtered to be forwarded to Frederick where he said all the Salt  
 we could send would be wanted, and it was not necessary to for-  
 ward any to George Town, or at most not more than one Waggon  
 Load. This prevented me from sending off the Waggons until I  
 had Flour or Tobacco in hand to enable me to purchase the Salt, as  
 I assure you it is very inconvenient for me to lay out my own Money.

There is a considerable quantity of Wheat collected in the lower  
 Counties, which cannot be manufactured there for want of proper  
 Mills, I some time ago requested the County Com<sup>ys</sup> to send it either  
 to George Town or this place, where it might be made into Flour,  
 but it has not been in their power to procure Vessels and unless it is  
 done speedily the Frost will probably close up the rivers. I dare say  
 it would be in my power to get Vessels here as soon as they are dis-  
 charged from the continental Service, if I had the means of paying  
 them but as I before observed unless it can be done out of the Spe-  
 cific article itself, I know of no other method, for paper Money will  
 not be received, and as to seizing, or impressing, I hope your honours  
 will never require it of me again, for it is so contrary to my disposi-  
 tion, and effects my feelings in such a manner that I would rather  
 forego any advantages that could possibly arise to myself, than carry  
 it into execution

[Hanson Briscoe, Chaptico, to Gov. Lee.]

November 26

I have been Informed that the Wheat Collected in this County for  
 Taxes woud be Exchanged for Flower delivered in Baltimore. I  
 woud Take the whole in this County at the Curent Cash Price and  
 give Flower in Exchange, at the Baltimore Price. If you Think  
 such an offer wou'd be accepted of by the Governor & Council I  
 should be much obliged to you to make an application for me, or  
 If they wou'd Part with it on any Terms, I shoud be Glad to Know  
 them, or If they chpse rather to Transport, to Baltimore or George  
 Town, I have Vessells and woud undertake the Transportation of  
 it at the accustomed Freights, Your answer next Post will much  
 oblige your H<sup>ble</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>