

[Joseph Dashiell, Rehobes, to Gov. Lee.]

February 13

I Rote you the other day by M<sup>r</sup> Truitt in which I informed you that M<sup>r</sup> Polk had sent to me, that he had a matter of Importance to Communicate, it is that a Certain James Welch of Baltimore had Lodged sum goods at this place, the Neat Proceeds of Eighty hh<sup>d</sup> Tobacco that he had run to New York, under the pretence of Being Taken, he has now gone to Baltimore and has Caried up with him a man by the Name of M<sup>r</sup> Isaac's, who we have reason to believe is a Capt of A Vesel that he Intends to run to New York with Flower & Tobacco upon searching we found Two small packages but no goods in them. I am informed that James Welch has a protection which is on silk paper, Between the Lining of his Jackcate, and I make no doubt M<sup>r</sup> Isaac's has a protection, My Brother and myself will send an Express to you within a few Days, by which I will be more full, for want of paper at this place must Conclude

[Js. Mercer St James's, To Coll<sup>o</sup> Robert T. Hooe]

February 13

I write you by this Post, to comply with my former Promise there is nothing from the Southward worth communicating except that the return of the French Fleet may almost be depended on— a Person of Intelligence this moment from Richmond says it is so & a Let<sup>r</sup> of authority from W<sup>ms</sup>bg on the 10<sup>th</sup> says “ we wait only for the French Fleet hourly expected to return ” this waiting respects the begining of operations ag<sup>t</sup> Arnold which wee are now ready for when the French Fleet shall be ready to cooperate.

[Jon'n Hudson, Balt., to Gov Lee.]

February 13

If you Intend to have any Herrings sent up the Ensuing Season for the Public, I will Engage with you for any Quant<sup>y</sup> you will want at 15/ specie p<sup>r</sup> Barrel you to find Barrels & salt, the price before the War for this Business was 12/6 p<sup>r</sup> Barrel & the Extra price of hands Provisions Seins &c is fully Equal to the Difference I now ask you & If you will furnish me with Money I will procure the Salt & Casks on as Good terms as I Can & I believe the salt may be had at Phil<sup>a</sup> on Good terms at this time w<sup>ch</sup> is nearly as convenient as having it here & the price I apprehend will Rise as the Fishing Season aproaches therefore the sooner the Purchase of such article is made the better the Barrels are plenty & may be had on Equal terms as before the War, I will Engage that the Fish shall be put up in a Merchantable Manner otherwise it shall be my loss, & your ans<sup>r</sup> on this Subject as soon as Possible is necessary because it is full time to prepare for fishing so I will be much obliged to you to send me by Major Yates or some other Safe hand Four hundred Pounds State money in p<sup>t</sup> of my Acc<sup>t</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> shall be Good for £16000 say Sixteen thousand Pounds Cont<sup>l</sup> I have an opp<sup>ty</sup> of Passing it I beg you will