

by 17th/81

To the Presidents and Members of the Court.

Gentlemen,

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Being ordered by the Honble, the Secretary of the Navy, as a Member of this Court, and being doubtful whether I am qualified to sign per-
circularly situated as I am, I feel bound to submit the following Circumstances for your Consideration —

On the 2^d day of May last on my arrival in the Delaware, being on parole from Jamaica, we were detained by His Majesty's Ship Porpoise, and ordered on board, where after the usual examination, Command^r Berresford, observed that I had arrived at a very fortunate time, as a few days previous one of his Lieutenants of Marines had been taken in Jersey, and sent on board on parole, and that he was happy that I might have an opportunity of seeing my Country again, as he the Lieutenant of Marines with two men, would be equivalent to my exchange. That the said Lieutenant was ordered to his duty while I was on board.

I submit this statement to the Court in order to exempt myself from any censure which