George Town, Frederick County.
9th October 1776.

Sir,

ARCHIVES
OF THE STATE OF
MARYLAND.

Permit me through you to address my-
self to your honorable House for permission to
pass some Time among my Friends in Virginia,
or if the House can be induced to relax so far
from their Sentence to permit me to remain
there, without any Limitation of Time under
the Restraints which they have been pleased to
lay me under, & which I have given Bond with
Security to the President of the Council of Safe-
-ty, in the Penalty of a Thousand Pounds Ster-
-ling to observe.. I beg Sir, you will lay me
with all Humility before the House, with an
Assurance that I should have addressed them in
the first Instance, either by Petition or through
You, but unacquainted as I am with Forms,
& the Forfeitures of them, did not know, but it
might be going beyond the Line of my Engage-
-ment. My principal Reasons for desiring
to go to Virginia are, that I have many near
& dear Connections there: my Fortune little
as it is, lays chiefly in that Country, I having
lost my Living which has hitherto been my chief
Support, I wish by my Industry, to do some-
thing for the Subsistance of my Family, which
I cannot possibly do while confined to Freder-
-ick County. I have also, Sir the Opinion
of several Gentlemen of no inconsiderable Weight
& Weight in my native Country, that any Pres-
-dence among them will not only give me Of-
-fence, but will even solicit this House,
if necessary, for my Enlargement. That my Situ-
ation is a most unhappy one, those acquainted with
the human Heart, will readily conceive, & if my
Sufferings can be alleviated without any Injury
to the Public Weal, I flatter myself Humanity
will