(118) Chester Town 20 decem.r 1775

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Sir

ARCHIVES
OF THE STATE OF
MARYLAND.

A Report prevails here that the Hon.ble Convention are about to raise & put into immediate Pay Four Battalions. In consequence thereof Four of the Young Gentlemen of this Town Mess.rs James Ringgold, Thos Smyth & Alexander Anderson & Benjamin Chambers have form'd a resolution of entering into the Service of their Country and have applied to the Committee of Observation for a recommendation to the Convention The Committee think it their duty to encourage so laudable a Spirit & beg leave to solliait the favorable Attention of the House in their behalf they all of them belong to Capt.n Smyth's Company of Light Infantry & to do justice to Merit, We cannot say less than that they have Abilities sufficient, to acquire a proficiency in the profession they are desirous of engaging in and though the best among us are unhappily too deficient in Military Knowledge We think them Equal in that respect to most of their cotemporaries

We presume that the Convention will join us in Opinion that any Battalions raisd in this Province ought to be rendered as respectable as possible by being Officerd by Men of the best Connections Principles & Spirits and as such we doubt not the