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Gentlemen,

January 23rd 1776

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I have been honoured by the Conven=tion, with the enclos'd Commission which I now return to you, with a Prayer to be excused from accepting of it. The precarious and declining State of my Health, renders me incapable of executing the Office, either with Benefit to my Country, or Reputation to my self, and therefore, I think it my Duty to refuse it.

I am, Gentlemen,
with the greatest Respect
Yr most Obt Hble Servant,
Addison Murdock

To the Honble
Council of Safety
Annapolis

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.