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Sir

Woodyard 30th January 1776.

I wrote to you pretty fully from Frederick Town & the Care of Mr Spriggs and Mr Steele — and wrote also to those Gentlemen I hope you and your Spouse and Family have been happily Situated this winter. I have just received a letter from your Brother in Law Capt. Robinson who is gone Out Lieutenant in an Armed Vessell in the Service of the Province — Shall give you his words — "I have another request "to make you about a Matter I'm very anxious for & wish that you'd "please to Countenance my Brother in Law Mr Burgess, he is come "at an unlucky time for himself as to what he Previously intended; "but he is remarkably ingenious and well versed in drawing and in "Military Matters, he may be a very useful Lord at this time "should there occur any thing in which he could be employed I'm "confident his Conduct would give satisfaction —

To far your Brother — Now Sir in Conformity to his Letter I have wrote to the Honorable Council of Safety at Annapolis — If you have any desire of being employed it will be your best way I think to wait upon them and offer your Service — and if you have Interest enough with Mr Steele either to go with you or write to the Council of Safety in your behalf I think it might be of Service — The Intimate Acquaintance between us prevents my saying further my Respect for Merit and as his friend & Servant and I am with very good Regard —

Sir

Your friend & Servant

Stephen West.

If you come this way I shall be glad to See you —

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

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