The State of Maryland to *Samuel Thompson Junior Esquire*, Greeting.

BE it known, that reposing especial trust and confidence in your fidelity, courage, good conduct, and attachment to the liberties of America, you are by these presents constituted and appointed *Colonel of the fifth Battalion of Militia in Queen-Anne's County*.

You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the trust reposed in you, by disciplining all officers and soldiers under your command; and they are hereby strictly enjoined and required to obey you as their *Colonel*

And you are to observe and follow all such orders and directions as you shall from time to time receive, according to the laws and constitution of this state, and the rules and regulations, which, under the authority thereof, are or may be established. This commission to be in force until lawfully revoked.

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

GIVEN at ANNAPOLIS this *Seventh* day of *May* — Anno domini 1777.

Th Johnson