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May it please your Honours,

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Having applied to the Convention, in January last for a Commission in the Forces then raised for the defence of this province, and my application then proving unsuccessful through the means, as I apprehend, of the Indisposition of Col.o Smallwood, who was to have recommended me to your Honours; anxious of shewing my zeal for the love of my Country, I entered myself as a Cadet; and as I have been at a considerable Expence in the support of myself in that Character, and being informed that there are several vacancies in the Battalion, and that your Honours hath it under Contemplation to raise more Troops for the use of the United Colonies: I take this Opportunity of applying to your Honours, in hopes that you will take this my Memorial into your Consideration, and grant to your Memorialist a Commission in the Troops already raised, or those which are to be raised; submitting the rank of such Commission wholly to your Honours. Should your Honours be in any doubt with Respect to my consequence a Cadet. I pray you to enquire of Captain John H. Stone, which Gentleman will, I doubt not, give such account of me as will seem to your Honours worthy of a Commission, when I assure you my ambition does not lead me to wish to Command a Company

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

I am Gentlemen with the greatest respect

your most Obed.t Serv.t

William Covett

Annapolis June 20.th 1776