27 Feby 1780.

Joseph Daniel to

Col. Vaughan

Col. Joseph Vaughan

Sir

Inclosed is a list of the Names of sundry Persons Residents of this County, who has applyd to me for a flag to go on board of the British Ships to make enquiry after a Number of Slaves, which has absented themselves from their Masters service, and is believed have gone on board of the Shipping while in the Patuxent Sound but as I do not consider my at Liberty to comply with their Request without your Excellency's permission, they have requested me to write to you on the subject. I am personally acquainted with the several Gentlemen, and can inform you that their attachment to their Country's cause is not to be doubted — in case they should procure a Flag and it should have the desired effect of recovering their Slaves, it would in all probability discourage others from going to the Enemy, as I am apprehensive they will have frequent opportunities. — The Shipping which lay in the sound, have gone down the Bay, but we have the greatest reason to expect them up daily, as they have for sometime past, as soon as one went down others returned. — I am apprehensive that it will be very difficult to prevent the Inhabitants of some parts of this County from trading with the Enemy while the Watercraft are continued on the different Rivers in this County. — Agreable to the directions of the Supplementary Act to the Militia Law, the field officers of this held a court Martial for the Tryal of such persons as refused to give their attendance when the respective Classes to which they belonged were ordered on duty. — We have applyd to the Court to

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.