5

To His Excelency the Governor —

And the Honourable the Council —

The Humble Petision of John Bennitt and Stanton Dokins —

May it Please your Excelency —

We your Poore Petisioners moste Humbly Prayath for a Hearing, as Close Confinement, and the Want of the Benefits Arising from fire and Candle Lite, (in a Cold open Apartment,) Impearath Our Health, and Long Absence from our Family: Will Prove Thear Total Ruen, and as our Circumstances is by no means Eaquel to the Charges, and Expence, Arising from the Bringing of Security here, from Worcester County, your Poore Petisioners, Moste humbly Prayath the Sending of us thare, Wheare We Can Procure Good and Sufficient Security, for our future Conduct, or Appearance at any Time when Required,

Your Excelencys And Jentlemen of the Councils Compliyance Shall Ever Be Acknowledged With Gratitude

And Cause your Poore Petisioners to be Ever in Duty bound to Pray.

1st of May 1777

John Bennitt
Stanton Dokins

N.B: The Reason of Riting this is, We Delivered one to the Same Effect this morning to an Officer, and when he Read that part that Partly Explains your Poore Petisioners, Miserable State, as to the Want of Fire and Candle Lite, he Seem'd to Disaprove of it, and We your Poore Petisioners Only Believe the Reguest We are Now With is Without your Excelencys Knowledge —

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.