Portobacco April 18th 1780

Sir,

This will be addressed by Mr. Edward Hamilton who is desirous of entering into the Army provided he can obtain an Ensigns Commission — This young Gentleman is a Stranger to me but I know his Family to be reputable and his Brother [redacted] has served under my Command ever since 1776 and is a good Officer from which Circumstances and the inclosed Recommendations I am induced to think if there should be any Vacancies in our Line he would be proper to fill one of them — he does not wish nor can it be desired that his Appointment should interfere with the Rank of such Sergeants and others who have applied, have been recommended before and who may be thought worthy of Commissions if therefore you should judge it expedient to [redacted] recommend him for an Appointment to the Board of War I believe he would fill it with Propriety & he would wish to be appointed in the 1st. 3d or 7th Regiments if there should be a vacancy in either of those — I have — with great Regard I remain

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND

Your very Obed. Hble Serv.t

W. Smallwood

Governor Lee

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