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State of Maryland ss

To The Honourable The General Assembly of the State of Maryland

The Humble Petition of Whitty Turpin of Somerset County in the State aforesaid Prisoner of this State upon his Parole in the City of Annapolis

Humbly sheweth

That ever since the present rupture between Great Britain and the United States of America he hath upon every occasion behaved himself in a peaceable orderly manner and exempted on account of his age from mustering never interfered with public Affairs but always attended to the management of his own private Affairs endeavouring to demean himself as a peaceable orderly Member of the Commonwealth

That so far from associating with any of the Enemies of this State or entering into any of their measures he absolutely refused to have the least connection with them yet your Petitioner hath been informed and verily believes it to be true that notwithstanding the premises some evil disposed persons envious of your Petitioners peace and happiness have caused groundless complaints to be preferred before the Honourable the Legislature of this Honourable State and become the means of his unjustly incurring their displeasure

That upon General Smallwood's arrival upon the Eastern shore in order to suppress the Insurgents there your Petitioner with astonishment and concern was told that he had incurred the displeasure of this State whereupon he immediately surrendered himself voluntarily to the General but not knowing the particulars of the complaints against your Petitioner and being one of the Persons particularly exempted from the benefit of the Proclamation he could not avail himself of the benefit thereof

That your Petitioner being advanced in years and the care and management of his large and numerous family depending entirely on him and consequently on his private Affairs must greatly suffer by means of his absence and relying on the well known wisdom and clemency of this Honourable Assembly the object of whose peculiar care is to guard the safety of the Community in general and protect the welfare and happiness of individuals in particular

Your Petitioner most humbly prays the interposition of this Honourable Assembly imploring their clemency to extend the benefit of the Proclamation of this Honourable State to him or to grant him such other relief as will enable him to return home to the care of his Family sincerely promising and engaging upon all occasions to exert his utmost endeavours for the benefit of the United American States

And your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

Whitty Turpin

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.