

panies of the Towns Militia composed of all ranks of People by Trade or rather Art, high Varnishers of Coaches Charriots &c and all sorts of mahogany furniture in Gentlemens houses where I was employ'd until the last and this summer in which space of time His Excell: John Rutledge Governor of the State of South Carolina which His Excell^y Thomas Bee, Lieut^d Governor of the said State well knows employed me for the use of the Public to examine in the interior parts of the States of South and North Carolinas different sorts of Ores as Lead, Copper, Silver &c in which I was very successfull in finding two very rich Silver mines besides Lead and Copper Mines containing a good portion of Gold and Silver, And as my Pass was no further limited than the aforesaid States dated the 27th of Feb^{ry} 1780 at Charlestown the same day I left it and went up into the back woods of North Carolina where I was near 2 months and was Returning home to give His Excell: an account of my Success I was credibly informed at a 770 miles distance from Town that the Enemies took possession of it, and that His Excell: was at Campden so I was resolved to follow Him but could not overtake him, where I was informed he left the place 12 days ago, in this extremity I was resolved to follow to Philadelphia as I was not willing to join the Enemies in Charlestown having taken the oath of Allegiance and Fidelity in the year 1778 the 15 of April then proceeded through Virginia till I came to Oldtown in Washington County still in searching of mines where I was taken up by James Prætor brother to Charles Prætor a Justice as a Spy for no other reason than the writing I had about me which are the Mens names in different place that knows of mines which I could not possibly retain in my memory those they were pleas'd to call Torys Cap^t Richard Davis son To Colonel Davis without the least provocation knocked two of my Teeth out after I was a prisoner, handcuffed me and took down to Hagerstown where I was threatned to be hang'd or put in Goal and other threatning speches, if I do not inlist during War and so was compell'd against Law to submit, being a stranger and a man of 57 years of age dim sighted that can not properly distinguish an object at a distance of 60 or 70 yards and received no more than £300 I humbly pray Your Excellency and the Hon^{ble} Gentlemen of the Council to take my cause into consideration to grant me a Discharge or a Furlow to go to Philadelphia where I must give an account to Their Excellencys the Delegates for the State of South Carolina or His Excell^s Lieut^t Governor Bee of my success

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Red Book
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Letter
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I am with the utmost respect Your Excellencies and the Hon'ble Gentlemen of the council and devoted servant.