

struction of all as well as some Debts Due to him—he took his way [August] for Philadelphia in hopes to gett rid of his Deafness, and coming Through the State of Virginia he was told the Currency of that State would not pass no further than the Limitts of the State, and advised to purchase Tob<sup>o</sup> with his Travelling Expences & sell it for Ready Money in this, which he thought he had done, having no Doubt of the Faith & ability of this But being a stranger as aforesaid he was Imposed upon by a French Man who knew better things & offered a high price for his Tobacco if he would take the Inclosed Draught on the State for Payment. Petitioner having no knowledge in State affairs nor no Doubt of the Faith & Good will of the State had Accepted it. But to his ruin & Destruction was soon told by Every one to whom he shewed the Bill that the State would not pay it till (God knows when) Petitioner Therefore Prays your Excellency would be Pleased to put him into some Employment by which he may make a Decent Living till the state can pay him as he is Quite Deaf and no Money to carry him any farther or a Line to the Treasurer on the Back of the Certificate Requesting him if he was oblidge to Borrow as much, to pay the Bill Either in Specie or such Money as will pass in Pennsylvania or procure a Bill on that State for as much, as without Either Petitioner is likely to starve, & for Either he doth & Ever will acknowledge the favor and Most Heartily Pray

NB as all talk is in Vain Please to order y<sup>r</sup> ans<sup>r</sup> if any to be in Writing

[Petition of Michael Spalding of St. Mary's County To his Excellency Tho. Sim Lee Esq<sup>r</sup> and the Honourable Gentlemen of the Council] [August]

Sheweth that your Petitioner has had the only Horse that is of any Use for family service, as Riding going to Mill, church &c taken for the Use of the States, and as he understands it was not the intent of the Law to distress those who was unable to find a Horse, which is the Case of your Petitioner.

Your Petitioner therefore humbly craves the favour of the Honourable Gentlemen to take the same into consideration (being the only Horse that is fit to Ride, to Church, Mill &c for his whole family) and Order the same to be Returned, as there is many Horses in the Country much fitter for the service can be spared.

Your Petitioner has got several of his Creditable Neighbours to Sign his Petition to shew that he Sets forth the truth, which he hopes will induce the Honourable Gentlemen, to give Orders to Return said Horse, and Your Petitioner as in Duty bound will pray for the success of the States.

Michael Spalding being a near neighbour to me, having applied to me respecting the inconvenience of sparing a horse of his w<sup>ch</sup> is taken