[October] to make that appear it may be necessary to inform your Honble Board of the prices Tobacco and Bacon, currently sold with us for at the time of them contracts, in gold and silver Tobacco Plenty at and under [illegible] Bacon scarce at [illegible] I had some of the last emitted money of the Public in my Hands, but I could not procure Bacon for it because it was Subject to depreciation and the Holders of it chose to discharge there Public Assesment in other Articles which they could much easier spare the recruits & Draughted men were wanting provisions for immediate use and to forward them to Annapolis and Bacon was not to be had unless I would agree either to give Tobacco or hard money, those reasons induced me to make the contracts in Tobacco, I am in hopes that Tobacco may Issue to discharge the contracts already made and in future I shall take care to Avoid them. I have sent of to Geo Town one Hundred and fifty Three Beeves and expect in a few days to send forward as many more, The last requisition of Three Hundred Head I am fearfull cannot be made up without distressing our people much.

Blue Book No. 4 Letter 18

[October] [The Petition of William Proctor Junior To His Excellency Thomas Sim Lee, and His Honorable Council]

> Humbly Sheweth. That your Petitioner was lately drafted to serve as a Soldier till the 10th of December next, and has received orders to march, which He is not able to comply with by reason of his bodily infirmities, that your Petitioner has been for three years last past, and stil is, in a very infirm and sickly State, and as his complaint is of the Consumptive kind He has little prospect of recovery. Added to this mismortune, He is very poor, and has a sickly wife and three children, which live on the Bay side exposed to the Enemy, and which He can scarcely support with the bare necessaries of life, under these Circumstances your Petitioner Humbly begs your Excellency and Honours will be pleased to excuse him from marching, and permit him to remain with his poor helpless Family and He as in duty bound will ever pray.

> I am not acquainted with the above petitioner but from the report of his neighbours I believe the contents of his petition are true

> > W^m Ennalls Thos Barnett Roger Jones (p^t

William Thomas (pt

Hanley Byus

We the Subscribers are acquainted with the within William Proctor and are Satisfied the contents of his Petition are true.

Ezekiel Vickars Joseph Hubbard Capt James Bryan Solomon Jones first Lef Samuel Hubbard second Lef. A Allan William Roach

Henry Claridge James Claridge Joseph Payn Sen^r Joseph Payn jun^r John Frazier Sen^r John Frazier Junt