The United States of America in Congress Assembled

To Peter Adams Esquire Greeting. We Reposing especial trust and confidence in your Patriotism, Valour, Conduct and Fidelity, DO by these presents constitute and appoint you to be a Lieutenant Colonel of the Seventh Maryland Regiment in the Army of the United States to take rank as such from the 20th day of February AD. 1777; You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of a Lieutenant Colonel by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging. And we do Strictly charge and require all Officers and Soldiers, under your command, to be obedient to your orders, as Lieutenant Colonel. And you are to observe and follow such orders and directions, from time to time, as you shall receive from this, or a future Congress of the United States, or Committee of Congress for that purpose appointed, a Committee of the States, or Commander in chief for the time being of the Army of the United States, or any other your Superior Officer, according to the rules and discipline of War, in pursuance of the trust reposed in you. This Commission to continue in force until revoked by this, or a future Congress, the Committee of Congress beforementioned, or a Committee of the States.

Entered in the War Office and examined by the Board

Witness his Excellency John Jay Esq’r. President of the Congress of the United States of America, at Philadelphia the second day of June 1779, and in the third Year of our Independence. — [signed] John Jay

[illegible signature] Secretary of the Board of War

The United States of America in Congress Assembled

To Peter Adams Esquire Greeting. We Reposing especial trust and confidence in your Patriotism, Valour, Conduct and Fidelity, DO by these presents constitute and appoint you to be Lieutenant Colonel Commandant of the First Maryland Regiment in the Army of the United States to take rank as such from the 1st day of August 1779; You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of a Lieutenant Colonel Commandant by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging. And we do Strictly charge and require all Officers and Soldiers, under your command, to be obedient to your orders, as Lt Col Commandant. And you are to observe and follow such orders and directions, from time to time, as you shall receive from this, or a future Congress of the United States, or Committee of Congress for that purpose appointed, a Committee of the States, or Commander in chief for the time being of the Army of the United States, or any other your Superior Officer, according to the rules and discipline of War, in pursuance of the trust reposed in you. This Commission to continue in force until revoked by this, or a future Congress, the Committee of Congress beforementioned, or a Committee of the States.

Entered in the War Office and examined by the Board

Witness his Excellency Samuel Huntington Esquire President of the Congress of the United States of America, at Philadelphia the 17th day of February 1780, and in the fourth Year of our Independence. — [signed] Sam. Huntington President

Ben Stoddert. Secretary of the Board of War

Auditors Office Annapolis State of Maryland

November 9th 1802

I hereby certify to whom it may concern that it appears by the Books & records lodged in this Office that Peter Adams was appointed Lieut. Colonel Commandant in the Maryland line on the first day of August 1779, and that he continued in the service during the continuance of the War, and I further certify that it appears by the said Records that Williams Adams was appointed a Lieut. in the said Maryland Line on the 8th day of June 1779 and that the said William continued in the service until the end of the War.
Given under my hand the day & year aforesaid  
Robt. Denny Aud'r. Gen'l.  
State of Maryland

NOTE: A typed summary in the file adds that Peter Adams was from Caroline County MD, never married, and died before 13 May 1793. His nephew, John Adams, and other heirs were awarded bounty land.