

Letter Bk. III that will perhaps account for his not pursuing a Plan which I think would at that time have been much more eligible—I am sorry to find the Scheme for raising so many Regiments here under Swiss Officers is approved of, because no Step could have been taken that would have been more disagreeable to his Majesty's American Subjects & because I look upon it as absolutely impracticable. Have the four established Regiments notwithstanding they entertained Servants without Distinction been unable to compleat themselves because the Recruiting Officers were not natives of the Country; have the Virginians sunk so many Thousand Pounds without being able to raise & keep 500 Men because Governor Dinwiddie could not help shewing whence he came by his nomination of the Officers? & can it be supposed that 4000 of our Inhabitants will hasten to enlist & serve under Foreigners for I shall be much deceived if these Swiss are not esteemed as such by the Germans who have for any considerable time resided among us as well as by the English. Whence comes it that such Numbers have been speedily collected in the Northern Provinces? must it not be attributed to the Officer's Commission's being given to popular Gentlemen who raise their Men in their respective Neighbourhoods & in a Month or two a Regiment is compleated: It is not for want of Men in these parts that I must go to N England for such an Instance; but before I say any thing more on this Topic let me express my Gratitude for your constant Solitude & Endeavours to do me Service, had you succeeded so far as to obtain for me the posts of Honour & profit that Brother John & Yourself have been indefatigable in solliciting I could not beleive me have thought myself more obliged than I do at present nor have been more sensibly affected with your Kindness & affectionate Behaviour; It would not I think become me to desire you to forbear using your Interest in my favour but I do make it my earnest Request that no Step or Measure might be taken to promote me which may put it out of your Power or make it more difficult for you to serve him or those whose Merit more particularly entitles them & whose Circumstances more strongly recommend them to your Affectionate Regard. but could I by your means obtain such a Colonel's Commission as would give me a Right to half-pay & at the same time a power to raise a Regiment in this province to be paid from home but called a Provincial Regiment I think I could soon convince the Switzers that they are not the most proper persons to be sent to raise Men in these parts, & I am inclined to think that if His Majesty was pleased to grant such a Commission, & impower me as Governor of Maryland to commissionate all the Officers at least under the Major some Money might be saved to the Nation by the Number of Half-