

[Sharpe to Gardner.]

Liber J. R.  
& U. S.  
1753-67.  
p. 129

S<sup>r</sup>  
Your Letters of the 15<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> Instant have been received and laid before his Lordship's Council, by whose Advice I now desire and recommend it to you to take your Evidences before some Provincial or County Magistrate & let them make Oath to the Truth of what you alledge against Mr. Ridgley and several other Persons of Baltimore County the Magistrate will thereupon issue his Warrant and have the Offenders brought before him, and on their Appearance will bind them over to the next Assizes for that County at which you will attend with your Witnesses, and I shall give Orders to the Attorney General to do his Duty on that Occasion. I hope that by this Means all Cause of future Complaints from Gentlemen who may be sent hither on the recruiting Service will be removed and that an effectual Stop will be put to Such violent Proceedings as are mentioned in your Letter. You may be assured that I shall always to the utmost Power Encourage and promote the Service in which you are engaged, and from his past Conduct I flatter myself the Gentleman to whom you say you applied will by his Behaviour on this Occasion convince you that none is more disposed than himself to forward and promote his Majesty's Officers.

I am S<sup>r</sup> &c.

H. S.

Annapolis 26 August 1756

To Captain Gardner &c.

[Sharpe to Loudoun.]

Letter Bk. III

30<sup>th</sup> of August 1756—

My Ld

Your Favour of the 20<sup>th</sup> Inst. advising Me of the unhappy Accident that you conclude has happened to the westward I have just received, for the early Intelligence I return Your Ldp thanks as it might be a means of preventing in some measure the fatal Consequences that these Colonies have reason to apprehend from such an Event. We have already 200 Men in & about Fort Frederick which I have been building on our Western Frontiers & I have now ordered 200 of the Militia also to patroll on this Side the Fort to cover the Inhabitants or on Occasion to act in Conjunction with the Garrison. Your Ldp has been already informed that there is in our Treasury £25,000 Currency which is appropriated towards carrying on an Expedition to the westward. Part of this I persuade Myself the Assembly will agree to appropriate otherwise, I shall