

C. C.

[Circular to Colonels.]

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In Council Annapolis 6th May 1777.

Sir.

Inclosed you have a Resolution of Congress of the 19th Ap^l It was thought necessary for the Security and Quiet of the Eastern Shore, that a small Body of Men should be ready on the Spot. Col^o Richardson's Battalion is ordered on this Service, and we are persuaded, if we can soon raise the 300 Militia, and the lower Counties the 100, they will, together prevent our being disturbed by a small Force and may, in Case a more formidable one should be sent there, serve as a Body for the Militia at large to resort to. Col^o Richardson is of Opinion with us that the 300 had best be composed of 5 Companies consisting of 1 Captain 2 L^{ts} 1 Ensign 1 Drum & Fife 4 Sergeants 4 Corporals and 46 Privates each, and that as Somerset and Worcester lie most convenient to reinforce this Body, the Militia be got, if possible from the other Eastern Shore Counties, which will be at about the Rate of half a Company from each Battalion, a Number that can be easily spared. You will therefore call your Battalion together, and you and the other Field Officers of it, are to recommend a proper Person to us for a Captain and another for Ensign of a Company, and assist them all in your Power to enroll 30 Men who, with 26 to be enrolled by the two Lieut^s from some neighbouring Battalion are to form one of the Companies. The Commissions shall issue on the Men being raised, a Cap^t 20, first Lieu^t 14, 2^d Lieu^t 12 and Ensign 10, and the Officers to rank as they shall enroll their Quotas.

We shall endeavour to supply the Militia with necessary Cloathing on the same moderate Terms as the Regulars; we have Tents to supply them with, and they shall be well treated in every Respect, and receive the same Pay as the Continental Troops. If any should supply themselves with good Musquets and Bayonets, we will make an Allowance of 10/ to such. As soon as the Men enroll, their Officers are to march them forward to join Col^o Richardson in Somerset County. You will be pleased to acknowledge the Receipt, as soon as it gets to your Hands and as soon as possible, advise us of your Success, no Time is to be lost and if this Method, contrary to our Hopes and Expectations, should not succeed, some other must be fallen on. We have inclosed you the Form of an Inrollment, and are

Sir &c^aInrollm^t

We the Subscribers do hereby enroll ourselves to serve as Maryland Militia, under the Resolution of Congress of the 19th Day of April last, until the 10th Day of December next,