

Lib. J. R. To all Officers as well Civil as Military, in and of the  
& U. S. Province of Maryland and particularly those of Frederick  
and Baltimore Counties.

It having been signified to me by one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State that our most gracious Sovereign for the better Defence of these his American Dominions has been pleased to grant Commissions to a certain number of English, German, Swiss, and Dutch Officers to raise Men in these Colonies for the Royal American Regiments commanded by the Right honourable the Earl of Loudoun, I have thought proper to give you, and all the Inhabitants of this province Notice thereof, and I do hereby require you, and recommend it to all persons within this Government to promote his Majestys Service, and to contribute as much as is in your Power towards compleating the aforesaid Regiment by countenancing and encouraging the recruiting Parties that may be sent into this province, and at the same time not doubting but that without this Order you would unanimously endeavour to answer his Majestys Expectations and demonstrate your Loyalty on this important Occasion  
Given at ffort ffrederick  
the 16<sup>th</sup> of July 1756:

S<sup>r</sup>

I am enjoined by my Instructions upon any Difficulty that arises in the recruiting Service to make my Application to the Governour of the province or Colony where I happen to be.

I have met with Opposition from some people in these quarters which I apprehend to be a just Matter of Complaint, and I doubt not the persons concerned will be severally reprehended by your Excellency.

My recruiting Serjeant sometime in July last, was attacked by M<sup>r</sup> Cha<sup>s</sup> Ridgley and a number of others his Accomplices, and had six Recruits taken from him by fforce and Arms, who had each received his Majesty's Bounty, on pretence that these Recruits were indented Servants which turns out not to be the Truth as to all of them; besides threatning the serjeant and the Party to have them whipt out of Town.

About a Fortnight since M<sup>r</sup> Joseph Watkins with a number of Men armed with Clubs rescued another Recruit from my Serjeant in his Way from Joppa to this Town.

I applied to M<sup>r</sup> Bordley the Attorney General who I imagined I should find very ready to join with me in a public Resentment of this Method of proceeding by prosecuting the Parties concerned, but by what I could gather from my Con-