

Lib. J. R. Maryland ss.
& U. S.

By his Excellency Horatio Sharpe Esq^r
Governor and Commander in Chief in and
over the Province of Maryland.

A Proclamation

Whereas the present Posture of Affairs and the Situation of this Province makes it exceeding expedient and necessary that the Militia thereof should be trained and disciplined I have thought fit with the Advice of his Lordship's Council of State to issue this my Proclamation requiring and commanding all Officers of the Militia within this Province to have the several Regiments Troops or Companies under their respective Commands frequently mustered and exercised once at least in every Month during the summer, and to see that the Men's Arms are kept in good Order and fit for Service, that they may be prepared and ready to defend this part of his Majesty's Dominions, and their own properties, against any Invaders, and I do further direct and enjoin the several military Officers during the time above mentioned, to put in Force, and take Care that the Militia Laws of this Province are strictly executed against such persons as shall neglect their Duty, or disobey the lawful Commands of their respective Officers, and to the End that all persons concerned may have due Notice thereof, I do hereby strictly charge and require the several Sheriffs within this Province to make this my Proclamation public in their respective Counties in the usual Manner, as they will answer the Contrary at their peril: Given at the City of Annapolis the 14th Day of May in the year of his Lordship's Dominion Annoque Domini 1757.

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As some Advices which have been received afford Room to suspect that his Majesty's Enemies the French intend to make a Descent from the Westward this Summer on one of these Provinces I must recommend it to you in a particular Manner to have the Militia of your County regularly mustered, and exercised, and to compel such as are unprovided to furnish themselves with Arms, and Ammunition, according to the Directions of the Militia Laws of this Province, In Case you should receive certain Advice of the Approach of a considerable Body of the Enemy towards this Province you are forthwith to assemble the Militia under your Command and march therewith to Fort Frederick unless you shall receive other orders from Col: Stanwix who is appointed to command all the Troops that shall be employed in these Parts for the protection of this and the neighbouring