

July 18 He was acting in the Enemys Barges when they murder'd Burn'd
 Red Book & Plunder'd Particularly at Lower Marlbro the 8th Day of Ap^l last,
 No. 26 He was also a Principal man, at the taking of several Vessels Loaded
 Letter 116 with Tob^o in the mouth of Patux^t in December last besides what is
 mention'd in Your Excellency's Letter to me on that Subject. He
 Has also traveled through the Country under two Names, & Different
 pretences & told various falsehoods & shew'd a Commission from
 the Enemy &c &c.

M^r John Mackall a Majestrate of S^t Marys I think Deserves Censure. His administring the Oath of Allegiance, & Granting a Certificate to Anderson, Gave Colour for His application to Col^o Barnes, whom I am willing to suppose, was Influenc'd only, by that Plausable Appearance of His being a Good Subject, to Grant Him a Pass & Give Him the Letter which He carried to your Excellency. These several Circumstances together, Occasion'd His Passing thro this County without Interruption—& had He not spoke freely to Heathman & Ogg, in Confidence of security, having restor'd to them their Vessell, wth a Complement of Salt, & they afterwards Devulg'd it, so that it came to Capt. Yellot, who was going Immediately to Annapolis, He Anderson, might probably have Pass'd unmolested to the Enemys Lines at New York. Magistrates & Officers Ought to be Extreamly Caution to whom they administer Oaths, or Grant Passes; otherwise, whatever Laws may be Enacted, it will be very Difficult, Nay almost Impossible, to Detect Traitors & Spies when Passing thro: the Country, as I believe they frequently have Done without the least Notice.

I am much obliged to your Excellency for the Current Inteligence, & heartily wish for a Confirmation of the Defeat of the Brittish Fleet in the West Indies. I am in Pain for General Greens Army tho I am willing to flatter myself that the report of His retreat from Fort Ninety six is of Torie Fabrication. I cou'd likewise wish that the report respecting the Defeat of General Waine with a Detachment of the Marquesses Army may be false, tho I have my fears that Part is true.

M^{rs} Fitzhugh & my son William join wth me in respectful Compl^{ts} to you your Lady & Family

July 16 Calvert County, The Deposition of Thomas Heathman aged about
 Red Book thirty six years being duly sworn on the holy Evangels of Almighty
 No. 26 God deposeth & saidth That on Friday 29th June last he fell in Com-
 Letter 117 pany with a Man at Hunting Town who called himself Anderson
 dressed in a country Cotten kersey coat light sandy hair grey eyes and
 being asked by Col Joseph Wilkinson if he ever saw this person
 before & where. The deponents answers he believes him to be same
 person that captured him in Patuxent River a few days before
 Christmas last as one of Ridley's Crew in a Barge, That he told