

L. H. J. ening and abusing the said Richardson and Meconekin. By these  
 Liber No. 49 Gentlemens own Account it appears, I think, that upon Smith's refus-  
 Dec. 7 ing to go with them before a Justice of the Peace, and presenting a  
 Gun at Mr. Richardson, he the said Richardson took it away from  
 him, that a Scuffle ensued, but that in the End they released or  
 rescued Griffith, and then went and informed some Magistrate or  
 other of what they had done; what became of Lake and Smith they  
 know not, but have heard that Smith was a Waiter on one Mr.  
 M<sup>c</sup>Carty, an Officer, and who Mr. M<sup>c</sup>Carty is, or where he is to  
 be met with, they do not say; and I cannot learn, neither can I guess,  
 what you would have me do in this Affair. The Two Soldier-like  
 Men may, for aught I know, have been much to blame; but if the  
 Complainants were really of that Opinion, I wonder they did not,  
 when they found themselves able, carry the supposed Offenders  
 before a Magistrate, who would, no doubt, have punished them  
 according to their Deserts; but if, on the contrary, Smith and Lake  
 should return again to this Province, and make it appear that Griffith  
 was fairly Enlisted, I am apt to think, that Mr. Richardson and the  
 Deponent will not find it any easy Matter to justify their Conduct.

p. 143 By the Depositions of Macclefish, Seares, Hill, Mr. William Hall,  
 and Mr. Ephraim Howard, one Thomas Beall, a young Fellow of  
 Prince-George's County (who was impowered by me to Enlist Men  
 for his Majesty's Service, in Consequence of several Acts of As-  
 sembly lately made in this Province) is accused of having pretended  
 to Enlist the said Seares, Hill, and Macclefish, of treating them  
 afterwards as Deserters, of compelling Seares to pay £10 for a Dis-  
 charge, which he could not give, and of endeavouring to oblige the  
 other Two to purchase their Discharges likewise: Mr. Beall is not  
 present to hear what is alledged against him; and tho' his Transac-  
 tions, as in the Depositions stated, have not the best Appearance, yet  
 I don't think it would be right to condemn him unheard; he is no  
 Officer that I know of, neither is he in the least dependent on me;  
 and if the Complainants can prove that he has acted illegally, I hope  
 they may redress themselves without applying to any Branch of the  
 Legislature; but if it should, on farther Enquiry, appear that they  
 were duly Enlisted, you will not, I am persuaded, take it amiss if  
 they are apprehended and delivered up to one of his Majesty's  
 Officers.

With regard to the Complaint of Ezekiel and Jeremiah Cheney,  
 whose articed and indented Servants are said to have run away from  
 them, and to have Enlisted into our Provincial Forces, I can only say,  
 that if the Case is as they represent it, and they have a Right to  
 Satisfaction for their Servants, the Law will give them Relief, if they  
 will be pleased to take the proper Steps to obtain it: And upon the  
 Whole, I cannot help saying, that if these are all the Complaints that  
 your Constituents have any Reason to make against Recruiting