

clubs, and gave me to understand they expected the whole Body that next Day, the Captain was deputed by the rest to be their spokesman who told me they were come in a peaceable manner to demand their Servants and that if they could not have them by fair Means, they would have them by force.

It seems some of their Convent Servants were over away notwithstanding my pressing up Certificates that I would not take any Convent they would not believe me, I gave them Liberty to examine my Records, they found none of their Servants and for the present the storm is blown over, I leave the whole to your Excellency's Consideration.

Baltimore 24<sup>th</sup> August.

I am your Excellency's most obedient  
most humble Servant  
S. Gardner

S<sup>r</sup>

Your Letters of the 15<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> Instant. have been received and laid before his Lordship's Council, by whose Advice I now desire and recommend to you to take your Evidences before some Provincial or County Magistrate & let them make Oath to the Truth of what you alledge against Mr. Ridgely and several other Persons of Baltimore County the Magistrate will thereupon issue his Warrant and have the Offenders brought before him, and on their Appearance will bind them over to the next Assizes for that County at which you will attend with your Witnesses, and I shall give Orders to the Attorney General to do his Duty on that Occasion. I hope that by this Means all Cause of future Complaints from Gentlemen who may be sent hither on the counting Service will be removed and that an effectual Stop will be put to such violent Proceedings as are mentioned in your Letter. You may be assured that I shall always to the utmost Power encourage and promote the Service in which you are engaged, and from his past Conduct I flatter myself the Gentlemen to whom you say you applied will by his Behaviour on this Occasion convince you that none is more disposed than himself to forward and promote his Majesty's Officers.

S. Captain Gardner Sen

I am S<sup>r</sup>  
Annapolis 26<sup>th</sup> August 1756.