

Requisition, at this Critical Juncture, but sure I am, that they will not send Men out of this Province without the greatest Reluctance, unless an Act be made for drafting them from the several Counties I am certain 'till be impossible to raise any Number of free Men in this Province. Few but Indented Servants have enlisted with the Recruiting Officers that have been sent among us, & that Method of Recruiting will distress the Country infinitely more, than a Decimation of its free Inhabitants. I am glad an Act of Parliament is passed directing in what manner Servants may be enlisted for that if any thing can will induce the Assemblies to take the Burden of Recruiting on themselves thereby to prevent the Officers coming among us. The Pennsylvania Assembly has been sometime sitting but without any Design as it is said of taking such Measures as the present Posture of Affairs & the deplorable Circumstances of their distant Inhabitants demand. You will observe what different Sentiments Governor Penn & the Assembly entertain of the Condition of the Frontiers of that Province, You may easily guess how Maryland is covered by them when You are told that they have scarce a Family remaining to the westward of Monocacy which runs by Frederick Town in this Province. That the Quakers have put Pennsylvania in a better Posture of Defence than the Neighbouring Colonies & prevented the frequent Incursions of the Indians the Publick Papers will no doubt shew, to me 'tis really astonishing that the Assembly should advance such Things & proceed in such a manner when they are on the very Brink of Ruin, when no thing but the Exertion of their whole Strength can avert the imminent Destruction that threatens them. As the Pennsylvanians resent & give the Indians free Access to our Northern Frontier