

In Council Annapolis 6th May 1778

190. This Board are of Opinion that all Persons actually employed in manufacturing Small Arms under Richard Bond of Cecil County, should be exempt from actual Service during the subsistence of the said Richard Bond's Contract with the State.

Charles Sumfey Esq^r

We are &c

Annapolis May 9th 1778

Sir

191 Your Excellency's Letter was delivered to me in the Absence of the ~~Assembly of the~~ Governor and Council. In Answer to which, I am to observe, that no particular Provision has been made by our Assembly for recruiting the German Battalion, further than a general Licence to raise Men in the different Parts of this State. The Inconveniences that had been experienced by enlisting the Inhabitants to serve in the Regiments of other States, induced the Legislature, some Time since, to prohibit the Practice under a heavy Penalty. The Resolves of Congress has occasioned a partial Repeal of this Prohibition, and accordingly, the following Clause was inserted the last Session of Assembly in the Act to procure Troops for the American Army, by Virtue of which, Levies for this Battalion are now excepted. And be it enacted that it shall and may be lawful for the Officers or recruiting Sergeants of the German Battalion to recruit what Men may be wanting to fill up the same, within the Limits of this State, without any special Licence from the Governor & Council for so doing, any Law to the contrary notwithstanding. I have only to add that it is not in my Power to communicate any particular Instructions for assisting the Officers in this Service farther than to recommend their Attendance in the back Counties, where the greatest Numbers of Germans reside.

General Washington.

I have the Honor to be
Yours
S. S.

In Council 12th May 1778

192. Sir. James O'Bryan of your Regiment, who obtained a Furlough, was after the Time expired, taken up as a Deserted and escaped from Prison, has surrendered himself to Col^o Burkhead; he has been useful in assisting the Recruiting Service. Col^o Burkhead is very desirous and we join our Request to his Solicitation, that O'Bryan's late Conduct may wipe off his former ill Behaviour.

Col^o Wm Richardson

We are Sir &c