

L. H. J.
Liber No. 49
Oct. 7

being of the greatest consequence that the Squadron under my command in these Seas should be kept in a proper condition in Regard to being manned so as always to enable them to Meet the Enemy (who are very strong at present here) I must pray your Assistance in procuring men for the Ships which are very deficient occasioned by sickness, and if not Completed may be of the greatest Prejudice to the whole Nation. I shall not doubt of your Assistance in this as I have his Majesty's Directions for applying to you, and if men can be supplied for the Fleet without impressing, you may be assured the Vessels of your Government shall pass unmolested, only in case any Vessel is found carrying off Seamen belonging to the Men of War or Transports Clandestinely (as I my self know they have frequently done) the consequences will be greatly to their prejudice and they must Submit to what will follow. I must pray your enforcing this in the strongest manner and am

Sir Your most Obedient Hum.^{ble} Serv.^t

The Deputy Governor
of His Majesty's Province
of Maryland }

Fra: Holburne

Copy

Whitehall 19.th February 1757

p. 27 Sir

Having in my Letter of the 4.th Instant informed you that it was the King's intention to send a strong Squadron of Ships of War to North America, I am now to acquaint you that his Majesty has been pleased to appoint Rear Admiral Holburne to command the said Squadron and it is the King's pleasure that in case any Naval Assistance shall be wanted for the Protection of your Government you should apply for the same to the said Rear Admiral or to the Commander in Chief for the time being of his Majesty's Ships in those Seas who will send you such Assistance as he may be able to do consistently with the Service with which he is charged by His Majesty's Instructions and you will regularly communicate to the said Commander all such Intelligence as shall come to your knowledge concerning the Arrival of any Ships of War or Vessels having Warlike Stores on Board and likewise all such Advices as may concern their Motions and Destination or may in any manner relate to that part of his Majesty's Service with which the Commander of the King's Ships should be acquainted, and for the better execution of the Orders sent you in this Letter you will be diligent in employing proper Persons and Vessels not only to procure you the earliest intelligence but likewise to be dispatched from time to time to the said Commander of his Majesty's Ships with such Accounts as you shall have occasion to communicate to him. It is also his Majesty's further pleasure that you should use all legal methods whenever the Commander in Chief of his Majesty's