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Sir 8

Head Quarters Valley Forge 29th Decemr. 1777.

(Circular)

Genl. Smallwood will, by this Conveyance, transmit you a Return of Seven of the Maryland Regiments. The eighth, which was composed of part of the German Battalion and part of Rawlins's Regiment, is in the same situation in point of numbers. By this you will discover how deficient - how exceedingly short they are of the complement of Men, which of right, according to the establishment, they ought to have. This information I have thought it my duty to lay before you, that it may have that attention which its importance demands, and in full hope, that the most early and vigorous measures will be adopted, not only to make the Regiments more respectable, but compleat. The expediency and necessity of this procedure are too obvious to need arguments. Should we have a respectable

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