

find any Law prohibiting the Importation of Convicts or vesting
any power in this Board respecting them so as to justify
any Measure that might be adopted by us for the safety of
no. the Inhabitants of the State.

The last Act that can be found relative to
Convicts is the Act of 1769 in this Act, there is some kind
of Provision made by the Legislature for the Security of the
152 Citizens; the Purchaser of a Convict being obliged to recognize
in the Sum of £20. for the good behaviour of the Felon during
the Time for which he was transported - As it does not
appear to us that we have any power to interfere or
make any order respecting these People, we have de-
-clined doing any Thing, and have directed the Guard to
return with them to Baltimore.

Sam^l Chase
John Moale } Esq^s
Tho^s Russell }
Lyde Goodwin }

W^m Smallwood

In Council Annapolis

September 23. 1788.

Sir

Mr. John Petty has applied to this Board for
their Instruction to you as Naval Officer, in the following
153 Case - he states that he has obtained the Permission of O. H.
Williams Esq^r to land certain Articles specified therein which
were imported in the Willing Tom, and that he has settled the
Duties thereon according to Law with the said Naval Officer,
that he has transported the said Goods from Baltimore