

which the Constitution and the laws will justify towards preventing, redressing, and punishing such violations.

We have been informed that the vessel captured is now lying in Secretarys Creek Choptank river on the eastern shore of this State and that the Naval Officer of that District has taken some steps to secure her from the persons who brought her there. We have therefore advised Mr Tucker to go to the Naval Officer and pursue such measures for regaining possession of his vessel as may appear to be most expedient. We believe nothing more will be required than proof that he was the owner or commander.

The Punishment of the Captors, or such of them as may be Citizens of the United States, if they have been guilty of any offence for which they are legally bound to answer, belongs to the Continental Courts of Jurisdiction, and we have no doubt that Mr Tucker may obtain from them such process as the nature of the case requires.

We have the honour to

John Hamilton Esq
British Consul.

Thos. J. Lee