

made of them on the way - But as these guns  
are not taken as an article of merchandise, but  
are according to our information, mounted pro-  
-fessedly for the defence of the vessel, we can  
by no means be certain that they are not also  
designed for offensive measures; in which suppo-  
-sition it would become our duty to interfere  
effectually so as to prevent the departure  
of the ship until the President of the United  
States could be acquainted with the circumstances

Our information is at present too vague to  
form a sufficient ground for an immediate  
interference - We therefore make it our request  
that you would immediately on receipt of  
this letter, collect all the facts you can with  
regard to the arming, loading, manning and  
destination of this vessel, and without loss of  
time transmit to this Board the result of  
your enquiries, in order that we may then de-  
-termine whether this comes within the descrip-  
-tion of cases in which we are instructed  
by the Executive power of the United States to interfere  
we are &c

Geo. Williams  
Collector Baltimore

Thos. L. B.