

and to acquaint me immediately with any addition of guns or material alteration that he may perceive her to be making - but as by addressing myself as usual to the Secretary of State or of War, who have both left the Seat of Government, I should not in all probability obtain your Excellency's ideas in a reasonable time, I trust that you will excuse my taking this method to procure more precise instructions on this point than I can discover in the regulations already issued - As the cases of this kind that may still occur may be various and some of them may seem such slight infractions as scarcely to require notice, I beg that your Excellency will favour me with the most explicit directions on the subject.

I have the Honour to be

Thos. J. Lee.

His Excellency

The President of the

United States -