

take into his possession, and custody the said Brig-  
-antine and to hold her (without permitting in the  
mean time any ownership to be exercised over her  
by the Captors or their Agents) until the decision  
of the President respecting her capture shall  
be obtained. I have at the same time furnished  
him with copies of the Depositions which you  
transmitted to me, and have acquainted him with  
your purpose to procure further evidence on the  
subject. I have likewise written to the  
President of the United States and have  
enclosed to him copies as well of your letter  
as of the depositions accompanying it. You  
will I presume join me in opinion that  
the President will wait for the additional  
evidence which you expect to obtain. I have  
therefore to request that you will use all possible  
dispatch in procuring and forwarding it to  
me, that the right to the property in question  
may remain in suspense no longer than is  
unavoidable.

I am &c

Edward Thornton Esq.  
Vice-Consul &c

Thos. J. Lee.