

the legality or illegality of the said equipments, upon a full and just disclosure of the whole case. For the purpose of ensuring a proper and impartial examination, I have requested Samuel Chase Esquire, Chief Justice of this State, to take the depositions of such witnesses as may appear before him to give information respecting these equipments, either at your instance or at that of the British Vice Consul or the Attorney of the United States for the district of Maryland, whose assistance will be afforded in the conduct of the enquiry.

It is to be understood that if it shall be your wish or that of the British Vice Consul, to furnish any testimony on this occasion, reciprocal notice will be expected of the time and place of taking depositions, to be fixed by the Chief Justice, and that the Attorney of the United States for the district of Maryland is to receive similar notice.

I have the Honour to be Sir,

Theo. S. Lee,

Citizen & Notary
Vice Consul of the French Republic
at Baltimore

(The same (mutatis mutandis) sent to Edw. Thornton Esq. British Vice Consul
and a letter on the subject, with the necessary variations, to Deakon Hollingsworth Esq. Attorney

Council Chamber, Annapolis, November 27th 1793.

The Brig Cunningham, prize to the 'Sans Culotte' Manilla's was some time ago committed by my order to the care of the French Vice Consul where she has since remained, protected from her Captors in consequence of a representation from the British Vice Consul that the capture was made within the limits of the protection of the United States, which have been lately ascertained by the President as extending to the distance of a marine league from our coasts.

It is time that the legality of this capture should be brought to a decision, and under that impression I have desired the Vice Consuls of France and Great Britain to cause any additional testimony they may think proper to furnish on this occasion, to be taken as speedily as possible, in the same manner as in the case of the Privateer Schooner Indrago. You will observe by the extract from the letter of the Secretary of War, enclosed in my last that this is an examination falling peculiarly under your superintendance. I therefore request that you will be good enough to attend to it. In answer to the enquiry contained in your letter of the 24th I have to inform you that the depositions when taken to be forwarded to me; and I have also to thank you for the attention you have paid to my request.

Deakon Hollingsworth Esq.