

Council Chamber, Annapolis, November 27<sup>th</sup> 1793

Sir

From the length of time during which the Brig Cunningham, prize to the Sans Culotte Marseillois has remained in the care of the french Vice Consul protected from all exercise of right on the part of the captors it has become necessary that a decision upon the legality of the capture should no longer be procrastinated. It is therefore my request that if you have any further testimony in support of the allegation that the Brig Cunningham was taken within the limits of the Protection of the United States which have been provisionally fixed by the President to be included within a margin of one marine league on our coast, you will cause it to be taken as speedily as possible, before the Chief Justice of this State in the same manner as in the case of the Privateer Schooner Industry.

Enclosed you will receive a copy of certain evidence lately transmitted to me by Citizen Moissonnier relative to this subject.

I have the Honour to be Sir

The J. Lee

Edward Thornton Esquire  
Vice Consul of His Britannic Majesty at Baltimore

Council Chamber, Annapolis, November 27<sup>th</sup> 1793

Sir

The Brig Cunningham, prize to the Sans Culotte Marseillois having for some time remained in your care protected from all exercise of right on the part of the captors it is conceived that a determination on the legality of her capture ought to meet with no further delay. I have therefore to request of you as I have also done of the British Vice Consul, that if you are desirous of furnishing any proofs respecting the circumstances of this capture, in addition to those already transmitted, you will cause such further testimony to be taken as soon as possible, before the Chief Justice of this State in the same manner as in the case of the Privateer Schooner Industry.

I think it proper to inform you that a margin of one marine league on our coasts (which is a small fraction less than three  $\frac{1}{2}$  statute or American miles) has been fixed by the President of the United States, as forming those limits within which all hostilities are interdicted.

It is necessary for me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the instant.

Citizen Moissonnier Vice Consul  
of the french Republic

I have the honour to be Sir  
The J. Lee