

111. In Council, February 14th 1794

We have enclosed to the French Vice Consul at Baltimore an account of money advanced by us for the use of the frigate, *Astree*, and for other necessities amounting to \$4,100.10 current money which we presume will be immediately paid to him to our order. We take the liberty of requesting that you will be good enough to receive this money and forward it to me when convenient. To this request we have approved Citizen *Neissonier*, and have ventured to inform you that you will take this trouble upon you.

Leobalon Hollingsworth Esq
Baltimore

We are

The J. Lee

112. In Council February 14th 1794

It is not within the constitutional powers of this Board to order the demand contained in your letter of the 2^d of February respecting the arrest of the captain of the French merchantmen in the Port of Baltimore. When the rights of property are violated our laws afford full and adequate redress; but this can only be obtained by a regular application to the judicial department of our Government: it will not do when the offence and will inflict damages to the aggravation of the wrong.

The propriety of the arrest being a question into which the Constitution has not authorized us to inquire, the insult stated to have been committed on the flag of the French Republic by that arrest cannot at present be a subject for our interposition. It is with the Judiciary to decide whether foreigners are not amenable to our civil laws so far within the limits of their usual jurisdiction. We feel regret at the inquietude the proceedings mentioned in your letter seem to have given rise to among the Citizens of the French Republic in the Port of Baltimore and should wish to see an immediate decision upon your complaint were we constitutionally authorized. The absence of several members of the Board prevented our having the honour of making an earlier answer to your letter upon this subject. We are respectfully

Citizen *Neissonier* Vice Consul &c

The J. Lee