

Council Chamber, April 12th 1794

Sir,
I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant; and have desired the French Consul at Baltimore to deliver up to the Captain the Brig Cunningham, but have taken no order in the case of the Brig Pilgrim, as I had been informed by a letter of the 25th October last from Mr. Noisonnier, that she had been sold at public auction before he had any notice of the Claim exhibited by the British Consul; and under this circumstance there remains any method of giving effect to the determination announced in your letter. I shall readily pursue the steps you may indicate for that purpose.

The Hon^{ble} Henry Knox Esq^r
Secretary at War

I have the Honour to be &c
Tho^s Lee

U.S. Error in the above record.

instead of what is enclosed in books, in the 5th and 6th lines, read "that this vessel was publicly sold the day before he received my instructions to retain her in his custody until the President's decision should be obtained".

Council Chamber, Annapolis, April 16th 1794.

Sir,
I have received your letter of the 15th instant, with a plan and map accompanying it; and take the earliest occasion to testify my acknowledgments for the very clear and satisfactory manner in which you have explained your designs and my full approbation of the plan of defence you have projected. Without commenting in detail upon the alterations and additions proposed, I shall just observe that the reasons on which you found the expediency of them are to my apprehension perfectly solid and conclusive; and as you will doubtless make a full communication on this subject to the Secretary of War, I indulge a hope that the inadequacy of the sum when ascertained to the conviction of the General Government, will be considered and removed. In the mean time, and until a certainty appears of your being enabled either by further appropriation or by the public spirited exertions of the Citizens of Baltimore to complete the defences you have planned, it occurs to me to recommend that the commencement and progress of your operations should be ordered with a view to the finishing of the most essential part of your plan, in case that adequate means should be supplied of completing it in its full extent. The importance of the Melita may be very important. I need not advise you to contribute to the patriotic disposition they have manifested; and to facilitate your operations with the persons in command, as well as in compliance with the request I send you herewith a letter to Col Howard, who will I am persuaded be both willing and