

Council Chamber, Annapolis June 17<sup>th</sup> 1794

Sir,

In consequence of Despatches from the War Office of the United States relative to the Ship Charles and Schooner Delight, I had before the receipt of your Memorial written by the Mail, to Citizen Moissonner Vice Consul of the French Republics requiring him to take possession of these Vessels for safe keeping until the Legality of their Captures should be enquired into, and decided by the President of the United States, and this request I am satisfied will be duly attended to.

I wrote also to W<sup>o</sup> Thornton the British Vice Consul apprising him of the above mentioned Despatches, and of my consequent Demand upon Citizen Moissonner; but as I have reason to believe he is not in Baltimore it is probable my Letter to him will not come to hand.

The requisite enquiry into the Circumstances of these Captures according to the regulations heretofore prescribed by the President shall be instituted as speedily as possible, and if any further measure than the one already adopted shall eventually be found necessary for protecting the Captured Vessels from all Exercise of Ownership by the Captors it shall be pursued without delay.

If Mess<sup>rs</sup> Robert Hays and James Craig who have forwarded to me a Memorial respecting the Schooner Delight similar to yours in relation to the Ship Charles have any Attorney or Proctor in Baltimore you will be pleased to make known to him the purport of this communication.

Robert Smith Esquire

I am Sir

Your Ob<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

Thos. S. Lee

In Council Annapolis June 18<sup>th</sup> 1794

Sir,

By a late Letter from the War Office of the British Government, I am called upon to cause an enquiry to be instituted relative to the Capture of two Vessels the Ship Charles and the Schooner Delight now in the Harbour of Baltimore; the property of British Subjects, alledged to have been taken by a French Privateer called the *Moissonner* on the shores of the United States and within the Limits of our Jurisdiction.

This Demand of mercy obliges me to beg the favour of requesting your Agency in the prosecution of this Enquiry, which it