

Council Chamber December 8<sup>th</sup> 1794

Sir

I have just received your letter of the 6<sup>th</sup> Instant and wish that the satisfactory information it furnishes had reached me in time to have presented the expostulation contained in my last letter. -

You were right in supposing that my decision could not be intended to affect the operation of any law of the United States or to interfere with any case subjected to judicary cognizance. -

I was not apprized that the shipment of the Cannon on board the *Prodige* was conceived to be within any legislative prohibition, or that the Federal Court had commenced any enquiry upon that Subject. My views were limited to such instructions as had been communicated by the President of the United States for the preservation of our neutrality, and upon those Instructions only my Determination was grounded. -

I am much gratified in discovering that this decision so far as the case was proper for my consideration has been fully executed. and I regret only that from want of information as to facts, I have been induced to complain of any circumstance in the conduct of an officer for whom I entertain so high a respect. -

Robert Purviance Esq  
Collector at the Port of Baltimore

I am &c  
John H. Stone

In Council December 15<sup>th</sup> 1794

Sir

We have the Honor to transmit enclosed a Resolution of the General Assembly of Maryland passed at their present Session. upon the Subject of which we take the Liberty of requesting as speedy Information as Circumstances will permit. -

The Honble  
Edmund Randolph Esq  
Secretary of State

We have the Honor &c  
John H. Stone

N. B. The Resolution related to the Bank Stock belonging to this State