

Commissioners organized in some fit place out and that until the Collector
least due on these lands to the city of Washington shall be speedily discharged, the same
may be applied to executors, guardians, or any other person or persons and liberal credit
should have been granted.

Under such circumstances the Executive considers that the law of the last session
of Congress, which commits this subject wholly to your discretion, will be carried
into effect prompt execution which may meet the exigencies of the State of Mary-
land, and particularly as the United States have made the transaction thus
own no motive, of interest or convenience, can now exist longer to defer the
just and honorable discharge of the intent of the debt.

In expressing this confidence of the Executive you will permit me to
remark that sentiments of high personal respect and veneration for the
principles which guide your administration mingle with the satisfaction
they have formed, and to assure you individually of the respectful consideration
with which I have the honor to be Sir your most obedient humble servant

The President of the United States

John F. Mercer

Council Chamber Annapolis June 5, 1802

Sir

I have submitted your Excellency's letter of the 11th day of February with its
enclosure to the Governor of this State, and I have to offer you their cordial
approbation of the sentiments of accommodation which you have been
pleased to express on the part of the State of Virginia. In doing this I cannot
conceal my surprise that the Executive and Legislature of your State have been
unanimous at so late a date of any extension of the State of Maryland, the
different Boundary between them than that which has hitherto been
permitted to subsist. On this subject I beg leave to inform you that Resolution
of the Legislature of Maryland passed on the 2^d day of January and
carried by the two houses on the 2^d day of January, 1800, was as follows
Ordered by the Board of Councillors, & signed by the President,
Communicated by Governor Stone to the Legislature of this State a
copy of which communication is now enclosed; a copy of the same sent
and under the signature of the Governor of the State of Maryland, the first
step in the business and of great utility in the case.

The Legislature of Maryland having adopted the broad principle of
submitting the whole question to the decision of mutual commissioners
dependent on the subsequent ratification of the Legislature of Maryland