

Council Chamber Annapolis July 27 1803

Sir

The letter you did me the honor to address to me of the 10 of May last, inclosing your communications to the Secretary of State under the first of May has been duly received and communicated to the Council and permit me to offer to you my sincere thanks for the zeal, ability and perseverance which you have manifested in prosecuting the just claims of the State.

Your communication will be submitted to the Legislature at the commencement of their next Session. From the expression of their sentiments, those acknowledgments can only be derived, which coming from the immediate Representatives of the People, must prove most satisfactory to yourself.

The Honble Rufus King
New York

I have the honor to be, Sir,
John F. Mercer

Council Chamber Annapolis July 28 1803

Sir

I have your Excellency's favour of the 8th Instant, which has been submitted to Council. We could find nothing in the Law authorizing the Executive of Maryland to appoint Commissioners on the part of this State to meet those of Pennsylvania and Delaware to designate the proper course of the intended Canal. The Legislature of Maryland seem by this Act to have intended to submit this to the President and Directors of the Company after a choice, as was the case in the Patomack Canal. If this conclusion is just the Members from Pennsylvania and Delaware will perceive under this qualification that their acts must be submitted to the President and Directors for confirmation. I present you Sir, with my assurances of sincere and personal respect & high esteem have the honor to be your obedient servant
John F. Mercer
His Excellency the Governor of Pennsylvania

In Council Chamber Annapolis August 6 1803

Sir

You will receive herewith a copy of the communication of Mr. King to the Executive of this State, in order that if you have not been already furnished therewith, you may have a full statement before you of the negotiation