

~~Resolved that the Secretary of War be and he is to have the satisfaction of~~
announcing to the General Assembly that news of the capture of the British Admiral's
No Draught having been made and we hope the patriotism of our Citizens will make it unnecessary. It is
seeming it absolutely necessary that the Militia required of this State, should be armed and equipped agreeably to the
Requirement of the President. have thought proper though not authorized by Law, to put into the hands of the Militia
Infantry, as many of the State's Arms as were necessary for their equipment, taking Arms from the officers for their
safe keeping and return when called for. This measure we trust will be approved of by the Legislature. The House
and Militia could not be equipped, the State being entirely unprovided with the necessary Arms. The Report
of the Armorer herewith transmitted will show how few Arms of any kind the State is in possession of. The
propriety of applying a part of the unappropriated Money in the Treasury, at this important crisis of our
Affair to the purchase of Arms and Military Stores and thereby placing Maryland in that state of prepara-
tion for defence which the flourishing state of her Finances will so well justify, is submitted to the wisdom
of the General Assembly. A particular detail of our Proceedings is not deemed necessary as the Record of
them has already been called for and laid before the House of Delegates. We have the Honor to be
The Honble the General Assembly
Robert Wright

Council Chamber Annapolis November 7 1807

Gentlemen

On the twenty second day of June eighteen hundred and seven by order of a British Admiral an unprovoked and masked attack was made by His Britannic Majesty's Ship Leopard upon the American Frigate's Chesapeake near Cape Henry, four of the crew killed and many wounded and several of our Native Citizens taken by force out of said Frigate, in violation of the honor and Flag of the United States, and of every principle of the Law of Nations. This untoward outrage was denounced as with one voice, and in the language of solemn indignation by every real American.

On the second day of July eighteen hundred and seven the President by Proclamation (herewith transmitted No 1) interdicted the Harbours and Waters of the United States to all Armed Vessels bearing Commissions under the Authority of the British Government, and forbade all intercourse with their Officers and Crews, and enjoined it on all persons bearing Office Civil or Military within or under the Authority of the United States and all others with vigilance and promptitude to exert their respective Authorities to carry said Proclamation into full effect.

On the sixth day of July eighteen hundred and seven the Secretary at War by the direction of the President issued his order (No 2) to the Executive of Maryland to organize, arm and equip five thousand eight hundred and sixty three of the Militia of this State, being our Quota of one hundred thousand of the whole, and to march at a moment's warning when directed to take the Field.

On the twentieth of July issued a general order (No 3) to all the Officers commanding American Regiments and Extra Battalions residing in the vicinity of the Chesapeake and its Mouth within the State of Maryland to be vigilant in guarding against the violation of said Proclamation and to prevent every attempt to infringe the same within our limits, by the exercise of so much of the force and in their respective commands as might be necessary for the occasion, in order that said Proclamation might be carried into full effect, and all intercourse prevented with the Officers and Crews of said Ships of War, who had forfeited every right of Hospitality, and whose Hands were yet dripping with the blood of our Native Citizens.

Also on the same day issued an order (No 4) to all the Officers commanding American Brigades