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The representation and petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Vienna and its Neighbourhood, respectfully sheweth.

That from the defenceless Condition of the Bay, the natural exposure of their situation to depredation and plunder, and the return of the piratical Crews from New-York into the Chesapeake they have the strongest reasons to believe, they shall again be afflicted with those Calamities which they have heretofore patiently endured.—

They confide in the willingness of Government to extend protection to every part of the State; and seriously lament that its exertions have been so directed as to be obviously deficient in this important respect. Against the most inconsiderable naval Force of the Enemy they know the inability of the State to afford protection, and under such circumstances would submit to injuries and losses with the cheerfulness of Men determined to risk every thing in a great and good cause; But that no aid or assistance should be effectually given to those who are unfortunately placed on the Banks of navigable Rivers against the feeble and ill-concerted operations of pirates and plunderers cannot altogether proceed from the weakness of Government or a deficiency in its resources. They mean not to call in question the conduct of any of the public officers. The exposure of their persons to capture and their property to plunder, by sudden incursions, give just alarms for both, excite proper apprehensions of danger and direct their views to the proper mode of redress and defence.—

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

The River Nanticoke on which the most of the petitioners reside, is better calculated for the views and Interests of plunderers, both as to the Commodities which pass down it, and the natural situation and boldness of the water, than any other in the State. It is neither so narrow as to expose the invading parties, when discovered, to annoyance from small arms, nor so wide as to expose the invading fleet under their situation dangerous in tempestuous weather. It disembogues itself into a spacious sound, before they lie with safety in the neighbourhood of Islands not altogether hostile, and from which they have several convenient outlets into the Bay. They find shelter and safety in those Islands and the Inhabitants thereof other [illegible] [illegible] every kind of information which our Enemy could expect to give, every kind of assistance which [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]