if Councils are to be held previously to the seizure of any Citizen's Person or Papers, in notwithstanding the strongest evidence against him I am much mistaken if every Citizen does not slip through your hands.

I must now, Sir, conclude with assuring you, and the respectable Body over which you preside, that if they suppose me capable of aiming or wishing to extend the military authority, or trespass on the Civil they do me the most cruel injustice — altho' I was bred in the Army I thank God, the spirit and principles of the Citizen were ever paramount, and I solemnly declare that if I thought it possible that I should ever ~~entertain~~ be so far intoxicated by military Command as to harbour a wish inimicous to the civil supremacy in all things I would now whilst I retain my senses beg leave to divest myself of my Military Office and serve as a Volunteer in the glorious cause in which I have embarked my person fortune and reputation — what I did in this affair, I did in the character of a common zealous Member of the Community, not of an Officer — what appeared irregular or offensive in the mode, I hope I have explained to your satisfaction, and I entreat that it may ~~alone~~ be entirely attributed to a mistake for which I am heartily concerned, as it has prejudiced me in the opinions of those whose esteem I am most ambitious of obtaining —

I am, Dr Sir, your most obedt
& humble Servt

Charles Lee

To Daniel Jenifer Esqr
President of the Council of Safety
of Maryland —

1