B 6 51
5 5 0 C

Baltimore the 3d. august 1782

3 9

Sir

I have y^e honour to apply to your Excellency's authority in a matter which Concern's his most Christian Majesty's rights & y^e Dignity of his flag. give me leave to expose it to your Excellency.

The Ship l'Audacieux belonging to French Merchants in Hispaniola was loaded by ém, & fitted out with French Colours in that Island, She even obtained a Commission from his Majesty's officers to Cruize against y^e Common ennemy as a letter of Marque, She arrived a few days ago in the Port of Baltimore: the Captain (an American) being totaly ignorant of what he ought to have done, Carried his clearance & other papers to y^e naval office of this town; being informed of it I sent for him, & desired him to bring them to me y^e only Officer, who was to receive ém, y^e naval officer refused them with even Some improper observations upon y^e Subject, & formaly with y^e do not Chuse to trouble your Excellency

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

Sir Ex^y

Your Excellency's Most

Obedient & Most

Humble Servant

[illegible]

Lee Governor of y^e State of Maryland