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Extract of a letter from Rufus King Esquire Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States at London, dated 13th April 1797 — to the Secretary of State.

"There are several subjects mentioned in different letters that I have received from you concerning which I should make you some reports."

"Maryland Bank Stock."

"I have omitted saying any thing respecting this subject because I could say nothing that would amount to such information as would authorize a satisfactory opinion concerning the result of the endeavours that I have with much assiduity employed to bring this business to the termination that is desired."

"Though I agree with the State of Maryland, in thinking the claim both just and Equitable, still I do find it is one in the management of which, much prudence and circumspection are requisite: the business is at present in motion, and I flatter myself with the belief that it is in a favorable course. I have repeatedly conversed with the Lord Chancellor and other members of the Administration on this Subject, and the measures that I have adopted to obtain a satisfactory issue of the business have had their approbation — The Chancellor will dismiss the Bills depending in his Court, on the principle of a defect of Jurisdiction — I have sent a note to the Secretary of foreign affairs, stating in a concise manner the claim and the principles that support it, as also the allegation that a counter claim exists, grounded on the supposition of his Majesty's right to this property, & concluding

ARCHIVES OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND.

with