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are making all the preparations and want only those boats to prevent a surprize

Capt. W. Jones I have the honor to be []
signed S. Smith

Sir

The Enemy are drawing nearer to us & when too late you will regret not having had look out vessels down the Bay. The Valet of vessels lost in ^ the river Rappahannock would have amply paid for the line of Boats to lookout. This Port is very illy prepared agains the attack of an Enemy. I have done all in my Power.

I am Sir +c+c
Wm. Jones Esqr. signed S. Smith
Baltimore 8 April 1813

Sir

Baltimore 9 April 1813

I understand from Capt. Gordon that you have expressed an opinion that this Port is the least in danger of any Port in the U.S. this opinion has been met by many without proper consideration or information. I have had the River carefully examined 20 feet water may be brought up with a good tide as far as Hawkins Point, within four miles of the Fort from thence the Channel is wide

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and the water from 4 1/2 to five fathoms Ships of line may take out their guns and out of reach of the fort taken them in and with a few such ships silence a fort mounting so few guns & having so few officers trained to Artillery. I pray you to send two Lieutenants and to employ the Privateers in Port on Govnt. account, this might prevent the Enemy from boarding sending the lawn [] to soward the River as well as render other essential services

I have the honor to be &c &c
Wm. Jones Esqr. signed S. Smith