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

I have the honor to be &c

Capt W. Jones.

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 Vessels of Vessels lost in the River Rappahannock would have amply paid for the hire of Boats to look out. This Port is very illy prepared against the attack of an Enemy. I have done all in my Power.

I am Sir &c &c

signed S. Smith

Wm Jones Esqr

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 received 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 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 take 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 Gov^t account, they might prevent the Enemy from ~~landing~~ sending the launches to sound the River as well as render other essential service

I have the honor to be &c &c

signed S. Smith

Wm Jones Esqr