

Blending with them the claim in question, we venture only to submit to the President the nature and situation of it, with our request that if deemed proper by him it may be brought into Treaty for the purpose of securing to the Government the effect of it's Right.

The claim we allude is that of the State of Maryland to Stock in the Bank of England to the amount of about fifty thousand pounds sterling now standing in the name of the Accomptant General of the Chancery Court of that Country, where the claim itself, as well as those of several adverse litigants mentioned in the enclosed argument of Council, has been depending for nearly ten years.

The Title of the State to this Stock, and the merits of all adverse demands upon it hitherto set up are fully explained in the papers enclosed, from which it will be seen that the Crown of Great Britain, The late Lord Proprietary of Maryland, The surviving provincial Trustee of the Stock, and certain Loyalists who suffered by confiscation during the late War have advanced either total or partial claims to this Stock, upon inadmissible grounds of right. From information received by the State's Agent, and from the within argument, it appears that the jurisdiction of the Court of Chancery in this cause has lately been questioned, and that it has become a point of enquiry whether the State's claim is proper to be recognized and sustained by judicial sentence, or calculated only for diplomatic adjustment. Since the argument of this objection, which we are informed, has been countenanced by the opinion of Lord Toughborough, no further proceedings have taken place, and there is every reason to believe that unless our right is aided by negotiation, it will ultimately be rejected, or at least be laid aside as not proper for judiciary cognizance.

The variety and character of the Claimants, including the State and those in opposition to it, the footing upon which their demands are rested, - The delay of Decision for so great a period of time, and the evident influence from political motives, to which the case, from its circumstances and parties, is liable, will it is apprehended, either produce a determination unfavorable to this Government, or operate the procrastination ^{and probably the prevention} of a determination of any kind. Under this view of the case we take the liberty of submitting it to the consideration of the President how far it may be advisable to introduce it into Treaty, through the opportunity of Mr Jay's embassy, and to that end we request that you will be pleased to lay before him this communication and it's Enclosures.

The Hon^{ble} Edmund Randolph
Secretary of State.

We have the Honour to be Sir

Thos L Lee