

U. S. Frigate Chesapeake
Hampton Roads June 23rd 1807

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Sir

The enclosed is a Copy of a Letter which I am informed has this day been addressed to you, it contains two Charges against me, both of which I trust I shall confute. I will not presume to dictate to you the line of conduct you are to pursue on this occasion, an investigation is I suppose a thing of course, and what every thinking officer would expect on an occurrence of such importance as the present. Captain Gordon is charged with a Message from me to you relative to my wish on this ground but was directed not to deliver it until he knew your determination, the object of the present is to forward you the Charges, which those Gentlemen wish to prefer against me, and to inform you that I am perfectly ready to meet them.

It is however probable that I may not for some time be able to travel any distance, as my wounds are becoming very sore—

With great respect
I have the Honor to be Sir
Your obedient servant
James Barron

Hon^{ble}. Robt. Smith
Secretary of the Navy
Washington

Honble. Robt. Smith

Secretary of the Navy

Washington:

Maile

Charles Jones
1817
James D. Smith
Secretary of the Navy
93 E. Broadway