time abandoned the prodecution of the appeals in these fourteen cases . In answer to my letter inclosing the opinion of Doctor wichole, ell, Dickering in an official letter of the 27. July 1796. Jays as follows; "There is great keason in Doctor evichall's opinion Respecting the American versels captured when laden with provisions for France and while under the protection of French Convoy, that they are not entitled to freight, and your conclusion host to prosecute the appeals in these cases hugt undoubtedly be approved."

and anthornesting an government on son annal in 2 and on down the instruct the as to the points of any duby. This he did on the 5th of clanary 1795 - That part of his instructions that applied to gout case is as fatrow. If any our a more of the classes cannot in the opinion of council be possesuted with a parotypeed of duces y au unit nevertheless file the claums and applied to the decel

cases this I did, and never have heard further hedge ching your -

The a letter from the Department of State, of the 6. april 1795 the Freechary there instructs may " Smust draggest for your condictor ation whether after you have classed all the claims and appeals, you could up take the opinion of the could of commit dior and selon the formage of ore of theme . If the free ciples Shiauca be decided in your facous, proceed with the total mumber of a gainst you adver with counsel on each cade, and advertain hetrether al sontains any point which may destinguish it prove the lede. I hourd the with de be alike, there can be nohove of deceeds, after the Brancipte Shall have prova adverse on one The the case of the Searge Wathington, a vester captured by an English frigate together with thinken other american ressels robile under chrench annog, the parties dained preight casts and lapenced, which the court below had refeeded, the its acquitted the messels. On thiss clanny Stook the opinion of 29 Doctor effections, which here gadwerde to our demand, I Sent as Copy of his opinion to the decretary of state, and in the means

Dear Sie

You letter of the 14th ult? has been dully Received. you request me in answer to it to give you the particulars of an interview between ell? Samuel chiles Hopkins and myself wherein the said ch? Hopking proposed a plan for burning and destroying British vessels. _ They are as follows _____

Paris 1st of June 1799.

Copy of a Later from ell' Richard Codman in in the to F. Skipwiths ...

elt. Hopkins with two other gentlemen called at my house Somewhere about the month of Samary 1788. _ one of the gentlemen began the conversation by proposing to the to be concerned in a plan for burning and destroying British armed vessels at Portsmouth and elsewhere, that to compleat the machine to be used in this Operation about & 500. Sterling would be necessary, which Sur they wished me to furnish and to take a proportionate interest? in the affair _ is eface entering into an enquiry of the bean or the probability of the Success of it, I declined having any thing to do with it; Tobserved to the gentlemen that it appeared to the to be nothing more hor less than a privateering Scheme against a nation with which our country was not at war and that it by ho means agreed with my principles. I could not help expressing my astonishment to ell' Hopking that he should be concerned in a project of this Kind, that he was among the tast I should have suspected. The conversation then turned upon The provability of success, and the profits that were to arise from et. It was mentioned that the Trench government would protect it and that a certain sum of money would be paid by the said government for each ship so destroyed. I then enquired who would conduct the operation ? _ cll " Hopking replied that? he himself had determined to go in the boat which it beens was to act under water. Tonce more expressed my astomistionent

at his risking his life under water and on such business, but as he again confirmed this intentions Amade no further observations and the three gentleman took their leave. (Signed) R. Codman.

Olaris 1'ar of Frene 1799

allan Jove

Alexand for request an animum to it to give good the particulary of an enterner between estil famore ables Mapping and mappel where the data chil Hopkins proposed a plan for humany and mappel where ables date bender - They are as follow for humany and day require in the 'llophing and the second of Jaman 1986, care of the gentlemen in the the concercies by proposed to the dentlement of the gentlement and the concercies and the second to famore a the concercies of the internet the concercies by proposed to the concercies at the internet the concercies of famore and the concercies at the internet the concercies of famore and the concercies of the second the concercies by proposed to the concercies of the internet the concercies of the second of the proposed in the concercies and the second of the concercies of the second the the concercies of the second of the concercies of the concercies of the the concercies of the second of the second of the second of the the concercies of the second of the second of the second of the termed of the second of the second of the second of the second of the termestic of the second of the second of the second of the second of the termestic of the second of the second of the second of the second of the termestic of the second of the second of the second of the second of the termestic of the second of the second of the second of the second of the termestic of the second of the sec

Justice 20. October 1797. Justice Justice Justice Justice of the 21th august and 15 Gebt have lately come to hand. Evely attention has been pala to your claims, due the difficulty which you contemplate in your letter of the 15 aug has been a tweighty one, and the fear will, before every tribunat. That can take cognisance of your claims, prove insurmountable. What can take cognisance of your claims, prove insurmountable. What you time a "Dritigh and artificary interpretation of the law of hations" is one which Junscenstand the counts of this country have always held, and which it is than get they usual act lettinguisho unless by special contract, in farmer of the there is done times the dest of the state for guo. Thad some conversation Some times there with estis" Princetney, one of our commissioners, and within a flue days with the minister cliffing, both of whom think the opinions of Doctor evictore and Sie 100 the Joset, Journa and conformable to the aw of nations. cliff King observed that were he as a judge of an American court to give his opinion on this point he should decide agreeably to the principle of these opinions sent you. He observed that if the United States chose to appoint officers to foreign countries without making them a compensation for their services, but leaving them to derive a subsistence from mercantile pursuits, they could not thus vary the laws of nations, a save their citizens from the application of such law when their property came into the fossession of either of the belligerent powers.

you ask of me an lackact of that part of my instructions which applies to your case". I give it chearfully ______ csl? Jay was authorized by our government on my arrival in London to instruct me as to the points of my duty. This he did on the 5th of Jamary 1795 That part of his instructions that applies to your case is as fallows. " If any one or more of the classes cannot in the opinion of council be prosecuted with a prospect of success you will nevertheless file the claims and appeals but not proceed further until you shall have sent the opinions to the secretary of state, and received his instructions".

This I did, and never have heard further respecting your cases the these letters which I have answers.

The Secretary thus instructs me, " I must suggest for your consideration whether, after you have classed all the claims and appeals, you could not take the opinion of the court of commissioners upon the principle of one of them. If the principle should be decided in your favour, proceed with the total humber; if against you, advise with coursel on each case, and ascertain whether it contains any point which may distinguish it from the Kest. Should the whole be alike, there can be ho hope of success, after the principle shall have prova adverse in one"

The the case of the George Washington, a bessel captured by an English fligate together with thirteen other American vessels while under French cours of the parties claimed fleight, costs and expenses, which the court below had refused, the' it's acquitted the vessels. On these claims I took the opinion of Doctor Wich dee, which being adverse to our demand, I sent a copy of his opinion to the Secretary of State, and in the mean