

New York Dec. 5th 1811

Hon. Sir.

Permit me to address you on a subject which is now before your Hon.^{ble} Body, & in which perhaps the security or ruin of a citizen of this State is immediately involved.

Mr. Gold Hoyt some eighteen months since had his Ship the American Eagle seized by the Collector of this Port when completely fitted and ready for Sea, on a suspicion of being destined for President O'Brien. The Libel filed in this case would I am convinced have been speedily discharged had not the indisposition of Judge Talmage incapacitated him to hold a Court. And as little prospect exists of his recovery or even of his returning to the State before next Spring, Mr. Hoyt has been advised to apply to Congress for relief. This application tho' of a private nature may, when you contemplate the oppressiveness of the case, suggest such an amendment in the organization of the District Courts.

Courts as will be extensively beneficial.

If Sir you will peruse the Memorial of Mr Hoyt you will observe every effort has been made to bring the subject to a hearing. The delay which he has been subjected to, tho' unavoidable, is as oppressive as a denial of Justice. The Ship in question is immensely valuable. In and on board of her is embarked almost the whole of your memorialists' ^{fortune} ~~property~~; and if permitted to remain much longer in the neglected state in which she now lies, no part of the property will be worth the attention of any person.

I am perfectly well acquainted with Mr Hoyt. His reputation both as a merchant and a gentleman stands very fair, and I feel convinced every circumstance stated in his Memorial is strictly true. - If therefore Sir you will attend to this subject and interest yourself in affording such relief as may be deemed proper Mr Hoyt, his connections, and myself his friend will gratefully acknowledge

the favour

Yours most respectfully

Peter Merier

The Hon^{ble} Pierre Van Cortlandt

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The Hon. - Pierre Van Cortlandt

at Longue

Washington



John Price
1811