

Late U. S. S. Chesapeake at Anchor
Hampton Roads June 23rd 1857

Commodore James Barron,

Sir, The officers whose
signatures are attached to the
enclosed copy of a letter addressed
to the Honble Secretary of the Navy,
think it their duty to apprise
you of its being forwarded —
Respectfully &c. &c.

the Navy to order a Court of enquiry
into their conduct - At the same
time they are compelled by imperious
duty, the honour of their Flag, the
honour of their Countrymen & all that is
dear to themselves to request that an
order may be issued for the arrest
of Commodore James Barron, on the
charges herewith exhibited, which
the undersigned pledge themselves to
prove true - Govt.

1st On the probability of an Engage-
ment, for neglect to clear his ship
for action -

2ndly For not doing his utmost to
take or destroy a vessel which
we conceive it his duty to have
done -

With the highest respect

signed

We subscribe ourselves
Yr. Mo. ob. Servts.
Ben. Smith
Wm. Crane
W. H. Allen
J. Ord. Pringleton
Henry Smith
Sam. Brooth

The
Hon. Rob. Smith
Secretary of the
U. S. Navy
Washington

Late U. S. Ship Chesapeake Hampton Road
June 23rd 1807

The undersigned officers of the late
U. S. Ship Chesapeake feeling deeply
sensible of the disgrace, which must
be attached to the late in their opinion
premature surrender of the U. S. Ship
Chesapeake of 40 Guns to the English
Ship of War Leopard of 50 Guns,
without their previous knowledge or
consent, and desirous of proving to their
country and the world, that it was the
wish of all the undersigned, to have
rendered themselves worthy of the
obligation which they had the
honor to receive, by a determined
resistance to an unjust demand,
do request the Hon^{ble} Secretary of

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting in cursive script, possibly containing a signature or address.]

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting in cursive script, possibly containing a signature or address.]

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting in cursive script, possibly containing a signature or address.]

[Faint, mostly illegible handwriting in cursive script, possibly containing a signature or address.]



June 23 1807

Commodore James Barron

Pres