

**Naval Documents
related to the
United States Wars
with the Barbary Powers**

**Volume I
Part 1 of 4**

**Naval Operations
including diplomatic background
from 1785 through 1801**

**United States
Government Printing Office
Washington, 1939**

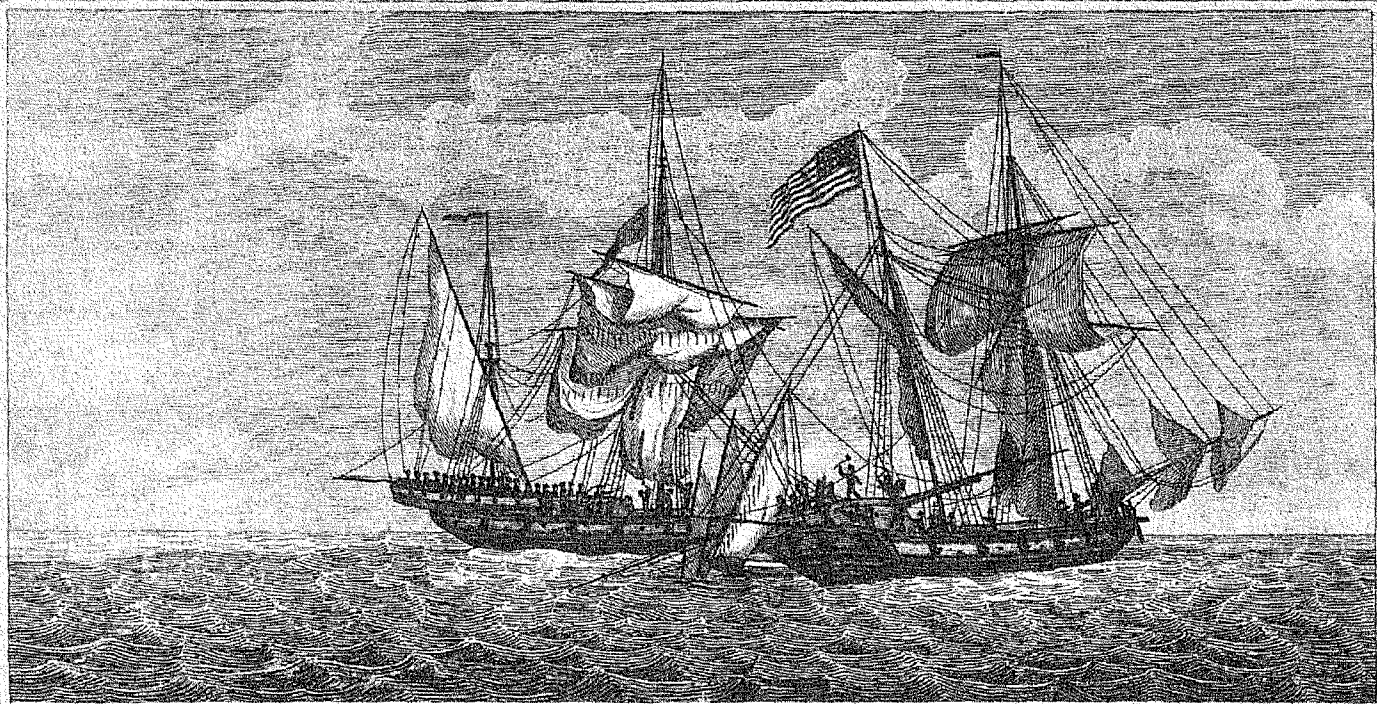
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NAVAL OPERATIONS

1785-1801

WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS



M. Currier, Jr.

Capt. STERRETT in the Sch. ENTERPRISE paying tribute to TRIPOLI, August 1801.

NAVAL DOCUMENTS

RELATED TO THE

UNITED STATES WARS WITH THE BARBARY POWERS

VOLUME I

NAVAL OPERATIONS

INCLUDING DIPLOMATIC BACKGROUND
FROM 1785 THROUGH 1801

PUBLISHED UNDER DIRECTION OF

The Honorable CLAUDE A. SWANSON
Secretary of the Navy

PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF NAVAL RECORDS AND LIBRARY
NAVY DEPARTMENT, UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF
CAPTAIN DUDLEY W. KNOX, U. S. NAVY (RET.)

By Authority of an Act of Congress
Approved March 16, 1934



UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1939

FOREWORD

Our exasperating experiences with the Barbary States of northern Africa, continuing for a generation after the United States had won its independence, constitute an interesting chapter of American history and one from which we may derive permanently valuable lessons. Heretofore a proper understanding and interpretation of those intricate events has been clouded by the dispersion and inaccessibility of documentary source material. It is the aim of the present work to remedy this deficiency: more especially in the naval aspects of the case, but also with due regard for the interwoven political, economic, and diplomatic relationships.

The exceptional difficulty of dealing with the aggressor countries compelled us to exhaust every pacific and warlike means of reaching a satisfactory solution of our grievances. At first we had no recourse but diplomacy to protect our bold merchantmen against piracy as they attempted to recover an important Mediterranean commerce that had been lost to us during the Revolutionary War. Diplomacy, unsupported by any semblance of a Navy, failed woefully to prevent the capture of our trading ships and even the enslavement of their crews. As early as 1786 Thomas Jefferson, then acting as our representative in Paris and charged also with the Barbary negotiations, concluded that we could never establish security for our shipping in the Mediterranean except by naval action, and to that end he warmly advocated the creation of a Navy under the Confederation.

Following the adoption of the Constitution and in the continued absence of a Navy, our Government was persuaded to follow a long-standing policy of European countries and pay tribute to the Barbary Powers in the hope of thus gaining security for our commercial shipping. Even such an unhappy and sorry compromise failed to stem the growing depredations upon our commerce, or to prevent actual declarations of war against us for no reason other than the smallness of our payments.

Until 1801 our ability to embark upon hostilities in the Mediterranean was hampered by the urgent need of employing the first ships acquired for our Navy to stop French violations of our neutrality and attacks on American merchantmen nearer home. The 3-year naval warfare with France was interjected in the midst of acute trouble with the Barbary States and the latter difficulties were not finally adjusted until after the War of 1812 had also intervened and been brought to a conclusion.

In all of this long period of disturbed foreign relations the naval aspect was of great prominence and was closely associated with matters of diplomacy, neutrality, international law, freedom of the seas, economics, and international politics. The documents of the period, therefore, have a broader interest and value than merely naval, and their publication obviously amounts to an important contribution to the general history of the Nation.

Because of this I was glad to urge upon Congress in 1934 that funds be provided to publish early naval manuscript source material on the basis of a self-liquidating project, under which the books were to be sold at cost to the general public. The recently completed seven volume set on the Quasi-War with France initiated the work, and the present volume is the first of a similar series on the Barbary Wars to carry the project forward. It is my earnest hope that the printing of naval manuscripts relating to the War of 1812 and other naval phases of our national life may follow.

These publications will be an invaluable source of reference and a step forward in bringing into clearer light the rugged determination of our forefathers that the national independence and just rights of the United States, especially on the great neutral highways of the sea, should be duly respected.



THE WHITE HOUSE,
30 December 1938.

PREFACE

This volume is the first of a projected series of documents relating to naval operations during the several wars between the United States and the former Barbary Powers of northern Africa, near the beginning of the nineteenth century. Our disturbed relations with these countries began soon after the Revolutionary War and continued until 1816, a period during which two other wars intervened—the Quasi-War with France and the War of 1812 with Great Britain.

Under the personal sponsorship of President Franklin D. Roosevelt and authorization by Congress, a series of naval documents on the French War has already been published and it is hoped that a similar one covering the War of 1812 will follow. Material relating to them has therefore been excluded from the present series on the Barbary Wars, except for a few documents indicating in a general way the restrictive influence of operations elsewhere upon our naval activity directly connected with the Barbary States.

Although Algerian warfare upon American commerce was responsible for laying down the first ships of our Navy (after the adoption of the Constitution) the vessels were uncompleted when a peace was negotiated in 1795. And it was not until the conclusion of hostilities with France in 1801 that any naval forces were available for warlike operations in the Mediterranean. Up to that time diplomacy was necessarily our only recourse with all four of the Barbary Powers with whom relations were constantly strained on account of their piratical attacks on our shipping and the enslavement of American prisoners. The need of backing up our diplomatic effort with the potential influence or actual use of naval power became increasingly imperative and apparent.

Unfortunately it has been possible to print only a comparatively few of the diplomatic documents, leading up to the wars, out of the great number available in the archives of the State Department. However the effort has been made to include a sufficient number of the more important ones to present an adequate diplomatic background to the hostilities and a proper diplomatic relationship to the naval operations. This will be the object throughout the series, and in addition a reasonable regard will be had for political, economic and other broad factors connected with naval affairs.

This first volume covers the naval operations through 1801, with the exception of those documents already published in the series pertaining to the Quasi-War with France. The more important naval events dealt with herein are the voyage of the U. S. S. *George Washington* from Algiers to Constantinople, under compulsion by the Dey of Algiers; the declaration of war by Tripoli against the United States; the sending of a squadron to the Mediterranean under the command of Commodore Richard Dale; the blockading, in the Bay of Gibraltar, of two Tripolitan cruisers under the command of Murad Reis; the engagement with and capture of the Tripolitan cruiser *Tripoli* by the U. S. Schooner *Enterprise*; and the blockade of the port of Tripoli.

As far as practicable the documents are arranged chronologically, and the dates of the communications generally determine their chronological arrangement. The exceptions are documents which bear dates later than the dates of the events which they describe. In such cases the dates of the events have been used to determine their chronology. It has been the endeavor to make the text of the printed document identical with the original or copy in the archives; spelling, punctuation and abbreviations, being reproduced as found in the originals or copies available. It may be well to note, however, that the spelling of proper names is in no way consistent, and that the capitalizations and punctuations found in the copies on file are not always identical with those appearing in the originals, the errors having been made at the time they were copied into the records.

Many organizations and individuals have generously cooperated in the preparation of this work. Besides proposing and sponsoring it in the first instance President Roosevelt has contributed his valuable time and advice towards its success, and has made his large personal collection of old naval manuscripts available for copying.

Government agencies to whose heads and subordinate personnel thanks are due for very helpful cooperation include the Library of Congress, especially its Division of Manuscripts, Rare Book Room, and Division of Maps; the National Archives, especially its Reference Division; the State Department, Archives Division; the General Accounting Office; the Veterans' Administration; the Naval Academy Library; the Naval Academy Museum; the Navy Hydrographic Office; the Marine Corps Historical Section; the Navy Yard, Portsmouth, New Hampshire; the Navy Yard, New York; the Navy Yard, Portsmouth, Virginia; the New York Public Library; the Boston Public Library; and the Historical Records Survey, Works Progress Administration.

Among many private organizations where collections have been made available and generous assistance rendered are the Naval History Section, New York Historical Society; the Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery; Pennsylvania Historical Society; Massachusetts Historical Society; the Peabody Museum; the Newport Historical Society; the American Antiquarian Society; the Maine Historical Society; the Fine Arts Museum of Pennsylvania; Haverford College; the Maryland Historical Society; the Yale University Library; and the Naval Historical Foundation.

Among numerous individuals who have been most helpful in the work are Doctor Gardner W. Allen; Mr. Stephen Decatur, 3rd; Mr. Edward C. Dale; Captain H. A. Baldrige, U. S. N.; Captain A. C. Stott, U. S. N.; Lieutenant Commander R. C. Bartman, U. S. N.; Mrs. James S. Barron; Mr. M. V. Brewington; Mr. Charles H. Taylor; Mr. Walter M. Whitehill; Lieutenant Colonel E. N. McClellan, U. S. M. C.; Captain Thomas G. Frothingham, O. R. C., U. S. A.; Mr. Charles Bittinger; Mrs. D. W. Knox; Rear Admiral M. H. Simons, U. S. N.; Rear Admiral David F. Sellers, U. S. N.; Commander Lucius C. Dunn, U. S. N.; Commander William D. Baker, U. S. N.; Mr. Charles M. Wright; Mr. John H. Kemble; Commander Charles Moran, U. S. N. R.; Mr. Barry H. Hepburn; Mr. Earl Hepburn; Mr. William Bell Clark; Mr. Frederick J. Bradlee; Mr. Sargent Bradlee; Mr. Walter G. Davis; Rear Admiral C. H. Woodward, U. S. N.; Mr.

Arthur H. Keyes; Mr. Stephen B. Luce; Dr. Vernon D. Tate; and Mr. I. N. Phelps Stokes.

A large part of the preparation of this volume has had the immediate supervision of Lieutenant Commander Frank E. Vensel, Jr., U. S. Navy, who has been assisted by Mr. Henry F. Lunenburg, Miss Loretta I. MacCrindle, Mrs. Alma R. Lawrence, Miss Catherine M. MacDonnell and Mrs. Clara R. Collins.

The printing of these naval records was authorized by acts of Congress approved March 15, 1934, and April 26, 1938, which contained the following provisions:

"Provided, That, in addition to the appropriation herein made for the Office of Naval Records and Library, there is hereby appropriated \$10,000 to begin printing historical and naval documents, including composition, clerical copying in the Navy Department, and other preparatory work, except that the 'usual number' for congressional distribution, depository libraries, and international exchanges shall not be printed, and no copies shall be available for free issue: Provided further, That the Superintendent of Documents is hereby authorized to sell copies at the prorated cost, including composition, clerical work of copying in the Navy Department and other work preparatory to printing without reference to the provisions of section 307 of the Act approved June 30, 1932 (U. S. C., Supp. VI, title 44, sec. 72a)."

"Printing Historical and Naval Documents.—For continuing the printing of historical and naval documents, including composition, clerical copying in the Navy Department, and other preparatory work, in accordance with the provisions of the appropriation made for the commencement of this work as contained in the Naval Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1935, \$12,000, together with the unexpended balance for this purpose for the fiscal year 1938: Provided, That nothing in such Act shall preclude the Public Printer from furnishing one hundred and fifty copies of each volume published to the Library of Congress."

DUDLEY W. KNOX,
Captain, U. S. Navy (Retired),
Officer in Charge of Office of Naval Records and Library,
Navy Department.

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ABBREVIATIONS INDEX TO SOURCES

A.....	Area.
Acct.....	Accountant.
Adv.....	Advertiser.
Am.....	American.
Appts.....	Appointments.
Bk.....	Book.
CL.....	Consular Letters, State Department Records.
Con. or Cong. LB.....	Congress Letter Book, Navy Department Archives.
Dale LB.....	Letter Book of Captain Richard Dale, U. S. Navy.
Dip. Cor.....	Diplomatic Correspondence, State Department Records.
Disp.....	Dispatches, State Department Records.
Dom. L.....	Domestic Letters, State Department Records.
For. Af.....	Foreign Affairs.
For. Rel.....	Foreign Relations.
GAO.....	General Accounting Office.
GLB.....	General Letter Book, Navy Department Archives.
H. E. Huntington L&AG.....	H. E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery.
HS.....	Historical Society.
HS of Mass.....	Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, Mass.
HS of Pa.....	Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.
Inst. to Min.....	Instructions to Ministers, State Department Records.
J. McH. P.....	J. McHenry Papers.
L.....	Letters.
L&AG.....	Library & Art Gallery.
LB.....	Letter Book.
LC.....	Library of Congress.
LR.....	Letters received, U. S. Marine Corps.
Mass. HS.....	Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, Mass.
MCA.....	United States Marine Corps Archives.
MR.....	Muster Roll.
Misc. L.....	Miscellaneous Letters.
NA.....	National Archives, Washington, D. C.
Nav. Af.....	Naval Affairs.
ND.....	Navy Department.
NDA.....	Navy Department Archives.
NHS.....	Naval History Section, New York Historical Society.
Nom.....	Nominations.
NR&L.....	Naval Records & Library, Navy Department.
NYHS.....	New York Historical Society, New York, N. Y.
NYPL.....	New York Public Library, New York, N. Y.
OSW.....	Letters to Officers of Ships of War, Navy Department Archives.
SDA.....	State Department Records in National Archives.

NAVAL OPERATIONS

1785-1801

WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS

NAVAL OPERATIONS

FROM 1785 TO 1801

WAR WITH THE BARBARY POWERS

[25 July 1785]

List of American Prisoners at Algiers 9 July 1790 with the sums demanded by the Regency for their Ransom

CREW OF THE SHIP *DOLPHIN* [OR *DAUPHIN*] CAPTURED 30th JULY 1785. —

Richard OBryan.....	Captain.....	Ransom demanded.....	Z ^r 2000 —
Andrew Montgomery.....	Mate.....	.....	1500
Jacob Tessanier.....	French passenger.....	.....	2000
William Paterson.....	Seaman—(Keeps a Tavern).....	.....	1500
Philip Sloan.....	“.....	.....	725
Pilig Lorin.....	“.....	.....	725
John Robertson.....	“.....	.....	725
James Hall [or Hull].....	“.....	.....	725

CREW OF THE SCHOONER *MARY* [OR *MARIA*] TAKEN 25th JULY 1785.

Isaac Stephens.....	Captain.....	.....	2000
Alexander Forsyth.....	Mate.....	.....	1500
James Cathcart.....	Seaman—(Keeps a Tavern).....	.....	900
George Smith.....	“ (in the Kings house).....	.....	725
John Gregory.....	“.....	.....	725
James Hornet.....	“.....	.....	725

Algerine Zequines.....	16475
duty on the above sum 10 p ^r %.....	1647½
Sundry gratifications to Officers of the Deys household and Regency, equal to 17½ Z ^r each person.....	240½

34792–28/38 Mexicoe dollars @ 38 Mozunas each are Zequins.....	18362½
--	--------

[SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. 1, April 1791–Dec. 1795.]

To Thomas Jefferson, U. S. Minister to Paris, France, from Richard O'Brien,
Algiers

(Copy)

N^o 1.

ALGIERS June 8th 1786

THOMAS JEFFERSON Esq^r —

HONOURED SIR I take the Liberty of addressing these letters to you hoping you will excuse the freedom of an American &c. and unfortunate captive at present. No doubt but M^r Lamb has given you and M^r Adams every particular information respecting the state of affairs in Algiers. I am much surprized when I look at the date of your letter to us being the 4th of November & with orders to M^r Lamb to redeem us Americans. I am surprized that from the 4th of November until the 20th of March that M^r Lamb did not get our redemption ascertained by some person in Algiers. But he retarding

the time until he could make it convenient to come himself and not informing himself of the method generally used towards the redemption of captives, but on the contrary comes to Algiers and gives out that he came to redeem the Americans.

It was immediately signified to the Dey that M^r Lamb had brought money for that purport, it became such a town talk that the Dey hardly knew what sum to ask. after a few days the Dey asks what sum M^r Lamb would give. M^r Lamb signified he would give ten thousand dollars. the Dey then said 50,000. I think the demand was very a propos to the offer of M^r Lamb. M^r Lamb tried to get the Dey to lower his price, but the Dey was determined not to lower his price any thing worth mentioning.

We are much surprised that M^r Lamb should bring so trifling a sum as five or six thousand dollars to redeem 21. Even if the Dey had let us go agreeable to your calculation he could not have redeemed us. But M^r Lamb when he first arrived told us he would get us along in a few days, which much disappointed us, for he afterwards told us he had no money to redeem us. what he had was for presents if he succeeded in a cessation of hostilities with this Regency. one time he would say his funds were in Holland — then in Spain, and then that you & M^r Adams had given no power only to draw for £3300 st^{ls} & that M^r Randal must write the order. so that in his own language his hands were tyed by the ministers. I believe the Dey of Algiers was well convinced that Americans would give the sum he asked. I have reason to suspect that the Dey had a hint conveyed to him by the British Consul, who you may be assured is an inveterate enemy to the Americans. about 5 months ago I wrote M^r Carmichael that the British Consul had put himself to great trouble in sending expresses to his court. about that time was the first time that he knew that it was the intention of the Americans to sue for a peace with the Barbary States. It is not the interest of any commercial nation that the Americans should obtain a peace with the Barbary States, whilst they reap such benefits in being the carriers of our commerce, particularly the English, French & Spanish being jealous of us. Consider Sir what great insurance we pay in getting our vessels insured. in a short time the great insurance we pay would obtain us a peace, or our ships obliged to be sold or with the greatest difficulty in procuring English registers and passes — if not soon remedied our trade must fall into some other chanel. and with the greatest difficulty we shall retrieve it again, our seamen having no longer employment in the United states but must through necessity seek a living in some other country. The British Consul I think informs his court respecting the time when the Algerine cruisers generally go out by that means the people of England take the greatest advantage on insuring American property. and is their policy & benefit to spread the alarm much greater than it really is. there is no danger of our commerce being prevented by the Algerines if we keep clear of the streights, coasts of Spain & Portugal and the Madeiras. we may trade to France, England, Holland, Sweden and any where to the N. of 44° N. Lat^{de}

The Algerine cruisers generally go out in April but uncommon they went out the 25th of May this year. they generally make three cruises a year finish about the 20th November & then unrig & ly by until the next year. the Algerines have no merchant ships or vessels

for trade excepting a few coasting craft which go along shore with wheat &c the French being their carriers in commerce & nothing great. their marine strength is nine sail of xebecs, one of 32 guns, one of 30. three of 24 and three of 18. and one of 12 guns — the vessels are small to the metal they carry. $\frac{1}{2}$ of the crews are Turks. the remainder Algerine Moors.

A war with the Algerines would be a very expensive war they having no merchant men it would be attended with a very great expence, on our side the expence of building a force adequate to the Algerines to get men to keep that force in commission. and still it would be a great risque to trade, you are fully sensible the sum it would take to redeem a few — and then it would alter the insurance but trifling.

The United States should use every means to obtain a peace with the Barbary States, although it would cost vast sums, for until all obstacles are removed that prevent commerce we cannot expect to be a commercial nation. it is bad policy to use any threats or make any parade with cruisers if we intend suing for a peace, but on the contrary let these people see that we are inclinable for a peace — no doubt but it was great policy in the Dey to refuse M^r Lamb at first on the terms of peace. consider Sir the policy of this Regency in all their transactions with the Christian nations. but I believe they are inclinable to a peace with the Americans but should for political views be negociated very private, particularly by the Americans. I believe they gave M^r Lamb sufficient reason to believe so. they seem well inclined to a peace with us, and I believe would take some naval stores as masts, yards, planks, scantling, tar & turpentine. the English, French, Dutch, Danes & Swedes and I may say all nations are tributary to them — making them valuable presents & supplying them. The Algerines would never redeem or make an exchange with any nation they should be at war with. the Dey of Algiers cares not about his people particularly the Moors. the Turks he sets a little store by. those nations that he has been at war with for ages have experienced it. it is the policy of Christian nations to keep those nations of Turks & Moors at war with other Christian Nations. and the people in general here wish for a war with those nations in the streights, for I am sure that nothing but so great a sum as the Spaniards are to give would reconcile those people to the Spaniards, they having such an inveteracy against them for persecuting the Mahometan religion — but money is the God of Algiers & Mahomet their prophet. they like those nations that they are afraid of & that give them most. But should the Algerines be influenced by the commercial Christian nations not to make a peace with the United States, then we should exert ourselves & fit out ships mounting about 24. guns. nine of that force and two brigs, a schooner also — fast sailing vessels & have them coppered for the sooner we would harrass those people the better for we should if so lucky as to take two or three of them. they would be inclinable to a peace and on easier terms for us. To rendezvous at Mahon & Gibraltar, and often to come in sight of Algiers. and I make no doubt when they found a spirited nation against them they would alter their opinion. not to be afraid of them like unto those dastardly nations, that have given them such reason to boast of a superiority in courage to Christians. The Algerines have 55. gun boats in case of an invasion or attack on the city which is very strong

being well fortified & I think they are a tolerable smart active people, spirited in an attack, but with any thing of a warm reception easily repulsed. they put great confidence in boarding therefore ought to be well barracked. if they can avoid an action it is their choice to be off.

The Algerines do not expect to derive any great advantage by being at war with the Americans, our country being so far situated from them, they will not attempt to approach our coasts. they have very little Idea of America and I believe the British Consuls used their influence in signifying to the Algerines the unjustness of our cause, but since we arrived here we used our influence to convince them of the justness of our quarrel which they say that if they were in our situation they would do the same. There is a great difference between negotiating with those people and a Christian nation. the foundation of all treaties should be laid by some person or Consul in Algiers that knows how to treat with them for there are certain times & seasons for those affairs. The Dey's sentiments always ought to be well sounded and the sentiments of his ministers and head men for it is by them all business is transacted with him for they have the Dey's ear at command particularly the Causennage who is head minister. the Micklassha is the next. he is son in law to the Causennage and is Generalissimo of all the Fortifications — entire direction of the Marine — a particular favorite of the Dey, and I think no man fills his office better. a valuable present to the Micklassha & Causennage chosen by some man that is well acquainted with what suits those men best. I am sure it would be very requisite & not hove away. The Dey is well advanced in years, and I am sure when he goes to his long home that there will be a very great change in the state of affairs in this Regency. The Causennage will be his successor & the Micklassha will be the prime minister. If anyone knows those peoples policy I should think the Count D'Expilly does; being a year here negotiating the Spanish peace & has had so many conferences with the Dey & his ministers. he has got the great men in office on his side. Give a Turk money with one hand & you may take his Eyes out with the other.

Since the Brig arrived from Tunis which is the brig which M^r Lamb came to Algiers in, the brig was overhauled & the Captain examined by the Micklassha respecting the property. I am credibly informed by a Gentleman by the name of Capt. Bassline, who is a great favorite of the Micklassha's, that the Micklassha was well convinced by the information he had that the brig was an American property, which I heard the evening the brig arrived in Algiers. but the Micklassha despised any such mean action but signified to the Dey that the report was false. I hope this particular favor shewn the Americans by the Micklassha will not escape your notice but by every prudent step cultivate the friendship of so great & so good a man. The information by all I can learn & I have every reason to believe was given by the British Consul, M^r Lamb's bosom friend. it is said & I have been credibly informed that M^r Logie had the information from a M^r Gregory British Consul in Barcelona, and I should think it a very dangerous affair for the brig to come to Algiers again particularly with money for or redemption as there is no knowing the policy and political views of those people in Algiers. Permit me to mention to you that if it was not convenient to redeem us when the

time is advanced which M^r Lamb signified to the Dey that it would be good policy to get us on the Spanish list as the Spaniards have not yet agreed on the price for their people; and inasmuch as the Count D'Expilly may get us for less than what the Dey asks, and as we were taken on the time when the Spaniards were about settling a truce unknown to the Americans. Delays breed danger & opportunity once lost is not easily recovered, and our captivity will become an old affair and here we shall remain.

The American peace hangs on a thread but I make no doubt if well planned but the United States will obtain it.

The Neapolitan & Portuguese Ambassadors are shortly expected here, it is uncertain that they will obtain a peace, but if they do I will engage the Portuguese particularly will pay well for it. The Spaniards have not surmounted all their difficulties yet with those people. but I believe it will take some time yet — a few days ago arrived a Venitian & a French Vessel with shot &c. for the Dey. The Venitian brought their tribute which was about 10,000 Algerine sequins and about 5,000 dollars worth of presents, but they accepted the tribute & I believe would not accept the presents. so that it is supposed when the Algerines settle with the Spaniards that they will be apt to commit hostilities on the Venitians. such tricks are very common to them.

It is believed M^r John Wolfe will not get to be Spanish Consul in Algiers, but I am very sure he is a very good man; no one in Algiers better acquainted with the ways & policy of this Regency and would be a very fit man to transact any business for any nation. I refer you to M^r Carmichael & M^r Randall for his character and must observe that there is no doing any thing among those people without money. all the crowned heads in Europe to write to the Dey of Algiers would avail but very little. to negotiate a peace with the Algerines should be a statesman well acquainted with the different languages. but as I have said before the foundation should be laid by some Consul in Algiers whom the United States could depend on and then an American to come & conclude it. A good Consul is very requisite here.

We are much surprized at M^r Lamb's ungentleman like behaviour whilst he was in Algiers & could hardly believe Congress would [have] sent such a man to negociate so important an affair as the making a peace with the Algerines where it required the most able Statesman & Politician.

The Count disapproved of his behaviour much & said he was a very uncapable man to treat for the redemption of us & worse for making the peace. A man that has no regularity in small affairs will have none in great ones. There is no Consul or man that has the least friendship for the Americans but says he was a very unable man & not the gentleman, which I believe sir, when we can make such an observation on him we are sensible that a man of your abilities can have no great opinion of him.

M^r Lamb's unguarded expressions, his hints, threats &c. despising the French & Spaniards, signifying their deciet & in fact every thing that he possibly could utter in the most vulgar language that it was with pain we see him so unworthy of his commission & the cloth he wore. his particular intimacy with M^r Logie the British Consul, M^r Lamb's bosom friend who I believe got all his secrets from him said often that the Americans had taken two forts on the Mississippi from the Spaniards and often in the hearing of some servants who

spoke English that if the Spaniards did not assist the Americans in making their peace that we should take some of their territory from them. no doubt but the Count was informed of all this. for one of M^r Lamb's servants is servant to the Count at present, & M^r Lamb often said in my presence to M^r Wolfe that he (meaning M^r Wolfe) or the Count would have all the honor of laying the foundation of the peace.

Sir we are very sensible of your particular attention to us, & through your & M^r Carmichaels care of us, we are indebted for the particular civility & attention of the C^t D'Expilly & French Consul. But still it is impossible for us to be content whilst we are under the character of slaves, so disagreeable is confinement to the men of the Land of Liberty. My crew go through the severities of slavery that is possible for men to endure. Capt^s Stevens & Coffin have families. & at present unknown how provided for. I have an aged mother, brother & sisters. that their whole dependance & subsistence was on me. certainly the longer we stay here the greater expence we shall incur on our country. If we do not make our grievances known to you sir I am sure who can we apply to we have wrote to America when we were first taken, but not one of us has received a letter & cannot tell what our country has resolved on respecting us. we must submit to our hard fate & trust to God & our country to extricate us from Algiers. I hope M^r Barclay will succeed with the Maroccians — their situation being more in the way of annoying us than the Algerines. I am surprized M^r Lamb did not pay M^r Logie the small sum of about 5 guineas which M^r Logie paid to the marine for excluding us from it. M^r Lamb often insisted M^r Logie to make some charge, but at last Logie made a charge & M^r Lamb did not pay him.

* * * * *

M^r Wolfe will have occasion to write M^r Carmichael respecting money he having orders from M^r Lamb to supply the captives & nothing to do it with. also M^r Wolfe will give an account of our expences &c. The Cruisers are out at present. we are treated with the greatest civility by all the French & Spaniards here.

An account how we are situated & where

4. of us at the house of Mons^r Ford

7. in the Dey's palace

9. in the marine

1. at the Swedish Consuls —

I am with the greatest Respect & Esteem your
most obedient & humble servant

(Signed) RICH^d O'BRYEN

(Subjoined as follows)

Signed { ZACH^s COFFIN
ISAAC STEVENS

[SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part I, April 1785–July 1795.]

[28 June 1786 and 18 July 1787]

Morocco—Treaty

[NOTE—A Treaty between Morocco and the United States was sealed at Morocco by the Emperor of Morocco 23 June, 1786 and delivered to Thomas Barclay, U. S. Agent, 28 June, 1786. Here also were signed and sealed on behalf of Morocco an additional Article on 15 July, 1786, and a Ship-Signals Agreement on 6 July, 1786. The Treaty and additional article were ratified by the United States 18 July, 1787.

"Treaties and other International Acts of the United States of America", by Hunter Miller, volume 2, contains all details concerning this treaty.]

Extracts from certified translation of the treaty and of the additional article, approved by Thomas Jefferson and John Adams

.1.

* * * * *

.2.

If either of the Parties shall be at War with any Nation whatever, the other Party shall not take a Commission from the Enemy nor fight under their Colors.

.3.

If either of the Parties shall be at War with any Nation whatever and take a Prize belonging to that Nation, and there shall be found on board Subjects or Effects belonging to either of the Parties, the Subjects shall be set at Liberty and the Effects returned to the Owners. And if any Goods belonging to any Nation, with whom either of the Parties shall be at War, shall be loaded on Vessels belonging to the other Party, they shall pass free and unmolested without any attempt being made to take or detain them.

.4.

A Signal or Pass shall be given to all Vessels belonging to both Parties, by which they are to be known when they meet at Sea, and if the Commander of a Ship of War of either Party shall have other Ships under his Convoy, the Declaration of the Commander shall alone be sufficient to exempt any of them from examination.

* * * * *

.6.

If any Moor shall bring Citizens of the United States or their Effects to His Majesty, the Citizens shall immediately be set at Liberty and the Effects restored, and in like Manner, if any Moor not a Subject of these Dominions shall make Prize of any of the Citizens of America or their Effects and bring them into any of the Ports of His Majesty, they shall be immediately released, as they will then be considered as under His Majesty's Protection.

.7.

If any Vessel of either Party shall put into a Port of the other and have occasion for Provisions or other Supplies, they shall be furnished without any interruption or molestation.

.8.

If any Vessel of the United States shall meet with a Disaster at Sea and put into one of our Ports to repair, she shall be at Liberty to land and reload her cargo, without paying any Duty whatever.

.9.

If any Vessel of the United States shall be cast on Shore on any Part of our Coasts, she shall remain at the disposition of the Owners and no one shall attempt going near her without their Approbation, as she is then considered particularly under our Protection; and if any Vessel of the United States shall be forced to put into our Ports, by Stress of

weather or otherwise, she shall not be compelled to land her Cargo, but shall remain in tranquillity untill the Commander shall think proper to proceed on his Voyage.

* * * * *

.11.

If we shall be at War with any Christian Power and any of our Vessels sail from the Ports of the United States, no Vessel belonging to the enemy shall follow untill twenty four hours after the Departure of our Vessels; and the same Regulation shall be observed towards the American Vessels sailing from our Ports.—be their enemies Moors or Christians.

.12.

If any Ship of War belonging to the United States shall put into any of our Ports, she shall not be examined on any Pretence whatever, even though she should have fugitive Slaves on Board, nor shall the Governor or Commander of the Place compel them to be brought on Shore on any pretext, nor require any payment for them.

.13.

If a Ship of War of either Party shall put into a Port of the other and salute, it shall be returned from the Fort, with an equal Number of Guns, not with more or less.

.14.

The Commerce with the United States shall be on the same footing as is the Commerce with Spain or as that with the most favored Nation for the time being and their Citizens shall be respected and esteemed and have full Liberty to pass and repass our Country and Sea Ports whenever they please without interruption.

.15.

Merchants of both Countries shall employ only such interpreters, & such other Persons to assist them in their Business, as they shall think proper. No Commander of a Vessel shall transport his Cargo on board another Vessel, he shall not be detained in Port, longer than he may think proper, and all persons employed in loading or unloading Goods or in any other Labor whatever, shall be paid at the Customary rates, not more and not less.

.16.

In case of a War between the Parties, the Prisoners are not to be made Slaves, but to be exchanged one for another, Captain for Captain, Officer for Officer and one private Man for another; and if there shall prove a deficiency on either side, it shall be made up by the payment of one hundred Mexican Dollars for each Person wanting; And it is agreed that all Prisoners shall be exchanged in twelve Months from the Time of their being taken, and that this exchange may be effected by a Merchant or any other Person authorized by either of the Parties.

.17.

Merchants shall not be compelled to buy or Sell any kind of Goods but such as they shall think proper; and may buy and sell all sorts of Merchandise but such as are prohibited to the other Christian Nations.

* * * * *

.19.

No vessel shall be detained in Port on any pretence whatever, nor be obliged to take on board any Article without the consent of the Commander, who shall be at full Liberty to agree for the Freight of any Goods he takes on board.

.20.

If any of the Citizens of the United States, or any Persons under their Protection, shall have any disputes with each other, the Consul shall decide between the Parties and whenever the Consul shall require any Aid or Assistance from our Government to enforce his decisions it shall be immediately granted to him.

.21.

If a Citizen of the United States should kill or wound a Moor, or on the contrary if a Moor shall kill or wound a Citizen of the United States, the Law of the Country shall take place and equal Justice shall be rendered, the Consul assisting at the Tryal, and if any Delinquent shall make his escape, the Consul shall not be answerable for him in any manner whatever.

* * * * *

.24.

If any differences shall arise by either Party infringing on any of the Articles of this Treaty, Peace and Harmony shall remain notwithstanding in the fullest force, untill a friendly Application shall be made for an Arrangement, and untill that Application shall be rejected, no appeal shall be made to Arms. And if a War shall break out between the Parties, Nine Months shall be granted to all the Subjects of both Parties, to dispose of their Effects and retire with their Property. And it is further declared that whatever indulgences in Trade or otherwise shall be granted to any of the Christian Powers, the Citizens of the United States shall be equally entitled to them.

.25.

This Treaty shall continue in full Force, with the help of God for Fifty Years. * * *

THO^S BARCLAY

Translation of the additional Article

Grace to the only God

I the underwritten the Servant of God, Taher Ben Abdelhack Fennish do certify that His Imperial Majesty my Master /whom God preserve/ having concluded a Treaty of Peace and Commerce with the United States of America has ordered me the better to compleat it and in addition of the tenth Article of the Treaty to declare "That, "if any Vessel belonging to the United States shall be in any of the "Ports of His Majesty's Dominions, or within Gunshot of his Forts, "she shall be protected as much as possible and no Vessel whatever "belonging either to Moorish or Christian Powers with whom the "United States may be at War, shall be permitted to follow or engage "her, as we now deem the Citizens of America our good Friends.

* * * * *

["Treaties, * * * ", by Hunter Miller.]

To John Adams, U. S. Minister to London, England, from Thomas Jefferson,
U. S. Minister to Paris, France

PARIS, *July 11, 1786.*

DEAR SIR, — Our instructions relative to the Barbary States having required us to proceed by way of negotiation to obtain their peace, it became our duty to do this to the best of our power. Whatever might be our private opinions, they were to be suppressed, and the line, marked out to us, was to be followed. It has been so, honestly and zealously. It was, therefore, never material for us to consult together, on the best plan of conduct towards these States. I acknowledge, I very early thought it would be best to effect a peace through the medium of war. Though it is a question with which we have nothing to do, yet as you propose some discussion of it, I shall trouble you with my reasons. Of the four positions laid down in your letter of the 3d instant, I agree to the three first, which are, in substance, that the good offices of our friends cannot procure us a peace, without paying its price; that they cannot materially lessen that price; and that paying it, we can have the peace in spite of the intrigues of our enemies. As to the fourth, that the longer the negotiation is delayed, the larger will be the demand; this will depend on the intermediate captures: if they are many and rich, the price may be raised; if few and poor, it will be lessened. However, if it is decided that we shall buy a peace, I know no reason for delaying the operation, but should rather think it ought to be hastened; but I should prefer the obtaining it by war.

1. Justice is in favor of this opinion. 2. Honor favors it. 3. It will procure us respect in Europe; and respect is a safeguard to interest. 4. It will arm the federal head with the safest of all the instruments of coercion over its delinquent members, and prevent it from using what would be less safe. I think that so far, you go with me. But in the next steps, we shall differ. 5. I think it least expensive. 6. Equally effectual. I ask a fleet of one hundred and fifty guns, the one-half of which shall be in constant cruise. This fleet, built, manned and victualled for six months will cost four hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling. Its annual expense will be three hundred pounds sterling a gun, including everything; this will be forty-five thousand pounds sterling a year. I take British experience for the basis of my calculation: though we know, from our own experience, that we can do in this way, for pounds lawful, what costs them pounds sterling. Were we to charge all this to the Algerine war, it would amount to little more than we must pay, if we buy peace. But as it is proper and necessary that we should establish a small marine force, (even were we to buy a peace from the Algerines,) and as that force, laid up in our dock-yards, would cost us half as much annually, as if kept in order for service, we have a right to say that only twenty-two thousand and five hundred pounds sterling, per annum, should be charged to the Algerine war. 6. It will be as effectual. To all the mismanagements of Spain and Portugal, urged to show that war against those people is ineffectual, I urge a single fact to prove the contrary, where there is any management. About forty years ago, the Algerines having broke their treaty with France, this court sent Monsieur de Massiac, with one large, and two small frigates; he blockaded the harbor of Algiers three months, and they subscribed to the terms he

proposed. If it be admitted, however, that war, on the fairest prospects, is still exposed to uncertainties, I weigh against this, the greater uncertainty of the duration of a peace bought with money, from such a people, from a Dey eighty years old, and by a nation who, on the hypothesis of buying peace, is to have no power on the sea, to enforce an observance of it.

So far, I have gone on the supposition that the whole weight of this war would rest on us. But, 1. Naples will join us. The character of their naval minister (Acton), his known sentiments with respect to the peace Spain is officiously trying to make for them, and his dispositions against the Algerines, give the best grounds to believe it. 2. Every principle of reason assures us that Portugal will join us. I state this as taking for granted, what all seem to believe, that they will not be at peace with Algiers. I suppose, then, that a convention might be formed between Portugal, Naples and the United States, by which the burthen of the war might be quoaded on them, according to their respective wealth; and the term of it should be, when Algiers should subscribe to a peace with all three, on equal terms. This might be left open for other nations to accede to, and many, if not most of the powers of Europe, (except France, England, Holland, and Spain, if her peace be made) would sooner or later enter into the confederacy, for the sake of having their peace with the piratical States guaranteed by the whole. I suppose, that, in this case, our proportion of force would not be the half of what I first calculated on.

These are the reasons which have influenced my judgment on this question. I give them to you, to show you that I am imposed on by a semblance of reason, at least; and not with an expectation of their changing your opinion. You have viewed the subject, I am sure, in all its bearing. You have weighed both questions, with all their circumstances. You make the result different from what I do. The same facts impress us differently. This is enough to make me suspect an error in my process of reasoning, though I am not able to detect it. It is of no consequence; as I have nothing to say in the decision, and am ready to proceed heartily on any other plan which may be adopted, if my agency should be thought useful. With respect to the dispositions of the State, I am utterly uninformed. I cannot help thinking, however, that on a view of all the circumstances, they might be united in either of the plans.

Having written this on the receipt of your letter, without knowing of any opportunity of sending it, I know not when it will go; I add nothing, therefore, on any other subject, but assurances of the sincere esteem and respect with which I am, dear Sir, your friend and servant.

[NR&L, Jefferson's Complete Works, Vol. 1.]

To Thomas Jefferson, U. S. Minister to Paris, France, from John Adams, U. S. Minister to London, England

LONDON, 31 July, 1786.

DEAR SIR, — I have received the ratification of the Prussian treaty, and next Thursday shall set off for the Hague, in order to exchange it with the Baron de Thulemeier.

Your favor of the 11th instant I have received. There are great and weighty considerations urged in it in favor of arming against the Algerines, and, I confess, if our States could be brought to agree in the measure, I should be very willing to resolve upon external war with

vigor, and protect our trade and people. The resolution to fight them would raise the spirits and courage of our countrymen immediately, and we might obtain the glory of finally breaking up these nests of banditti. But congress will never, or at least not for years, take any such resolution, and in the mean time our trade and honor suffers beyond calculation. We ought not to fight them at all, unless we determine to fight them forever.

This thought, I fear, is too rugged for our people to bear. To fight them at the expense of millions, and make peace, after all, by giving more money and larger presents than would now procure perpetual peace, seems not to be economical. Did Monsieur de Massac carry his point without making the presents? Has not France made presents ever since? Did any nation ever make peace with any one Barbary state without making the presents? Is there an example of it? I believe not, and fancy you will find that even Massac himself made the presents.

I agree in opinion of the wisdom and necessity of a navy for other uses, but am apprehensive it will make bad worse with the Algerines. I will go all lengths with you in promoting a navy, whether to be applied to the Algerines or not. But I think, at the same time, we should treat. Your letter, however, has made me easier upon this point. Nevertheless, to humble the Algerines, I think you have undercalculated the force necessary. They have now fifty gun-boats, which, being small objects against great ships, are very formidable.* None of these existed in the time of Monsieur Massac. The harbor of Algiers, too, is fortified all round, which it was not in M. Massac's time, which renders it more difficult and dangerous to attempt a blockade. I know not what dependence is to be put upon Portugal and Naples, in case of a war with the barbarians; perhaps they might assist us in some degree. Blocking Algiers would not obtain peace with Morocco; so that our commerce would still be exposed.

After all, though I am glad we have exchanged a letter on the subject, I perceive that neither force nor money will be applied. Our States are so backward, that they will do nothing for some years. If they get money enough to discharge the demands upon them in Europe already incurred, I shall be agreeably disappointed. A disposition seems rather to prevail among our citizens to give up all ideas of navigation and naval power, and lay themselves consequently at the mercy of foreigners, even for the prices of their produce. It is their concern, and we must submit; for your plan of fighting will no more be adopted, than mine of treating. This is more humiliating to me than giving the presents would be. I have a letter from Mr. Jay of 7th July, by packet, containing nothing but an acknowledgment of our letter of 25th April. New Hampshire and Rhode Island have suspended their navigation acts, and Massachusetts, now left alone, will suspend theirs. So that all will be left to the convention, whose system, if they form one, will not be completed, adopted, and begin to operate, under several years. Congress have received the answer, which you saw, to my memorial of 30th November; and Mr. Ramsay writes me he is not distressed at it, because it will produce a repeal of all the laws against recovering private debts.

* Mr. Tucker, in his *Life of Jefferson*, has sufficiently contrasted the opinions expressed in this letter, and in that to which it is in answer, with the positions respectively taken by the parties at a later period. But he does not show that the

argument of Mr. Adams is one of expediency, drawn solely from the condition of the country at the moment, and in no way militates with his later action. Mr. Jefferson's letter is one of the best he ever wrote. It is printed in Mr. Randolph's collection of his writings. Vol. ii, p. 37.

[NR&L, The Life and Works of John Adams, Vol. VIII.]

[About 16 August 1786?]

To the Congress of the United States from the Emperor of Morocco

[Translation]

In the Name of God! Mahomet, Ben-Abdala!

Most illustrious Congress of America,

We have received your letter by the hands of your ambassador, and perused its contents with all due attention. We have remarked therein the inclination you express of concluding with us a treaty of peace. To this we willingly have assented, and even ratified the plans, such as you have proposed, by setting thereunto our imperial seal. Wherefore, we have, from that very moment, given strict command to the captains of our ports, to protect and assist all ships under American colours, and in short, to shew them every favour, due to the most friendly powers; being fully determined to do much, when an opportunity offers. We write this in full testimony of our sincere friendship, and of the peace which we offer on our part.

Given the 20th day of Ramadan, in the year of the Hegira, 1200.

[NDA. Rare Bk Wa: 'H 673.]

To William Carmichael, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires in Spain, from Richard O'Brien, Algiers

(Copy)

ALGIERS Sept. the 13th 1786

SIR, Your letter dated in St Ildefonso of the 29th Aug. I recieved yesterday by the Spanish packet-boat, & am much obliged to you for writing to me. We are very sensible of your particular attention in every respect to serve us unfortunate Americans, & we are confident that it is through your means & the particular humanity of the Count D'Expilly that we & our crews are comfortably provided for.

* * * * *

Four weeks ago we learned by the master of a Swedish Ship from Alicant that M^r Lamb had sent the brig with his despatches for Congress & that he expected an answer shortly. We recieved a letter from him yesterday dated in Alicant of the 7th Inst. he informs us that matters turned out so that he sent the brig for America, & that he expected shortly to have new orders. I am very confident that M^r Adams & M^r Jefferson acted for the best, but I take the liberty of mentioning to you that it was badly planned & worse executed, but I am much surprized that they were not better informed respecting affairs in Algiers. From M^r Jefferson's letter he expected that we would be redeemed & wished us a happy sight of our country. M^r Lamb said & shewed me his orders that M^r Lamb's limits were only 100 dollars for a sailor. I am sure no man could think we possibly could be redeemed at that price. M^r Lamb declared he had but 6000 dollars, & that was not appropriated for us, but for presents to these peoples. I have mentioned you in the proper manner to M^r Wolfe. he has been unwell these five weeks. M^r Wolfe also has mentioned

you in very friendly language to us, & has a very great opinion of your abilities & that you had behaved with great zeal to serve your country.

We are losing a very favorable opportunity in Algiers respecting paving the way towards our peace which is of very great importance to the United States. perhaps the ministers have some other plan in view. M^r Lamb's plan was to set all Europe a fighting or to take some of the Spanish territory in America & thereby oblige the Spaniards to make our peace. he ought not to have thought it much more say it.

* * *

I am informed that M^r Barclay has effected a peace with Morocco. I hope it may be so, their situation being more detrimental to our commerce than the Algerines. The Algerine cruisers of nine sail of che-becks sailed the 14th of August and to this date has but sent in one prize which was a small vessel of 40 ton belonging to Sardinia. their number on board was 14 men & a woman, supposed of some rank. I hope no American will be so unlucky as to fall in their way as nothing would be more detrimental to the peace & our redemption. I am informed by the master of a vessel lately from Gibraltar that there had been a ship belonging to Baltimore or Philadelphia there loaded with flour & that after discharging her cargo, she sailed for Malaga. I wish they would be more sparing of their American colours in the streights. It is well known in Algiers that such vessels are in Spain.

* * * * *

Respecting the Portuguese M^r Logie says the Dey would not listen to any proposition the Count made, for he said & they generally say here that they have made too much peace, & that if they were to make a peace with the Portuguese that they would have no nation worth cruising against. It seems reasonable to me this regency will be always at war with some nations that they are not afraid of being invaded by, & it is greatly in favor of the American peace that we are so far situated from them that they cannot go on our coasts, not like those nations in the streights that the Algerines in 36 hours are on their coasts & successful in taking prizes. The Dey said to the Count when he asked for a peace for the Neapolitans that he would miramus, or see about it. Those people will not have many negociations on hand at one time; they want to get done with one thing first, before they begin another. * * *

We are treated with a great deal of civility by the French consul and M^r Gimong a French merchant here. Mons^r Ford the gentleman we are boarded with is a worthy respectable character & does every thing in his power to make our situation agreeable. I hope the French & Spanish will experience the like return & be treated with much lenity in America. We are four at M^r Ford's, five in the Dey's house and one at the Swedish consuls and eleven in the marine, where the poor men endure the severities of slavery. I wrote a long letter by the Count to M^r Jefferson, but have no answer as yet. * * *

[SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part I, April 1785-July 1795.]

To whom not indicated in manuscript, from Richard O'Brien, Algiers

(Copy)

ALGIERS April the 28th 1787

SIR It is my unfortunate lot to write you many letters from Algiers but since the pest rages so much, I take the liberty of informing you of the lamentable situation of my crew in the marine where they are

employed on the most laborious work & so much exhausted that if some speedy measure is not adopted to redeem them from slavery I am afraid they will all be carried off by the pest, as it rages much, on the 22^d of this month there died 215 people in Algiers, & in those three months past there have died 200 christian slaves. The Spaniards & Neapolitans having redeemed their people there are at present but 800 slaves belonging to Bylicke & about 120 slaves belonging to private property. Therefore we expect to be called to the marine as there is a scarcity of slaves at present to do the requisite duty on board the Algerine cruisers. One of my crew is dead and another after having the pest 14 days with two large buboes on him it has pleased God that he should recover. * * * It is my sincere opinion that the Dey & his Ministers consider that they made a regular bargain with M^r Lamb for our ransom, & I believe it is recorded so on the public books of this regency, & should not be surprized if another American Ambassador was to come to Algiers, at the Dey's telling him he had made one bargain already with the Americans, which they did not fulfill.

It seems the Neapolitan Ambassador had obtained a truce with this Regency for three months, & the Ambassador wrote his court of his success, but about the 1st of April when the cruisers were fitting out the Ambassador went to the Dey & hoped the Dey would give the necessary orders to the Captains of his cruisers not to take the Neapolitan vessels. the Dey said the meaning of the truce was for not to take the Neapolitan cruisers, but if his chebecs should meet the Neapolitan merchantmen to take them & send them for Algiers. The Ambassador said that the Neapolitan cruisers would not want a pass on those terms. the Dey said if his chebecs should meet either men of war or merchant vessels to take them, so gave orders accordingly. The Algerines sailed the 9th inst. & are gone I believe off the coast of Italy. This shews there is very little confidence to be put in the royal word. no principle of national honor will bind those people & I believe not much confidence to be put in them in treaties. The Algerines are not inclinable to a peace, with the Neapolitans. I hear of no negotiation. when the two frigates arrive with the money for the ransom of the slaves I believe they are done with the Neapolitans. The[y] being so handily situated to them, in 24 hours the cruisers are on the coasts of Italy, which is a great inducement for not making a peace. On the 23^d inst. arrived a Neapolitan prize to the Algerines, & on the 25th arrive a Neapolitan Jittan [or Jithan] a prize. They were taken near the gulph of Genoa. The crews of them escaped with their boats. This is a great inducement to the Algerines not to make a peace with the Neapolitans, & the Algerines being under no dread of a bombardment on their city, therefore if they should obtain a peace, the terms will certainly be very high. It certainly makes a great difference with these people, a making peace with Naples or America. for they well know we are situated at a great distance from them, & if we do not come in their way they will not go on our coasts being a great distance & navigation that they are not acquainted with. The Neapolitans are very handy to them & having many merchant vessels, the Algerines are generally attended with success in taking some every cruise.

The Spaniards have paid a great sum for their peace 1,200,000 dollars is the sum paid in Algiers. The Government is very rich & the Dey is very political. No nation can fit out an equal number of cruisers so cheap as the Dey of Algiers. In Algiers the cruisers are not all public vessels, there are about three out of the nine that belong to Bylic, the rest belong to head-officers as Prime minister, General of the Marine, & General of the County, Lord of the Bed-chamber &c. Those great men owning the cruisers, they do not wish for peace with these nations in the Streights. The present Dey is very old, & I believe cannot live many years. when he goes to his long home I dare say there will be a great change in the policy of this Regency, making war on some & making peace with others. It is a great thing in a peace with Algiers to make the treaty with the Dey that has just got the government in his hands as it may be more likely he might keep to the treaty he made himself & they generally do not mind what treaties the former Deys make. It is customary with every Dey to renew all treaties. Tunis being tributary to Algiers it would be requisite in the treaty with Algiers to notice Tunis. It is not very easy to know the proper way of laying the foundation of a treaty with those Algerines. Be assured that the foundation of all treaties should be laid by some person that could be depended on in Algiers, & then a wise man to come & conclude the treaty. I should not put much confidence in any Consul in Algiers to have the managing of the American treaty. for it is well known that those nations that are at peace with the Barbary States do not wish that any other nation should obtain a peace, that they should not reap part of those advantageous branches of commerce in the Mediterranean. Before the war the Americans used to employ 200 sail of merchantmen in the streights trade, & used to reap great advantages by it. but at present our trade is but small being cramped on all quarters, which must certainly hurt the Americans much, & when once commerce gets into another channel, it is a long time before it is brought back again. Certainly the Indies of the French is their trade in the Mediterranean. The French are too knowing to admit us to be sharers of this valuable trade. They & many more trading nations will leave many obstacles in the way of the Americans obtaining a peace with the Barbary States. The Algerines are in no measure depending on the Grand Seigneur. They reverence him on account of his being the head or protector of their religion. a little from him to the Dey of Algiers has some weight in favor of the nation whom the Grand Seigneur writes about but letters from the Christian Kings have no weight. Money is their God & Mahomet their Prophet. The Dey of Algiers must conduct himself agreeably to the Parliament or the Soldiery, he not being absolute in every affair. Those great men here must give their voice, & it must be attended to by the Dey. The Causnagee, that is the prime minister & second Dey, it is believed will succeed the Dey, in the government of this regency. The Mickelhassee, or general of the marine & fortifications, is son in law to the Causnagee, & it is supposed will be prime minister. This man has very great influence & no man can fill his office better than he does, it is he who directs the cruisers where to cruise, & I believe that any thing he mentions or advises the Dey to has much weight. Amongst all those great men the Mickelhassee I believe is most in favor of the Americans. There should [be] some man that could be depended on here, have power to

lay the foundation of the American treaty & those great men should be paid much attention to that have the Dey's ear at command. A few valuable presents given in a proper season to these great men would not be hove away, as I am sure no nation can obtain a peace here without they gain some of those great men in their favour. When M^r Lamb asked for a peace the Dey undoubtedly said he would not treat, the Dey not knowing the minds of his ministry then had some of those great men been in favour of America they would have shewed the Dey that a war with America could not be attended with any advantage to the Algerines as we were so far off & they would have courted the Dey to make a peace with America, & once you get those great men in favour of a nation as they rise in office, they have the more influence & are more apt to keep the treaties that it was their wish the former Dey should make than to keep treaties that they wished the Dey had never made.

* * * * *

I shall mention to you a M^r Woulf who is an English merchant here, & is exceeding well acquainted with the policy of this country. this man told me he had wrote four years past to D^r Franklin respecting this Barbary affair. He is much esteemed here & in good repute. Also a M^r Fauri who is watchmaker to the Dey & his ministers these 25 years. These are proper men for sounding these Algerines on any subject, but if an American comes here before some step has been taken as I have mentioned he will perhaps meet with as much success as M^r Lamb did.

Your most obedient & very humble servant

(Signed) RICH^d O'BRYAN, *Slave*
to the Regency of Algiers

N B. There has arrived three Neapolitan & one Genoese prize to the cruisers.

[SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part I, April 1785–July 1795.]

[7 May 1788]

To Consuls at Tangier from the Emperor of Morocco

(In June 1788, the emperor of Morocco sent a letter to the several consuls resident at Tangier — delivered by the bashaw, of which the following is a translation from the Arabic:)

In the Name of God — There is no Power nor strength but in God.

To all the Consuls resident at Tangier — peace be to those who follow the right way.

By these you are to know, that we are in peace and friendship with all the Christian powers, until the month of May of the year 1203, answering to the year 1789; and such nations as are then desirous to continue in peace and friendship with us, must, when the said month of May comes, write to us a letter, to let us know that they are in peace and friendship with us, and then we shall do the same with them; and if any of those Christian nations desire to go to war with us, they shall let us know it by the abovementioned month of May; and we trust that God will keep us in his protection against them. And thus I have said all I have to say.

The 2d of the month Shabac, 1202, being 7th of May, 1788.

[NDA. Rare Bk. Wa:4 H 673.]

[9 May 1788]

To Consuls at Tangier from Secretary of the Foreign Department, Morocco

(Translation from the Arabic of a letter sent by Francisco Chiappe, the emperor of Morocco's secretary, to all the consuls resident at Tangier, and delivered to them at the castle, by the bashaw, on the first of June, 1788.)

His imperial majesty, whom God have in his holy keeping, has commanded me to make it known to you, that it may be made publicly known, that he is not at war with any nation whatsoever; and that if any nation declare war against him, he will send ten galliots and eight galleys into the straits — part of them to be stationed at Algeziras, and another part at Tangier and Tertuan, in order, by that means, to keep master of the straits; and the prizes they shall make of them, shall be burned, together with their cargoes, and the crews put in chains. His imperial majesty will also send his frigates to America, provided with European pilots, and if they make any prizes, they shall be dealt with as above-mentioned, as his imperial majesty stands in no want of money, or any worldly effects; and he trusts that God will make him conqueror.

I have the honour to be

Your humble servant,

F. CHIAPPE.

Secretary of the Foreign Department.

Morocco, 9th May, 1788.

[NDA. Rare Bk. Wa:4 H 673.]

[28 December 1790]

**Message of President George Washington to the Congress of the United States
PRISONERS AT ALGIERS.**

Message from the President of the United States to Congress, communicating a report of the Secretary of State, in relation to American prisoners at Algiers.

UNITED STATES, December 30, 1790.

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:

I lay before you a report of the Secretary of State on the subject of the citizens of the United States in captivity at Algiers, that you may provide on their behalf, what to you shall seem most expedient.

GEO. WASHINGTON.

[Report]

The Secretary of State, having had under consideration the situation of the citizens of the United States in captivity at Algiers, makes the following report thereupon to the President of the United States:

When the House of Representatives, at their late session, were pleased to refer to the Secretary of State, the petition of our citizens in captivity at Algiers, there still existed some expectation that certain measures, which had been employed to effect their redemption, the success of which depended on their secrecy, might prove effectual. Information received during the recess of Congress has so far weakened those expectations, as to make it now a duty to lay before the President of the United States, a full statement of what has been attempted for the relief of these our suffering citizens, as well before, as since he

came into office, that he may be enabled to decide what further is to be done.

On the 25th of July, 1785, the schooner *Maria*, captain Stevens, belonging to a Mr. Foster, of Boston, was taken off Cape St. Vincents, by an Algerine corsair; and, five days afterwards, the ship *Dauphin*, captain O'Brien, belonging to Messieurs Irvins of Philadelphia, was taken by another Algerine, about fifty leagues westward of Lisbon. These vessels, with their cargoes and crews, twenty-one persons in number, were carried into Algiers.

Congress had some time before commissioned ministers plenipotentiary for entering into treaties of amity and commerce with the Barbary Powers, and to send to them proper agents for preparing such treaties. An agent was accordingly appointed for Algiers, and his instructions prepared, when the Ministers Plenipotentiary received information of these captures. Though the ransom of captives was not among the objects expressed in their commissions, because at their dates the case did not exist, yet they thought it their duty to undertake that ransom, fearing that the captives might be sold and dispersed through the interior and distant countries of Africa, if the previous orders of Congress should be waited for. They therefore added a supplementary instruction to the agent to negotiate their ransom. But, while acting thus without authority, they thought themselves bound to offer a price so moderate as not to be disapproved. They therefore restrained him to two hundred dollars a man; which was something less than had been just before paid for about three hundred French captives, by the Mathurins, a religious order of France, instituted in ancient times for the redemption of Christian captives from the infidel Powers. On the arrival of the agent at Algiers, the Dey demanded fifty-nine thousand four hundred and ninety-six dollars for the twenty-one captives, and could be brought to abate but little from that demand. The agent, therefore, returned in 1786, without having effected either peace or ransom.

In the beginning of the next year, 1787, the minister plenipotentiary of the United States at Paris procured an interview with the general of the religious order of Mathurins, before mentioned, to engage him to lend his agency, at the expense of the United States, for the redemption of their captive citizens. He proffered at once, all the services he could render, with the liberality and the zeal which distinguish his character. He observed, that he had agents on the spot, constantly employed in seeking out and redeeming the captives of their own country; that these should act for us, as for themselves; that nothing could be accepted for their agency; and that he would only expect that the price of redemption should be ready on our part, so as to cover the engagement into which he should enter. He added, that, by the time all expenses were paid, their last redemption had amounted to near two thousand five hundred livres a man, and that he could by no means flatter us that they could redeem our captives as cheap as their own. The pirates would take advantage of its being out of their ordinary line. Still he was in hopes they would not be much higher.

The proposition was then submitted to Congress, that is to say, in February, 1787, and on the 19th of September, in the same year, their minister plenipotentiary at Paris received their orders to embrace the offers of the Mathurins. This he immediately notified to the general, observing, however, that he did not desire him to enter into

any engagements till a sufficient sum to cover them should be actually deposited in Paris. The general wished that the whole might be kept rigorously secret, as, should the barbarians suspect him to be acting for the United States, they would demand such sums as he could never agree to give, even with our consent, because it would injure his future purchases from them. He said he had information from his agent at Algiers, that our captives received so liberal a daily allowance as to evince that it came from a public source. He recommended that this should be discontinued; engaging that he would have an allowance administered to them, much short indeed of what they had hitherto received, but such as was given to his own countrymen, quite sufficient for physical necessities, and more likely to prepare the opinion, that as they were subsisted by his charity, they were to be redeemed by it also. These ideas, suggested to him by the danger of raising his market, were approved by the minister plenipotentiary; because, this being the first instance of a redemption by the United States, it would form a precedent, because a high price given by us might induce these pirates to abandon all other nations in pursuit of Americans; whereas, the contrary would take place, could our price of redemption be fixed at the lowest point.

To destroy, therefore, every expectation of a redemption by the United States, the bills of the Spanish consul at Algiers, who had made the kind advances before spoken of for the sustenance of our captives, were not answered. On the contrary, a hint was given that these advances had better be discontinued, as it was not known that they would be reimbursed. It was necessary even to go further, and to suffer the captives themselves and their friends to believe for a while, that no attention was paid to them, no notice taken of their letters. They are still under this impression. It would have been unsafe to trust them with a secret, the disclosure of which might for ever prevent their redemption, by raising the demands of the captors to sums which a due regard for our seamen, still in freedom, would forbid us to give. This was the most trying of all circumstances, and drew from them the most afflicting reproaches.

It was a twelve month afterwards before the money could be deposited in Paris, and the negotiation be actually put into train. In the mean time the general had received information from Algiers of a very considerable change of prices there. Within the last two or three years the Spaniards, the Neapolitans, and the Russians, had redeemed at exorbitant sums. Slaves were become scarce, and would hardly be sold at any price. Still he entered on the business with an assurance of doing the best in his power; and he was authorized to offer as far as three thousand livres, or five hundred and fifty-five dollars a man. He wrote immediately to consult a confidential agent at Marseilles, on the best mode of carrying this business into effect; from whom he received the answer No. 2, hereto annexed.

Nothing further was known of his progress or prospects, when the House of Representatives were pleased, at their last session, to refer the petition of our captives at Algiers to the Secretary of State. The preceding narrative shows that no report could have then been made without risking the object, of which some hopes were still entertained. Later advices, however, from the charge des affaires of the United States, at Paris, informs us, that these measures, though not yet desperate, are not to be counted on. Besides the exorbitance of

price, before feared, the late transfer of the lands and revenues of the clergy in France to the public, by withdrawing the means, seems to have suspended the proceedings of the Mathurins in the purposes of their institution.

It is time, therefore, to look about for something more promising, without relinquishing, in the mean while, the chance of success through them. Endeavors to collect information, which have been continued a considerable time, as to the ransoms which would probably be demanded from us, and those actually paid by other nations, enable the Secretary of State to lay before the President the following short view, collected from original papers now in his possession, or from information delivered to him personally. Passing over the ransoms of the Mathurins, which are kept far below the common level by special circumstances:

In 1786, the dey of Algiers demanded from our agent 59,496 dollars for 21 captives, which was 2,833 dollars a man. The agent flattered himself they could be ransomed for 1,200 dollars apiece. His secretary informed us, at the same time, that Spain had paid 1,600 dollars.

In 1787, the Russians redeemed at 1,546 dollars a man.

In 1788, a well informed inhabitant of Algiers assured the minister plenipotentiary of the United States at Paris, that no nation had redeemed, since the Spanish treaty, at less than from 250 to 300 pounds sterling, the medium of which is 1,237 dollars. Captain O'Brien, at the same date, thinks we must pay 1,800 dollars, and mentions a Savoy captain, just redeemed at 4,074 dollars.

In 1789, Mr. Logie, the English consul at Algiers, informed a person who wished to ransom one of our common sailors, that he would cost from 450 to 500 pounds sterling, the mean of which is 2,137 dollars. In December of the same year, Captain O'Brien thinks our men will now cost 2,920 dollars each, though a Jew merchant believes he could get them for 2,264 dollars.

In 1790, July 9th, a Mr. Simpson, of Gibraltar, who, at some particular request, had taken pains to find for what sum our captives could be redeemed, finds that the fourteen will cost 34,792.28 dollars, which is 2,485 dollars a man. At the same date, one of them, a Scotch boy, a common mariner, was actually redeemed at 8,000 livres, equal to 1,481 dollars, which is within 19 dollars of the price Simpson states for common men: and the charge des affaires of the United States at Paris is informed that the whole may be redeemed at that rate, adding fifty per cent. on the captains, which would bring it to 1,571 dollars a man.

It is found then that the prices are 1,200, 1,237, 1,481, 1,546, 1,571, 1,600, 1,800, 2,137, 2,264, 2,485, 2,833, and 2,920 dollars a man, not noticing that of 4,074 dollars, because it was for a captain.

In 1786, there were 2,200 captives in Algiers, which, in 1789, had been reduced by death or ransom to 655. Of ours six have died, and one has been ransomed by his friends.

From these facts and opinions, some conjecture may be formed of the terms on which the liberty of our citizens may be obtained.

But should it be thought better to repress force by force, another expedient for their liberation may perhaps offer. Captures made on the enemy may perhaps put us into possession of some of their mariners, and exchange be substituted for ransom. It is not indeed a fixed usage with them to exchange prisoners. It is rather their

custom to refuse it. However, such exchanges are sometimes effected, by allowing them more or less of advantage. They have sometimes accepted of two Moors for a Christian, at others they have refused five or six for one. Perhaps Turkish captives may be objects of greater partiality with them, as their government is entirely in the hands of Turks, who are treated in every instance as a superior order of beings. Exchange, too, will be more practicable in our case, as our captives have not been sold to private individuals, but are retained in the hands of the Government.

The liberation of our citizens has an intimate connexion with the liberation of our commerce in the Mediterranean, now under the consideration of Congress. The distresses of both proceed from the same cause, and the measures which shall be adopted for the relief of the one, may, very probably, involve the relief of the other.

TH: JEFFERSON, *Secretary of State.*

Dec. 28, 1790.

[NDA. Am. State Papers, Foreign Rel., Vol. 1.]

[28 December 1790]

Report of Secretary of State to the Congress of the United States

MEDITERRANEAN TRADE.

Report of the Secretary of State relative to the Mediterranean Trade. Communicated to the House of Representatives, December 30, 1790, and to the Senate, January 3, 1791.

The Secretary of State, to whom was referred by the House of Representatives so much of the speech of the President of the United States to both Houses of Congress, as relates to the trade of the United States in the Mediterranean, with instructions to report thereupon to the House, has had the same under consideration, and thereupon makes the following report:

The loss of the records of the custom houses in several of the States, which took place about the commencement and during the course of the late war, has deprived us of official information as to the extent of our commerce and navigation in the Mediterranean sea. According to the best which may be obtained from other sources meriting respect, it may be concluded, that about one-sixth of the wheat and flour exported from the United States, and about one-fourth in value of their dried and pickled fish, and some rice, found their best markets in the Mediterranean ports; that these articles constituted the principal part of what we sent into that sea; that, that commerce loaded outwards, from eighty to one hundred ships, annually, of twenty thousand tons, navigated by about twelve hundred seamen. It was abandoned early in the war. And after the peace which ensued, it was obvious to our merchants, that their adventures into that sea would be exposed to the depredations of the piratical States on the coast of Barbary. Congress, too, was very early attentive to this danger, and by a commission of the 12th of May, 1784, authorized certain persons, named ministers plenipotentiary for that purpose, to conclude treaties of peace and amity with the Barbary Powers. And it being afterwards found more expedient that the negotiations should be carried on at the residences of those Powers, Congress, by a further commission, bearing date the 11th of March, 1785, empowered the same ministers plenipotentiary to appoint agents to repair to the said

Powers at their proper residences, and there to negotiate such treaties. The whole expenses were limited to eighty thousand dollars. Agents were accordingly sent to Morocco and Algiers.

Before the appointment of the one to Morocco, it was known that a cruiser of that State had taken a vessel [*] of the United States; and that the Emperor, on the friendly interposition of the court of Madrid, had liberated the crew, and made restitution of the vessel and cargo, as far as their condition admitted. This was a happy presage of the liberal treaty he afterwards concluded with our agent, still under the friendly mediation of Spain, and at an expense of between nine and ten thousand dollars only. On his death, which has taken place not long since, it becomes necessary, according to their usage, to obtain immediately a recognition of the treaty by his successor, and consequently, to make provisions for the expenses which may attend it. The amount of the former furnishes one ground of estimate; but the character and dispositions of the successor, which are unknown here, may influence it materially. The friendship of this Power is important, because our Atlantic as well as Mediterranean trade is open to his annoyance, and because we carry on a useful commerce with his nation.

The Algerines had also taken two vessels of the United States, with twenty-one persons on board, whom they retained as slaves. On the arrival of the agent sent to that regency, the Dey refused utterly to treat of peace on any terms, and demanded 59,496 dollars for the ransom of our captives. This mission therefore proved ineffectual.

While these negotiations were on foot at Morocco and Algiers, an ambassador from Tripoli arrived in London. The ministers plenipotentiary of the United States met him in person. He demanded for the peace of that State thirty thousand guineas; and undertook to engage that of Tunis for a like sum. These demands were beyond the limits of Congress and of reason, and nothing was done. Nor was it of importance, as, Algiers remaining hostile, the peace of Tunis and Tripoli was of no value; and when that of the former should be obtained, theirs would soon follow.

Our navigation, then, into the Mediterranean, has not been resumed at all since the peace. The sole obstacle has been the unprovoked war of Algiers; and the sole remedy must be to bring that war to an end, or to palliate its effects. Its effects may, perhaps, be palliated by ensuring our ships and cargoes destined for that sea, and by forming a convention with the regency, for the ransom of our seamen, according to a fixed tariff. That tariff will, probably, be high, and the rate of insurance so settled, in the long run, as to pay for the vessels and cargoes captured, and something more. What proportion will be captured, nothing but experience can determine. Our commerce differs from that of most of the nations with whom the predatory States are in habits of war. Theirs is spread all over the face of the Mediterranean, and therefore must be sought for all over its face. Ours must all enter at a strait only five leagues wide; so that their cruisers, taking a safe and commanding position near the strait's mouth, may very effectually inspect whatever enters it. So safe a station, with a certainty of receiving for their prisoners a good and stated price, may tempt their cupidity to seek our vessels particularly. Nor is it certain that our seamen could be induced to engage in that navigation, though with the security of Algerine faith that they would be liber-

ated on the payment of a fixed sum. The temporary deprivation of liberty, perhaps chains, the danger of the pest, the perils of the engagement preceding their surrender, and possible delays of the ransom, might turn elsewhere the choice of men, to whom all the rest of the world is open. In every case, these would be embarrassments which would enter into the merchant's estimate, and endanger his preference of foreign bottoms not exposed to them. And upon the whole, this expedient does not fulfil our wish of a complete re-establishment of our commerce in that sea.

A second plan might be, to obtain peace by purchasing it. For this we have the example of rich and powerful nations, in this instance counting their interest more than their honor. If, conforming to their example, we determine to purchase a peace, it is proper to inquire what that peace may cost. This being merely a matter of conjecture, we can only compare together such opinions as have been obtained, and from them form one for ourselves.

Mr. Wolf, a respectable Irishman, who had resided very long at Algiers, thought a peace might be obtained from that regency, and the redemption of our captives included, for sixty or seventy thousand pounds sterling. His character and opinion both, merited respect. Yet his estimate being the lowest of all who have hazarded an opinion on this subject, one is apt to fear his judgment might have been biassed by the hope he entertained that the United States would charge him with this negotiation.

Captain O'Brien, one of our captives, who had been in Algiers four years and a half at the date of his last letter, a very sensible man, and to whom we are indebted for very minute information, supposes that peace alone might be bought for that sum, that is to say, for three hundred and twenty-two thousand dollars.

The Tripoline ambassador, before mentioned, thought that peace could be made with the three smaller Powers for ninety thousand pounds sterling, to which were to be added the expenses of the mission and other incidental expenses. But he could not answer for Algiers: They would demand more. The ministers plenipotentiary who conferred with him, had judged that as much must be paid to Algiers as to the other three Powers together; and consequently, that, according to this measure, the peace of Algiers would cost from an hundred to an hundred and twenty-five thousand pounds sterling; or from four hundred and sixty to five hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars.

The latter sum seemed to meet the ideas of the Count de Vergennes, who, from a very long residence at Constantinople, was a good judge of whatever related to the Porte, or its dependencies.

A person whose name is not free to be mentioned here, a native of the continent of Europe, who had long lived, and still lives at Algiers, with whom the minister plenipotentiary of the United States at Paris had many and long conversations, and found his information full, clear, and consistent, was of opinion the peace of Algiers could not be bought by the United States for less than a million of dollars. And when that is paid, all is not done. On the death of a Dey (and the present one is between seventy and eighty years of age) respectable presents must be made to the successor, that he may recognise the treaty; and very often he takes the liberty of altering it. When a consul is sent or changed, new presents must be made. If these events

leave a considerable interval, occasion must be made of renewing presents. And with all this they must see that we are in condition to chastise an infraction of the treaty; consequently, some marine force must be exhibited in their harbor from time to time.

The late peace of Spain with Algiers is said to have cost from three to five millions of dollars. Having received the money, they take the vessels of that nation on the most groundless prettexts; counting, that the same force, which bowed Spain to so hard a treaty, may break it with impunity.

Their treaty with France, which had expired, was about two years ago renewed for fifty years. The sum given at the time of renewal is not known. But presents are to be repeated every ten years, and a tribute of one hundred thousand dollars to be annually paid. Yet perceiving that France, embarrassed at home with her domestic affairs, was less capable of acting abroad, they took six vessels of that nation in the course of the last year, and retain the captives, forty-four in number, in slavery.

It is the opinion of Captain O'Brien, that those nations are best treated who pay a smaller sum in the beginning, and an annual tribute afterwards. In this way he informs us that the Dutch, Danes, Swedes, and Venetians pay to Algiers from twenty-four to thirty thousand dollars a year, each; the two first in naval stores, the two last chiefly in money. It is supposed that the peace of the Barbary States costs Great Britain about sixty thousand guineas, or two hundred and eighty thousand dollars a year. But it must be noted that these facts cannot be authentically advanced; as, from a principle of self condemnation, the governments keep them from the public eye as much as possible.

Nor must we omit finally to recollect, that the Algerines, attentive to reserve always a sufficient aliment for their piracies, will never extend their peace beyond certain limits, and consequently that we may find ourselves in the case of those nations to whom they refuse peace at any price.

The third expedient is to repel force by force. Several statements are hereto annexed of the naval force of Algiers, taken in 1785, 1786, 1787, 1788, and 1789, differing in small degrees, but concurring in the main. From these it results, that they have usually had about nine chebecks of from ten to thirty-six guns, and four galleys, which have been reduced by losses to six chebecks and four galleys. They have a forty gun frigate on the stocks, and expect two cruisers from the Grand Seigneur. The character of their vessels is, that they are sharp built and swift, but so light as not to stand the broadside of a good frigate. Their guns are of different calibres, unskilfully pointed and worked. The vessels illy manoeuvred, but crowded with men—one third Turks, the rest Moors, of determined bravery, and resting their sole hopes on boarding. But two of these vessels belong to the government, the rest being private property. If they come out of harbor together, they separate immediately in quest of prey; and it is said they were never known to act together in any instance. Nor do they come out at all, when they know there are vessels cruising for them. They perform three cruises a year, between the middle of April and November, when they unrig and lay up for the winter. When not confined within the straits, they rove northwardly to the channel, and westwardly to the Western Islands.

They are in peace at present with France, Spain, England, Venice, the United Netherlands, Sweden, and Denmark; and at war with Russia, Austria, Portugal, Naples, Sardinia, Genoa, and Malta.

Should the United States propose to vindicate their commerce by arms, they would, perhaps, think it prudent to possess a force equal to the whole of that which may be opposed to them. What that equal force would be, will belong to another department to say.

At the same time it might never be necessary to draw out the whole at once, nor perhaps any proportion of it, but for a small part of the year; as it is reasonable to presume that a concert of operation might be arranged among the powers at war with the Barbary States, so as that, each performing a tour of a given duration, and in given order, a constant cruise during the eight temperate months of every year, may be kept up before the harbor of Algiers, till the object of such operations be completely obtained. Portugal has singly, for several years past, kept up such a cruise before the straits of Gibraltar, and by that means has confined the Algerines closely within. But two of their vessels have been out of the straits in the last five years. Should Portugal effect a peace with them, as has been apprehended for some time, the Atlantic will immediately become the principal scene of their piracies; their peace with Spain having reduced the profits of their Mediterranean cruises below the expenses of equipment.

Upon the whole, it rests with Congress to decide between war, tribute, and ransom, as the means of re-establishing our Mediterranean commerce. If war, they will consider how far our own resources shall be called forth, and how far they will enable the Executive to engage, in the forms of the constitution, the co-operation of other Powers. If tribute or ransom, it will rest with them to limit and provide the amount; and with the Executive, observing the same constitutional forms, to make arrangements for employing it to the best advantage.

DECEMBER 28, 1790.

[*Betsey, Captain James Erving.]

[Am. State Papers, Foreign Rel., Vol. 1.]

Report of a Committee on the Trade of the Mediterranean, made to the United States Senate, 6 January, 1791

The committee to whom was referred that part of the President's speech which relates to the trade of the Mediterranean, also the President's message of the 30th December, with the papers accompanying the same, are of opinion that the trade of the United States to the Mediterranean, cannot be protected but by a naval force; and that it will be proper to resort to the same as soon as the state of the public finances will admit.

[Am. State Papers, Foreign Rel. Vol. 1.]

Message of President George Washington relative to the Ransom of Prisoners

UNITED STATES, *February 22d, 1791.*

GENTLEMEN OF THE SENATE: I will proceed to take measures for the ransom of our citizens in captivity at Algiers, in conformity with your resolution of advice of the first instant, so soon as the moneys necessary shall be appropriated by the Legislature, and shall be in readiness.

The recognition of our treaty with the new Emperor of Morocco requires also previous appropriation and provision; the importance

of this last to the liberty and property of our citizens, induces me to urge it on your earliest attention.

The resolution referred to is as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate advise and consent that the President of the United States take such measures as he may think necessary for the redemption of the citizens of the United States, now in captivity at Algiers: Provided, the expense shall not exceed forty thousand dollars; and also, that measures be taken to confirm the treaty now existing between the United States and the Emperor of Morocco.

[Am. State Papers, Foreign Rel., Vol. I.]

[3 March 1791]

Act pertaining to the U. S. Navy

United States Statutes at Large. First Congress. Sess. III

AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE THEREIN MENTIONED.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That for the purpose of effecting a recognition of the treaty of the United States, with the new emperor of Morocco, there be, and hereby is appropriated a sum not exceeding twenty thousand dollars, to be paid out of the monies which prior to the first day of January next, shall arise from the duties imposed upon spirits distilled within the United States, and from stills by the act, entitled "An act repealing after the last day of June next, the duties heretofore laid upon distilled spirits imported from abroad, and laying others in their stead, and also upon spirits distilled within the United States, and for appropriating the same," together with the excess of duties which may arise from the duties imposed by the said act, on imported spirits beyond those which would have arisen by the act entitled "An act making further provision for the payment of the debts of the United States." And the President is hereby authorized to take on loan, the whole sum by this act appropriated, or so much thereof as he may judge requisite, at an interest not exceeding six per cent. per annum, and the fund established for the above mentioned appropriation, is hereby pledged for the repayment of the principal and interest of any loan to be obtained in manner aforesaid, and in case of any deficiency in the said fund, the faith of the United States is hereby also pledged to make good such deficiency.

APPROVED, *March 3, 1791.*

[Statutes, Vol. I, p. 214.]

[28 April 1791]

To the United States Senate from Secretary of State

PHILADELPHIA, *December 9, 1791.*

SIR: The enclosed information, relative to ransom and peace with the Algerines, being newly come to hand, I take the liberty of communicating it to you, and through you to the Senate. It concurs in some facts and opinions with what we had before learnt through other channels, and differs in some others, so as, on the whole, to leave us still in considerable uncertainty as to interesting points.

The VICE PRESIDENT of the U. S.

President of the Senate.

[Enclosure]

To the Congress of the United States from Richard O'Brien, Algiers

CITY OF ALGIERS, *April 28, 1791.*

MOST HONORED SIRs: It affords the Americans in captivity some consolation to hear that his excellency the President has drawn the attention of Congress towards Barbary affairs, and to consider of the decrease of American commerce to the Mediterranean.

One of your most unfortunate subjects takes the liberty of humbly submitting to your consideration the following particulars on Barbary affairs.

In December last, the Philanthropic Society sent orders to Europe to try for a peace with this regency; these orders came to Monsieur Catalan, of Marseilles, who commissioned Monsieur Parnet, a French merchant in Algiers, and agent for the chamber of commerce, Marseilles. Monsieur Parnet, made application to the Dey and ministry on this important subject, but was not enabled to obtain any answer of importance until the 18th of December, when he immediately despatched a vessel for Marseilles. Monsieur Parnet was authorized by his orders to treat for the ransom of the Americans; but as our redemption had been ascertained the 7th of last July, by Abraham Bushara and Dininio, for the sum of 17,225 Algerine sequins, nearly equal to 34,450 Spanish dollars, Monsieur Parnet could only return for answer, that our ransom was finally ascertained, and is so recorded by the regency at the above sum. Monsieur Parnet informed me that his orders relative to the peace did not authorize him to make the ministry any promises for them to use their influence with the Dey: for, if he made any promises, he must fulfil them, and by his not being fully empowered, he could not take the proper channel for laying the foundation of the peace, and that the Dey signified that, when the Americans made good their agreement of the 7th last July, that then he would consider of the peace.

I take the liberty, honored sirs, to observe, that there is no doing any business of importance in this country, without first palming the ministry; and by taking this proper channel, be assured, honored sirs, that there is no great difficulty to carry any point.

I take the liberty of explaining that the Algerines had great reason to think that the Americans considered them in a very singular light, by sending orders, three different times, relative to ascertaining our ransom and affairs that had been fixed on a few months past; then to empower Monsieur Parnet, supposing the Algerines would lower their price, or deviate, in any respect, from the agreement made with Bushara and Dininio.

Be assured, honored sirs, that Monsieur Parnet found this to be a very delicate subject to treat of, and by what I now hint to you, honored sirs, your superior wisdom will perceive the impropriety of any further propositions relative to ascertaining our ransom.

The prime minister sent to me, and desired that, when I wrote my country, to write, that, if the Americans did not keep to their words on affairs so trifling as that of our release, that there was no great dependence to be put in America, in affairs of more importance, alluding to the peace. Be assured, honored sirs, that the prime minister is a friend to America, and was the only one of the Algerine ministry that countenanced Mr. Lamb, in 1786.

Messrs. Bulkley and company, of Lisbon, through humane motives, writing to Mr. James Simpson, at Gibraltar, and Mr. Simpson, supposing the orders originated in Congress, wrote to Bushara and Dininio, to have our redemption ascertained with the regency; so that, if ever we are to be redeemed, it must be through the channel of Bushara and Dininio, as the Dey, in his answer to Monsieur Parnet, signified fully as much, and as they are Algerine subjects, the Dey and ministry of course will determine the affair in their favor.

At present there are but 700 Christian slaves in Algiers, and the two-thirds of these are deserters from the Spanish garrison of Oran; and as the captives are much wanted to do the public work, the regency does not seem inclinable to permit slaves to be redeemed on any terms: for without the slaves, those people could not well fit out their cruisers.

In 1786, there were three thousand Christian slaves in Algiers; but the Spaniards, Neapolitans, and other nations redeeming their people, and the pest, that great storm of mortality, which happened in this city in 1787-8, which carried off nine hundred Christian captives — amongst this number were six Americans — our redemption is but trifling higher than the terms on which the Spaniards and other nations redeemed their people, and, since those redemptions and the pest, the price of slaves is continually rising.

Those lads that are pages to the Dey, were solicited to turn Mahometans, but they would not, which makes their prices somewhat exorbitant.

When I consider the fatal consequences that would happen to America, if the Portuguese should make a peace with this regency, it makes the greatest impression on me of any thing whatsoever that can possibly occur to a patriotic mind; and although at present the Portuguese keep up a fleet of cruisers to protect their own commerce, yet experience shews (by Spain) that they may be negotiating a peace underhand.

Since my captivity, the Portuguese have made two attempts to try to obtain a peace, and fortunate (thank God) for America they did not succeed. Should they succeed, America would be put to a vast expense to build and fit out eight or ten cruisers; and to keep this squadron in Europe for a few years, would be attended with a vast expense, which America could not well afford. Should the Portuguese make a peace, and America to abandon the Straits to the Algerines, the alarm would be so great that no American property would be ensured under twenty-five percent. The first cruise, they would go as far as the Western Islands, and, by being acquainted with the navigation that far, would be induced to go on to the coasts of America; then, honored sirs, what would be the fatal consequences — what would be the alarm! and it is well known that there is nothing to be derived by being at war with the Barbary States; but, by being at peace, many advantages, and extended and beneficial commerce.

It has cost Spain full four and a half millions of dollars to make their peace, and redeem their people, notwithstanding Spain acted something wisely not to be the dupe of all the commercial nations of Europe.

Honored sirs, in my opinion, the United States may obtain a peace with this regency for fifty or sixty thousand pounds sterling, all expenses included; that is, if the affair is well managed; and with

Tunis for fifteen thousand pounds sterling. In making a peace with Algiers, there should be a provisional article relative to Tunis, as Tunis is a tributary State to this regency, and under its influence.

Instead of America giving a sum of money for the peace, I believe this regency would find it to their interest to take, in lieu, maritime stores, masts, yards, plank, tar, pitch, turpentine, scantling, for constructing cruisers; and, by giving maritime stores, I believe the peace would not cost America twenty thousand pounds sterling. Or to purchase one hundred and fifty or two hundred passports of the regency, at a certain fixed price, and for these, to pay a certain sum every two years, and those that wanted those passports, that traded to Europe, to purchase them of the Government, so that the passports would defray the expenses incurred in obtaining the peace. I have frequently, these four years, had some hints of these subjects communicated to the Algerine ministry, and had favorable answers which I wrote to the American ambassadors in Europe.

The present time is favorable for America to try for the peace; and I further take the liberty, honored sirs, to observe, that those nations, the Dutch, Danes, Swedes, and Venetians, that pay a tribute annually, that their peace is on a more solid and lasting basis than those nations that give large sums for making the peace, and not to be tributary: for it is the annual tribute those nations pay the Algerines is the bait that secures their peace, and not any sentiment of national honor or regard to treaties, but for their own interest in being supplied with naval and military stores.

Most honored sirs, we hope you will consider what our sufferings must have been in this country, during that trying period of nearly six years captivity; but we now hope that you will give such powers to your representatives in Europe, so as to finally extricate your fourteen unfortunate subjects from their present state of bondage and adversity.

[Am. State Papers, Foreign Rel., Vol. 1.]

To Thomas Barclay, U. S. Consul, Morocco, from Secretary of State

PHILADELPHIA May 13th 1791.

SIR You are appointed by the President of the United States to go to the Court of Morocco for the purpose of obtaining from the new emperor a recognition of our Treaty with his father. As it is thought best that you should go in some definite character, that of Consul has been adopted, and you consequently receive a Commission as Consul for the United States in the dominions of the Emperor of Morocco, which having been issued during the recess of the Senate will of course expire at the end of their next Session. It has been thought best however not to insert this limitation in the Commission as being unnecessary, and it might perhaps embarrass. Before the end of the next Session of the Senate it is expected the objects of your mission will be accomplished.

Lisbon being the most convenient port of correspondence between us and Morocco, sufficient authority will be given to Col. Humphreys, Resident for the United States at that place, over funds in Amsterdam for the objects of your mission. On him therefore you will draw for the sums herein allowed, or such parts of them as shall be necessary. To that port too you had better proceed in the first vessel which shall

be going there, as it is expected you will get a ready passage from thence to Morocco.

On your arrival in Morocco sound your ground, and know how things stand at present. Your former voyage there having put you in possession of the characters through whom this may be done, who may best be used for approaching the Emperor and effecting your purpose, you are left to use your own knowledge to the best advantage.

The object being merely to obtain an acknowledgment of the treaty, we rely that you will be able to do this, giving very moderate presents. As the amount of these will be drawn into precedent on future similar repetitions of them, it becomes important. Our distance, our seclusion from the ancient world, it's politics and usages, our agricultural occupations and habits, our poverty, and lastly our determination to prefer war in all cases to tribute under any form and to any people whatever, will furnish you with topics for opposing and refuting high or dishonoring pretensions, to which may be added the advantages their people will derive from our commerce, and their Sovereign from the duties laid on whatever we extract from that Country.

Keep us regularly informed of your proceedings and progress, by writing by every possible occasion, detailing to us particularly your conferences either private or public, and the persons with whom they are held.

We think that Francisco Chiappe has merited well of the United States by his care of their peace and interests. He has sent an account of disbursements for us amounting to 394 dollars. Do not recognize the account, because we are unwilling, by doing that, to give him a colour for presenting larger ones hereafter, for expenses which it is impossible for us to scrutinize or controul. Let him understand that our laws oppose the application of public money so informally; but in your presents, treat *him* handsomely, so as not only to cover this demand, but go beyond it with a liberality which may fix him deeply in our interests. The place he holds near the Emperor renders his friendship peculiarly important: Let us have nothing further to do with his brothers or any other person. The money which would make one good friend, divided among several will produce no attachment.

The Emperor has intimated that he expects an Ambassador from us. Let him understand that this may be a custom of the old world, but it is not ours: that we never sent an Ambassador to any nation.

You are to be allowed from the day of your departure till your return 166½ dollars a month for your time and expenses, adding thereto your passage money and sea stores going and coming.

Remain in your post till the 1st of April next, and as much longer as shall be necessary to accomplish the objects of your mission, unless you should receive instructions from hence to the contrary.

With your commission you will receive a letter to the Emperor of Morocco, a Cypher & a letter to Col. Humphreys.

A private instruction which M^r Barclay is to carry in his memory, and not on paper, lest it should come into improper hands.

We rely that you will obtain the friendship of the new Emperor, and his assurances that the treaty shall be faithfully observed, with as little expense as possible. But the sum of ten thousand dollars

is fixed as the limit which all your donations together are not to exceed.

MAY 13th 1791.

[NA. SDA. Dip. Cor., Inst. to Min., Bk 1, Jan. 1791-Aug. 1793.]

To Secretary of State from Robert Montgomery, U. S. Agent, Alicante

ALICANTE 17th July 1791 —

SIR I had the honour of addressing you under the 13th March and am since deprived of your favours

The present will serve to hand you two Letters from one of our slaves at Algiers that came to hand but yesterday Those pirates continue to cruise in the Mediteranean, a Xebeque of 20 Guns was last sunday at Carthagena for water and provisions after having been as he reported 40 days in the Atlantic; there is also a row boat of two guns off Malaga who Spoke several vessels now in quarentine on that account but notwithstanding the friendly reception their Vessels meet on the coast of Spain the Bey of Mascara continues the seige of Oran with all his power and tis not doubted is Supported by his master the Dey of Algiers, and tho the Spanish forces make Brilliant resistance the Garison is by no means out of danger

[NA. SDA. CL, Alicante, Vol. 1, Aug. 1788-Dec. 1834.]

To Secretary of State from Robert Montgomery, U. S. Agent, Alicante

(Copy)

ALICANTE 26th July 1791 —

I had the honour of addressing your Excellency, under the 24th current with advice of the death of Mahomet Bashaw late Dey of Algiers on the 12th current at six oclock and that he was immediately succeeded by Alli Hassan who after having ordered the Aga to be strangled for an attempt to oppose him remained in peaceable possession of the regency and every tranquility seemed to be established when the packet sailed on the 16th — Ali had shewn great wisdom and talents while Minister of Marine which department he filled for many years till he was prime Minister on the death of the former who notwithstanding he was his father in law and ordered to be strangled for treasonable practices never caused a moments interruption of Mahomets confidence in Alli; he is considered as a man of uncommon Abilities and a wise politician he has also during his administration shewn as much partiality to the people of the united states as was in his power to do; I had the honour of being known to him when carried in to Carthagena prisoner of war from whence he went to Algiers near twenty years ago; and I have since my establishment here had a very friendly intimacy with his friend and confident Haggi Soliman Benchellon a Moor of some Learning and knowledge of European languages and manners; this man has been sent by Alli Hassan to the Court of Spain frequently; and as he landed and embarked at this place I made him make my house his home with every other mark of civility which I thought could tend to secure his friendship and confidence and trust I have not lost my labour, my views you may suppose was pointed at this crisis when my friend and his master should both be at the summit of power, and hope I am not too vain when I venture to say that if your Excellency will get me permission from Congress to make a tryal a peace with Algiers may now be obtained on such terms

as may with honour be accepted and at an expence that will be very fully compensated by a few years trade with this Country: I would not desire nor recomend my being sent there at first as if by order of Congress for being Merchant I could go over as such and on the particular business of my house for which I can easily get permission from the Dey and be well received by Soliman, they both already know my hearty desire to bring about a Conciliation and this would naturally be our topic of Conversation; I should then let him know that the few slaves they have of ours were picked up by accident when they apprehended no danger but that they must expect no more now we are on our guard, and that the profits they can have in continuing a war like this can never be equal to the solid advantages they must reap from making a peace with us on such terms as we could afford besides that I know his Excellency wishes to do me service he could never have so good an opportunity as the present by enabling me to have the honour of bringing about a peace between him and the United States: This language and what else your Excellency might think more proper to advise I should make use of to him and as he understands Spanish very well I should not require an Interpreter, which might make him less cautious to develope his mind to me on the business —

As no Nation has been able to make peace with this Regency without paying for it in some manner or other we of course need not expect to do it for Nothing but it may be done in the manner the [United] States will suffer least by it; some armed Vessels for Corsairs and such Naval stores as are the produce of America would I dont doubt be made to do; but a visit to Algiers will be necessary before anything can be said on the business with certinty at which time our prisoners there could also be thought of — Should your Excellency approve of any part of what has struck me on this important business and honour me with your Confidence I should immediately go to Algiers and purchass some wheat for this market, when I should have an opportunity of informing my self pretty fully without discovering any such intention after which I shall communicate such advices as may be laid before Congress and if in the business you chuse to correspond in cyphers a person ought to be sent with them or forward them to the resident in London who may send them to me pretty safly by post; but if your Excellency would prefer it I would not think my labour too great to wait on you in person for instructions * * * There have been several Cruizers on the coast this Summer and one of them so large as twenty guns, should they cruize to the westward of Cadiz & Lisbon they must certainly pick up some of our Vessels and the Portuguese Squadron are by no means Vigilant but should this power make peace with the Algerines we must expect to see their Cruizers on the coast and in the Bays of America the summer following or so soon as the Russian war is ended; the seige of Oran continues with very little advantage to either side — I have the honour to be with sincere Respect and attachment

[NA. SDA. CL, Alicante, Vol. 1, Aug. 1788–Dec. 1834.]

To Secretary of State from Thomas Barclay, U. S. Consul, Morocco

GIBRALTAR 18th December 1791.

SIR, I wrote a few Lines to you on the 12th by a vessel bound to Salem, and informed you of my expectation of getting to Tangier

that day, but the wind returning and blowing Strongly against us, we remain here. —

For Some time past the accounts received from the other Side of the Streight have been various and consisted so much of conjecture that a thorough reliance could not be placed upon them, however Several letters arrived three days ago, all of them agreeing in the intelligence which I shall proceed to communicate, and presenting the leading features of a picture of that Country, but I think it will not be improper to take up the Subject at an earlier period than the present, and therefore I will, as briefly as I can, mention Some circumstances, the Knowledge of which perhaps has not hitherto reached America. —

Sometime before the Death of the Late Emperor, which happened on the 11th of April 1790, his Son Muley Yezid took refuge in a Sanctuary near Tetuan, to avoid the resentment of his father, who ordered Muley Slama a younger Son by the Same Mother to invest the Sanctuary, which he was afraid to violate in a more direct manner, So as to Cut off all communication between it and the Country, and consequently in the end compel Muley Yezid from the want of Subsistance to Surrender himself to his father, before this could be effected, the Emperor died at Saffy, and the Prince quitted the Sanctuary having been proclaimed his Successor in the North, as well as in the Cities of Fez, Mequinez, and Morocco, while Muley Slema, by one of these changes of fortune not uncommon in his Country, to escape the power of his brother, placed himself in the Sanctuary where he Still remains. —

The new Emperor, who has assumed the name of Mahomet El Mehedy El Yezid has had pressing Solicitations to appear at the great Cities that I have named, each of which is occasionally Looked upon as the Capital of the Empire, * * *

Triplicate

Original by way of Cadiz

Duplicate — to Lisbon —

(N^o 1)

[NA. SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. 1, April 1791–Dec. 1795.]

[22 February 1792]

Senate of the United States Resolution to Ransom Prisoners at Algiers

The committee to whom had been referred the petition of Charles Colvill, late a prisoner in Algiers, praying for the reimbursement of the price of his ransom, and other expenses, and the several communications on file relative to American citizens now in captivity at Algiers, reported the following resolutions:

Resolved by the Senate of the United States, in their Capacity as Council of Advice, That, if the President of the United States shall enter into any treaty or convention, for the purpose of establishing and preserving peace with the regency of Algiers and with Tunis and Tripoli, "at an expense not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars annually," for such a term of years shall be stipulated, and for the purpose of ransoming the citizens of the United States in captivity with the Algerines, "at an expense not exceeding forty thousand dollars, for the said ransom," the Senate will advise and consent to the same, and ratify or approve any measures which the President of the

United States shall take for accomplishing these objects, to an amount not exceeding five thousand dollars, although such measures should prove unsuccessful.

Resolved, That, if a convention or treaty for the establishment and preservation of peace, cannot be made with the regency of Algiers, the sum of two thousand four hundred dollars, annually, shall be distributed among the said captives or their families, as they may prefer, in such manner, and in such proportions, as the President of the United States shall order and direct, during their captivity.

Resolved, That the President of the United States be authorized and empowered to draw on the treasury of the United States for the sum of one hundred and forty-five thousand dollars.

[Am. State Papers, Foreign Rel., Vol. 1.]

[29 March 1792]

Petition of Prisoners at Algiers

The Petition of the Prisoners at Algiers, Sheweth —

That we were Captured nearly Seven Years ago by Cruisers belonging to the Regency of Algiers, while we were Navigating Vessels belonging to Citizens of the United States. That we were for a Considerable time flattered with the expectation held up to us that we would be redeemed from Captivity, as soon as it Could be done Consistant with propriety, and the interest of our Country. That to Effect this Redemption M^r John Lamb was sent to Algiers on the part of the United States, and that he entered into an agreement with the Regency at Algiers for our ransom, in consequence of which, the terms were recorded on the Books of the Regency, But M^r Lamb never returned to fulfill them by the payment of the Ransom Money, though he promised in the Name of the United States to do it in four Months. That we understand several persons have since been employed to make inquiries whether the Ransom agreed upon by M^r Lamb, might not be reduced, but all attempts of that sort have hitherto proved ineffectual, the Regency declaring that the Contract made by the Agent on the part of the United States ought to be discharged —

That we were for some time supplied with such sums of Money as served, together with the prospect of Redemption held up to us, to alleviate in some degree the rigor of our Captivity, but those supplies have Ceased for a Considerable time, during which we have been reduced to the Utmost distress, and we are Compelled in a great Measure to depend on the Charity of Transient people —

That owing to the Meloncholy situation to which we are reduced, one of us, James Hormet, has been deprived of his senses, and Confined in a Dungeon, the rest remain destitute almost of all the necessaries of life, and in this Deplorable situation we have resisted any temptations to Enter into the service of the Regency, that might hereafter be attended with Repentance or Remorse, trusting in the Justice and Humanity of Congress that we shall never be reduced to the Necessity of abandoning our Country and our Religion —

Your Most humble petitioners further pray you will Consider what our sufferings must have been for Nearly seven Years Captivity, twice surrounded with the Pest, and other Contagious distempers, which has numbered six of our brother sufferers in the tills of Mortality, and we remain employed in the Most laborious work, far distant

from our friends families and connections, without any real prospect of ever seeing them more —

But we entreat that some attention will be paid to our situation, and that Congress will, before the whole of us perish, take such steps towards our being liberated, as shall in their Judgement appear proper and right, and Your petitioners will Ever pray and be thankful. —

Signed by the 13 Prisoners

[See 25 July 1785]

ALGIERS 29 March 1792

[SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. I, April 1791–Dec. 1795.]

To John Paul Jones, appointment of Commissioner to treat with Algiers, from Secretary of State

PHILADELPHIA June 1. 1792.

To Admiral JOHN PAUL JONES.

SIR The President of the United States having thought proper to appoint you Commissioner for treating with the Dey and Government of Algiers on the subjects of Peace and ransom of our captives, I have the honor to enclose you the Commissions, of which M^r Thomas Pinckney now on his way to London as our Minister Plenipotentiary there, will be the bearer. Supposing that there exists a disposition to thwart our negociations with the algerines, and that this would be very practicable, we have thought it adviseable that the knowledge of this appointment should rest with the President, M^r Pinckney and myself: for which reason you will perceive that the Commissions are all in my own hand writing. for the same reason, entire secrecy is recommended to you, and that you so cover from the public your departure and destination, as that they may not be conjectured or noticed; and at the same time that you set out after as short delay as your affairs will possibly permit.

In order to enable you to enter on this business with full information, it will be necessary to give you a history of what has passed.

On the 25. July 1785. the Schooner *Maria*, Captⁿ Stevens, belonging to a M^r Foster of Boston, was taken off Cape St Vincents by an Algerine Cruiser; and five days afterwards, the Ship *Dauphin*, Captⁿ Obrian, belonging to Mess^{rs} Irvins of Philadelphia was taken by another about 50. leagues westward of Lisbon. These vessels with their cargoes and crews, twenty one persons in number, were carried into Algiers. M^r John Lamb, appointed Agent for treating of peace between the United States and the Government of Algiers, was ready to set out from France on that business, when M^r Adams and myself heard of these two captures. The ransom of prisoners, being a case not existing when our powers were prepared, no provision had been made for it. We thought however we ought to endeavor to ransom our countrymen, without waiting for orders; but at the same time, that, acting without authority, we should keep within the lowest price which had been given by any other Nation. We therefore gave a supplementary instruction to M^r Lamb to ransom our captives, if it could be done for 200. dollars a man, as we knew that three hundred French captives had been just ransomed by the Mathurins, at a price very little above this sum. He proceeded to Algiers: but his mission proved fruitless. He wrote us word from thence, that the Dey asked 59.496. dollars for the 21 captives, and that

it was not probable he would abate much from that price: but he never intimated an idea of agreeing to give it. As he has never settled the accounts of his mission, no further information has been received. It has been said that he entered into a positive stipulation with the Dey to pay for the prisoners the price above mentioned, or something near it; and that he came away with an assurance to return with the money. We cannot believe the fact true; and if it were, we disavow it totally, as far beyond his powers. We have never disavowed it formally, because it has never come to our knowledge with any degree of certainty.

In Feb^r 1787. I wrote to Congress to ask leave to employ the Mathurins of France in ransoming our captives, and on the 19. of Septem^r I received their orders to do so, and to call for the money from our bankers at Amsterdam as soon as it could be furnished. It was long before they could furnish the money, and, as soon as they notified that they could, the business was put into train by the General of the Mathurins, not with the appearance of acting for the United States or with their knowledge, but merely on the usual ground of charity. This expedient was rendered abortive by the Revolution of France, the derangement of ecclesiastical orders there, and the revocation of church property, before any proposition perhaps had been made in form by the Mathurins to the Dey of Algiers.

I have some reason to believe that M^r Eustace, while in Spain endeavored to engage the Court of Spain to employ their Mathurins in this same business, but whether they actually moved in it, or not, I have never learned

We have also been told that a M^r Simpson of Gibraltar, by the direction of the Mess^{rs} Bulkeley of Lisbon, contracted for the ransom of our prisoners (then reduced by death and ransom to 14) at 34,792 28/38 dollars. By whose orders they did it we could never learn. I have suspected it was some association in London, which finding the prices far above their conception, did not go through with their purpose, which probably had been merely a philanthropic one: be this as it may, it was without our authority or knowledge.

Again, M^r Cathalan, our Consul at Marseilles, without any instruction from the Government, and actuated merely, as we presume, by a willingness to do something agreeable, set on foot another negotiation for their redemption; which ended in nothing.

These several volunteer interferences, though undertaken with good intentions, run directly counter to our plan; which was to avoid the appearance of any purpose on our part ever to ransom our captives, and by that semblance of neglect, to reduce the demands of the algerines to such a price as might make it hereafter less their interest to pursue our Citizens than any others. On the contrary they have supposed all these propositions, directly or indirectly, came from us: they inferred from thence the greatest anxiety on our part, where we had been endeavoring to make them suppose there was none; kept up their demands for our captives at the highest prices ever paid by any Nation; and thus these charitable, though unauthorized interpositions, have had the double effect of lengthening the chains they were meant to break, and of making us at last set a much higher rate of ransom, for our Citizens present and future, than we probably should have obtained, if we had been left alone to do our own work, in our own way. Thus stands this business then at present. A

formal bargain, as I am informed, being registered in the books of the former Dey, on the part of the Bulkeleys of Lisbon, which they suppose to be obligatory on us, but which is to be utterly disavowed, as having never been authorized by us, nor its source even known to us.

In 1790. this subject was laid before Congress fully, and at the late Session monies have been provided, and authority given to proceed to the ransom of our captive Citizens at Algiers, provided it shall not exceed a given sum, and provided also a peace shall be previously negotiated within certain limits of expense. And in consequence of these proceedings your mission has been decided on by the President.

Since then no *ransom* is to take place without a *peace*, you will of course take up first the negotiation of peace, or if you find it better that peace and ransom should be treated of together, you will take care that no agreement for the latter be concluded, unless the former be established before, or in the same instant.

As to the conditions, it is understood that no peace can be made with that Government but for a larger sum of money to be paid at once for the whole time of its duration, or for a smaller one to be annually paid. The former plan we entirely refuse, and adopt the latter. We have also understood that peace might be bought cheaper with naval stores than with money: but we will not furnish them naval stores, because we think it not right to furnish them means which we know they will employ to do wrong, and because there might be no economy in it, as to ourselves in the end, as it would increase the expense of that coercion which we may in future be obliged to practice towards them. The only question then is, what sum of *money* will we agree to pay them *annually* for peace?

By a letter from Capt^o Obrian, [dated 27 September 1791] a copy of which you receive herewith, we have his opinion that a peace could be purchased with *money* for £60,000 sterling, or with *naval stores* for 100,000. dollars. An *annual* payment equivalent to the first, would be £3000. sterling, or 13,500. dollars, the interest of the sum in gross. If we could obtain it for as small a sum as the second in *money*, the annual payment equivalent to it would be 5000. dollars. In an other part of the same letter Capt^o Obrian says "if maritime stores and two light cruisers given and a tribute paid in maritime stores every two years amounting to 12,000. dollars in America", a peace can be had. The gift of stores and cruisers here supposed, converted into an annual equivalent, may be stated at 9000. dollars, and adding to it half the biennial sum, would make 15,000. dollars to be annually paid. You will of course use your best endeavors to get it at the lowest sum practicable, whereupon I shall only say, that we should be pleased with 10,000. dollars, contented with 15,000., think 20,000. a very hard bargain, yet go as far as 25,000. if it be impossible to get it for less; but not a copper further, this being fixed by law as the utmost limit: these are meant as annual sums. If you can put off the first annual payment to the end of the first year, you may employ any sum not exceeding that in presents to be paid down: but if the first payment is to be made in hand, that and the presents cannot by law exceed 25,000. dollars.

And here we meet a difficulty, arising from the small degree of information we have respecting the Barbary States. Tunis is said to be tributary to Algiers; but whether the effect of this be that peace being made with Algiers, is of course with the Tunisians without separate

treaty, or separate price, is what we know not. If it be possible to have it placed on this footing so much the better. At any event it will be necessary to stipulate with Algiers that her influence be interposed as strongly as possible with Tunis, whenever we shall proceed to treat with the latter; which cannot be till information of the event of your negotiation, and another Session of Congress.

As to the articles and form of the treaty in general, our treaty with Marocco was so well digested that I enclose you a copy of that to be the model with Algiers, as nearly as it can be obtained, only inserting the clause with respect to Tunis.

The ransom of the captives is next to be considered. they are now thirteen in number, to wit, Richard Obrian, and Isaac Stevens, Captains, Andrew Montgomery and Alexander Forsyth, Mates, Jacob Tessanier, a French passenger, William Patterson, Philip Sloan, Peleg Lorin, James Hull, James Cathcart, George Smith, John Gregory, James Hermit, seamen. It has been a fixed principle with Congress to establish the rate of ransom of American Captives with the Barbary states at as low a point as possible, that it may not be the interest of those States to go in quest of our Citizens in preference to those of other Countries. Had it not been for the danger it would have brought on the residue of our seamen, by exciting the cupidity of those rovers against them, our Citizens now in Algiers would have been long ago redeemed without regard to price. The mere money for this particular redemption neither has been, nor is an object with any body here. It is from the same regard to the safety of our seamen at large that they have now restrained us from any ransom unaccompanied with peace: this being secured, we are led to consent to terms of ransom, to which otherwise our government would never have consented; that is to say, to the terms stated by Captⁿ Obrian in the following passage of the same letter — “by giving the Minister of the Marine (the present Deys favorite) the sum of 1,000. sequins. I would stake my life that we would be ransomed for 13,000. sequins & all expenses included”. Extravagant as this sum is, we will, under the security of peace in future, go so far; not doubting at the same time that you will obtain it as much lower as possible, and not indeed without a hope that a lower ransom will be practicable from the assurances given us in other letters from Captⁿ Obrian, that prices are likely to be abated by the present Dey, and particularly with us, towards whom he has been represented as well disposed. You will consider this sum therefore, say 27,000. dollars, as your ultimate limit, including ransom, duties, and gratifications of every kind.

As soon as the ransom is completed, you will be pleased to have the captives well clothed, and sent home at the expense of the United States, with as much economy as will consist with their reasonable comfort.

It is thought best that M^r Pinckney, our minister at London should be the confidential channel of communication between us. He is enabled to answer your draughts for money within the limits before expressed: and as this will be by redrawing on Amsterdam, you must settle with him the number of days *after sight* at which your bills shall be payable in London so as to give him time, in the mean while, to draw the money from Amsterdam.

We shall be anxious to know as soon and as often as possible, your prospects in these negotiations. You will receive herewith a cypher

which will enable you to make them with safety. London and Lisbon (where Col. Humphreys will forward my letters) will be the safest and best ports of communication. I also enclose two separate commissions for the objects of peace and ransom. To these is added a commission to you as Consul for the United States at Algiers, on the possibility that it might be useful for you to remain there till the ratification of the treaties shall be returned from hence; though you are not to delay till their return, the sending the Captives home, nor the necessary payments of money within the limits before prescribed. Should you be willing to remain there, even after the completion of the business, as Consul for the United States, you will be free to do so, giving me notice, that no other nomination may be made. These Commissions, being issued during the recess of the Senate, are in force, by the Constitution, only till the next Session of the Senate; but their renewal then is so much a matter of course, and of necessity, that you may consider that as certain, and proceed without interruption. I have not mentioned this in the Commissions, because it is in all cases surplusage, and because it might be difficult of explanation to those to whom you are addressed.

The allowance for all your expenses and time (exclusive of the ransom, price of peace, duties, presents, maintenance and transportation of the Captives) is at the rate of 2000. dollars a year, to commence from the day on which you shall set out for Algiers, from whatever place you may take your departure. The particular objects of peace and ransom once out of the way, the 2000. dollars annually are to go in satisfaction of time, services, and expences of every kind, whether you act as Consul or Commissioner.

As the duration of this peace cannot be counted on with certainty, and we look forward to the necessity of coercion by cruises on their coast, to be kept up during the whole of their cruising season, you will be pleased to inform yourself, as minutely as possible, of every circumstance which may influence or guide us in undertaking and conducting such an operation, making your communications by safe opportunities.

I must recommend to your particular notice Captⁿ Obrian, one of the Captives, from whom we have received a great deal of useful information. The zeal which he has displayed under the trying circumstances of his present situation has been very distinguished, you will find him intimately acquainted with the manner in which and characters with whom business is to be done there, and perhaps he may be an useful instrument to you, especially in the outset of your undertaking, which will require the utmost caution, and the best information. He will be able to give you the characters of the European Consuls there, tho' you will probably not think it prudent to repose confidence in any of them.

Should you be able successfully to accomplish the objects of your mission in time to convey notice of it to us as early as possible during the next Session of Congress, which meets in the beginning of November and rises the 4. of March, it would have a very pleasing effect.

rough estimate not contained in the letter.

Peace.....	25, 000. dollars.
Ransom.....	27, 000.
cloath ^e & pas ^{se}	1, 000.
Negociator.....	2, 000.
	55, 000.
sum allowed.....	50, 000.

[NA. SDA. Dip. Cor., Inst. to Min., Bk 1, Jan. 1791-Aug. 1793.]

[2 June 1792]

Appointment of John Paul Jones as U. S. Consul, Algiers

GEORGE WASHINGTON *President of the United States of America*

To all who shall see these presents shall come Greetings

KNOW YE, That reposing special Trust and Confidence in the Abilities and Integrity of John Paul Jones, a citizen of the United States of America, I have nominated and appointed him Consul for the United States of America at the Port of Algiers and for such other ports within the same Allegiance as shall be nearer to the said port than to the Residence of any other Consul or Vice Consul of the United States, in the said allegiance; and do authorize and empower him to have and to hold the said office, and to exercise and enjoy all the Rights, Pre-eminences, Privileges and Authorities to the same of right appertaining, during the Pleasure of the President of the United States for the Time being: He demanding and receiving no Fees or Perquisites of office whatever which shall not be expressly established by some Law of the said United States. And I do hereby enjoin all Captains, Masters and Commanders of Ships and other Vessels, armed or unarmed, sailing under the Flag of the said States, as well as all other of their Citizens, to acknowledge and consider him the said John Paul Jones accordingly. And I do hereby pray and request the Dey and Government of Algiers and their Governors and Officers to permit the said John Paul Jones fully and peaceably to enjoy and exercise the said office, without giving or suffering to be given unto him any Molestation or Trouble, but on the contrary to afford him all proper countenance and assistance; I offering to do the same for all those who shall in like manner be recommended to me by the said Dey and Government of Algiers.

In Testimony whereof I have caused these letters to be made patent and the seal of the United States to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at the City of Philadelphia the 2^d [?] day of June in the Year of our lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the sixteenth.

G^o WASHINGTON
By the President
TH. JEFFERSON

[SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 1, Part 1, April 1785-July 1795.]

To Thomas Barclay, U. S. Consul, Morocco, from President George Washington

PHILADELPHIA *June 11. 1792.*

SIR Congress having furnished me with means for procuring peace, and ransoming our captive citizens from the government of Algiers, I have thought it best, while you are engaged at Marocco, to appoint Admiral Jones to proceed to Algiers, and therefore have sent him a Commission for establishing peace, another for the ransom of our captives, and a third to act there as Consul for the United States, and full instructions are given in a letter from the Secretary of State to him, of all which papers, M^r Pinckney, now proceeding to London as our Minister Plenipotentiary there, is the bearer, as he is also of this letter. It is sometime however since we have heard of Admiral Jones, and as, in the event of any accident to him, it might occasion an injurious delay, were the business to await new Commissions from hence, I have thought it best, in such an event, that M^r Pinckney should forward to you all the papers addressed to admiral Jones, with this letter, signed by myself, giving you authority on receipt of those papers to consider them as addressed to you, and to proceed under them in every respect as if your name stood in each of them in the place of that of John Paul Jones. You will of course finish the business of your mission to Marocco with all the dispatch practicable, and then proceed to Algiers on that hereby confided to you, where this letter with the Commissions addressed to Admiral Jones, and an explanation of circumstances, will doubtless procure you credit as acting in the name and on the behalf of the United States, and more especially when you shall efficaciously prove your authority by the fact of making, on the spot, the payments you shall stipulate. With full confidence in the prudence and integrity with which you will fulfill the objects of the present mission, I give to this letter the effect of a Commission and full powers, by hereto subscribing my name this eleventh day of June one thousand seven hundred and ninety two.

[NA. SDA. Dip. Cor., Inst. to Min., Bk 1, Jan. 1791–Aug. 1793.]

To David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, from Secretary of State

PHILADELPHIA, *March 21st 1793.*

To Col. DAVID HUMPHREYS —

SIR, The deaths of Admiral Paul Jones first, and afterwards of M^r Barclay, to whom the mission to Algiers explained in the enclosed papers [letter dated June 1, 1792] was successively confided, have led the President to desire you to undertake the execution of it in person. These papers, being copies of what had been delivered to them will serve as your guide. But M^r Barclay having been also charged with a mission to Morocco, it will be necessary to give you some trouble with respect to that also.

M^r Nathaniel Cutting, the Bearer hereof, is dispatched specially, first to receive from M^r Pinckney in London any papers or information, which his Agency in the Algerine Business may have enabled him to communicate to you: He will then proceed to deliver the whole to you, and accompany and aid you in the character of Secretary —

It is thought necessary that you should, in the first instance settle M^r Barclay's accounts respecting the Morocco mission, which will probably render it necessary that you should go to Gibraltar. The communications you have had with M^r Barclay in this mission will

assist you in your endeavours at a settlement. You know the sum received by M^r Barclay on that account, and we wish as exact a statement as can be made of the manner in which it has been laid out, and what part of it's proceeds are now on hand. You will be pleased to make an Inventory of these proceeds now existing. If they or any part of them can be used for the Algerine mission, we would have you by all means apply them to that use, debiting the Algerine fund, and crediting that of Morocco with the amount of such application. If they cannot be so used, then dispose of the perishable articles to the best advantage, and if you can sell those not perishable for what they cost, do so, and what you cannot so sell, deposite in any safe place under your own power. In this last stage of the Business return us an exact account 1st of the specific articles remaining on hand for that mission, and their value. 2nd of it's cash on hand. 3^d of any money which may be due to or from M^r Barclay or any other person on account of this mission, and take measures for replacing the clear balance of cash in the hands of Mess^{rs} W. & I. Willinks and Nich^{ls} & Jacob Van Staphorsts and Hubbard —

This matter being settled, you will be pleased to proceed on the mission to Algiers. This you will do by the way of Madrid, if you think any information you can get from M^r Carmichael, or any other may be an equivalent for the trouble, expense and delay of the journey. If not, proceed in whatever other way you please to Algiers —

Proper powers and Credentials for you addressed to that government are herewith enclosed. — The Instructions first given to Admiral Paul Jones are so full that no others need be added, except a qualification in one single article, to wit: Should that Government finally reject peace on the terms in *money*, to which you are authorized to go, you may offer to make the first payments for peace and that for ransom in *naval stores*, reserving the right to make the subsequent annual payments in money —

You are to be allowed your travelling expences, your salary as Minister Resident in Portugal going on. Those expences must be debited to the Algerine Mission, and not carried into your ordinary account as Resident. M^r Cutting is allowed one hundred Dollars a month, and his expenses, which as soon as he joins you, will of course be consolidated with yours. We have made choice of him as particularly qualified to aid under your direction in the matters of account, with which he is well acquainted. He receives here an advance of One thousand Dollars by a draught on our Bankers in Holland in whose hands the fund is deposited. This and all other sums furnished him, to be debited to the Algerine fund. I inclose you a letter to our Bankers giving you complete authority over these funds, which you had better send with your first Draught, though I send a copy of it from hence by another opportunity —

This business being done, you will be pleased to return to Lisbon, and to keep yourself and us thereafter well informed of the transactions in Morocco, and as soon as you shall find that the succession to that Government is settled and stable so that we may know to whom a Commissioner may be addressed, be so good as to give us the information that we may take measures in consequence.

[NA. SDA. Dip. Cor., Inst. to Min., Bk 1, Jan. 1791–Aug. 1793.]

To Secretary of State from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar

GIBRALTAR 1st June 1793 —

SIR: Contrary Winds having detain'd the Vessel this goes by, affords me an opportunity of adding to my advices under 22^d last Month, forwarded by same conveyance, the intelligence we have since received of the American Schooner *Lark* Captⁿ Pulling from Carthagena, having been captured off Cape de Gat, by an Algerine Row Boat; — fortunately the Master & Crew escap'd in their Boat, and landed in Spain. —

By our latest advices Muley Soliman remained at Rhabat — most of the Provinces sent him deputies, and he has been encouraged to send part of his Army forward to Shaulia or Tremecena, in order to give the Alcaydes Ben Assar & Bellaroni an opportunity of joining him if they should be inclined to do so — those Men have for some time back lived in a state of Independency, and not taken part with any of the contending Princes —

When Spain supported Muley Ishem in opposition to Yazid & Islema they had no communication with any other part of the Empire but that under his dominion — permission has lately been given for their Vessels to trade as before to all the Ports, and I have it from the best authority that the Court of Madrid will be one of the first to send an Ambassador to Soliman, so soon as he can establish himself in Morocco.

The report of the Toulon Fleet having sailed has not been confirmed. —

The allied Army has enter'd France — by our latest advices they were before Condé and Valenciennes. —

[SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. I, April 1791–Dec. 1795.]

To Secretary of State from Edward Church, U. S. Consul, Lisbon

LISBON 22^d Sept^r 1793

SIR Col^l Humphreys with M^r Cutting embarked the 17th Inst^t on b^d a Swedish Vessel called y^e *Postillion* commanded by Ab^m Herbst bound first for Gibraltar. — The Algerine Corsairs are (unfortunately for us) more at Liberty just at this time than heretofore, the Portuguese Ships of War, which were stationed on that Coast, being obliged to quit it, to follow the orders of *their Masters* the English; it is therefore to be feared that this circumstance may increase the difficulties of the proposed negotiation, as the Algerines only wanted this obstacle removed to have become Masters long ere this of many of our Vessels and fellow-Citizens — Col^l H. has probably informed you that an American Vessel was taken by the A[l]gerines the 18th Ult^o & that the Men fortunately escaped in their boat to the opposite Shore near Malaga, had the men been taken, it is more than probable that the great object in view would have been defeated, the Algerines were in an American Vessel which they had taken some time before and armed for the purpose, the Crew of this Vessel had also effected their escape in the same way. — An American Vessel from Boston sailed from this Port last Week bound for Malaga, it is of the utmost importance that She also sh^d escape, for should one other American Crew fall into the Dey's hands, *our Friend's* means would be totally inadequate, & his mission of course fruitless. —

Under the most favourable circumstances, with his present means, We have no great reason to be very sanguine of his success — The

extreme ignorance and imprudent conduct of one of the precursors on the same errand, have greatly magnified the expectations and demands of the Dey, and the tribute paid by other Nations far exceeds the Sum prescribed by the U. S. — Fortunately for America She has every thing possible to hope from the present Agent, who goes with a heart tremblingly alive to the Sufferings of the unfortunate Captives, and who also possesses every other requisite conducive to the success of such an Enterprize; but when we consider that he has to treat with a rapacious Despot who is probably actuated solely by self-interest, and restrained only by fear, that it is palpably for the interest of all the European maritime Nations that We should be excluded from a share in the mediterranean trade, and therefore that all the Barbary Powers should be our Enemies; I would hope, whatever may be the issue of this negociation, that my Countrymen will give Col^d Humphreys all the credit due to a Man who has done all that Man can do. — No man is more thoroughly convinced than I am of the importance, and vast commercial advantages to the U. S. of Am^a of a free Mediterranean Navigation, but I am by no means convinced that these advantages can possibly be secured to Us *in our present Situation*; the faith of Pirates — whose only support is plunder, and who have hitherto contemned all those times and obligations which clash wth their interest, and w^{ch} sometimes bind more civilized Despots, — seems to me to be but a feeble dependence on which to place a large Stake.

When we can appear in the *Ports* of the various Powers, or on the Coast, of Barbary, with Ships of such force as to convince those nations that We are able to protect our trade, and to compel them if necessary to keep faith with Us, then, and not before, We may probably secure a large share of the Medit^a trade, which would largely and speedily compensate the U. S. for the Cost of a maritime force amply sufficient to keep all those Pirates in Awe, and also make it their interest to keep faith. —

We are here almost as ignorant of what the belligerent Powers are doing as if We were in the moon, being excluded from all communication with France, and having only the garbled accounts in the London papers, calculated in general to tickle the Ears, and drain the pockets of that duped, and *almost ruined* Nation. —

This Nation seems in general extremely averse to engaging in the War, both Nobles & People, but the Prince Regent is said to be under the absolute guidance and controul of one Man, Martin de Mello, who is the Creature and Idolator of the English — 6000 Troops are just embarked to join the Spanish Army, and the Portug^u have some time since furnished their Quota of Ships to the English, but it seems the French still consider this nation as not involved in the War against them, as a Portuguese Ship is lately arrived from Bayonne in France laden with pitch, tar, and paper — All the portugueze vessels lately arrived, as well as many Americans, complain bitterly of the insults and pillage of the *british* privateers which they meet at Sea, and of the politeness of the *french* — but it is probably more wise and prudent for both, to pocket the abuses at present, than to resent them. * * *

Hon^{ble} THOMAS JEFFERSON Esq^r
 Secretary of State for the Un^d States of Am^{ca}
 Or to

His Successor in the Office —

P. S. Col^l Humphries (from whom I rec^d the information) has doubtless acquainted you, that England & Spain seem to be plotting in what way they can most effectually clip our Eagle's Wings, They are both extremely envious of her soaring; this may probably be one cause that retards the conclusion of the business which occupies our Commissioners at the Spanish Court —

Sept^r 23^d It is whispered that there has been a second severe Action near Perpignan between the French & Spaniards in which the latter have been greatly worsted, the best voucher wth I can produce at present in confirmation, is the sombre Visages of almost all the English here, but this may proceed more from their fears, than from their knowledge of the truth of the report.

[NA. SDA. CL, Lisbon, Vol. I, 1791-1802.]

To John Marsden Pintard, U. S. Consul, Madeira, from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal

GIBRALTER Octo. 6. 1793

DEAR SIR Authentic advice is just Received that a truce for 12 months, is concluded between Portugal & Algiers — In consequence of which eight Algeren Cruizers Viz Four frigates, one Brig & three Xebeques passed through the streights last night into the Atlantic — I write you in great haste this information in order that you may take such measures as you shall judge Proper to give to our Countrymen the most rapid & extensive notice thereof possible

The within is a true Copy of an Original Letter I this day received from Colonel Humphreys

JOHN M PINTARD

MADEIRA 30 Octo. 1793 —

[NA. SDA. CL, Funchal, Vol. 1, March 1793-July 1831.]

To Michael Morphy, U. S. Consul, Malaga, Spain, from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal

Copy.

GIBRALTAR Sunday morning 6th Oct^r 1793 —

SIR, I have this moment received authentic intelligence that the Algereens have concluded a Truce for twelve months with the Portuguese; in consequence of which four Frigates, three Xebecks and a Brig of 20 guns have past the streights into the Atlantic in course of last Night, probably to cruize against the American Flag. I have to request that you will immediatly communicate this information to every Commander of an American Vessel that may now be, or may arrive, at your Port: — and also that you will transmit the same advice to any American Consul or Agent with whom you may have opportunity of Corresponding:

I Dispatch this per Express and embrace the same opportunity of forwarding you a Packet which I received some time since from the Secretary of State for the United States of America:

[Similar letter to Edward Church, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, 6 October 1793.]

[NA. SDA. CL, Malaga, Vol. 1, June 1793-May 1814.]

[8 October 1793]

Circular concerning Truce between Portugal and Algiers, from David Humphreys,
U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal

TO ALL GOVERNORS, MAGISTRATES, OFFICERS CIVIL, MILITARY
& others concerned, in the United States of America.

You are most earnestly desired, as speedily as possible, to give an universal alarm to all Citizens of the United States concerned in navigation, particularly to the southern parts of Europe, of the danger of being captured by the Algerines, in prosecuting their voyages to that destination.

A Truce for twelve Months is concluded between Portugal and Algiers. In consequence of which a fleet of Algerine Cruizers passed through the Straights into the Atlantic on Saturday night last. —

Given at Gibralter this 8th day of Oct^r 1793.

D. HUMPHREYS.

[NA. SDA. CL, Lisbon, Vol. I, 1791-1802.]

To Secretary of State from Edward Church, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, Portugal

(Copy)

LISBON 12th Octo^r 1793.

SIR Yesterday y^e 11th I rec^d the following note from Col^l Humphreys, our Minister Resident at this Court, but now at Gibraltar.

"DEAR SIR" "We have advice of a Truce between the Portuguese
"and Algerines, and that an Algerine Fleet has gone into the Atlantic,
"Pray forward the inclosed with the intelligence and believe me"

Your's

(Signed) D. HUMPHREYS

Immediately on receipt of this very alarming news, I called together all the American Captains now in this Port, and communicated the Contents of the above Letter, with such farther information as I had a few minutes after obtained from a friendly and always well informed Portuguese Gentleman — which was, that on the 5th instant an Algerine Fleet consisting of eight armed Ships had been seen by a Portuguese Frigate (just arrived) sailing out of the Mediterranean, there were 4 Ships carrying 44, 36, 30, & 28 Guns — 3 Xebecs 20, 24 & 26 Guns and one Brig of 22 Guns,

Their Signals to the Portuguese & English are said to be an English Jack at the fore-top-gallant-Mast-head, and a Flag with blue and white, or blue & Yellow stripes, at the Main top gallant mast head. —

Early this Morning I waited on his Excellency Luiz Pinto de Sousa Minister & Secretary of State for foreign Affairs, on the subject of this unexpected Event, and the unfortunate situation in which it had placed not only the American Capt^{ns} now here, but our Nation at large, whose injury seems to have been particularly meditated in this negociation: —

The Minister received me with great politeness, and anticipating the cause of my visit, informed me that he was at the moment of my arrival occupied in writing to me on the subject, but was better pleased to see me, as he could more fully and particularly explain the nature of this business to me viva voce, than by letter, and assured me that he would candidly communicate to me how far the Court of Portugal were concerned, or chargeable for the Mischiefs resulting from

this Truce, to all other Powers not at peace with Algiers, he declared that it was as unexpected to the Court of Portugal as it could be to us, and if it was not quite so unwelcome, yet it was by no means agreeable to their Court, who never intended to conclude either a Peace or Truce with the Dey without giving timely notice to all their friends that they might avoid the dangers, to which they might otherwise be exposed by trusting to the Protection of the Portuguese Ships of War stationed in the Mediterranean, — He acknowledged that the Court of Portugal had about 6 Months past, expressed to the Courts of England and Spain, a desire of their friendly cooperation to induce a disposition in the Dey towards the establishment of a firm and lasting peace with her most faithful Majesty, but having appointed no Person directly or indirectly to negotiate in behalf of her Majesty they considered the business as only in embryo; but the british Court zealous over much for the happiness of the two nations Portugal and Algiers, in order to precipitate this important business, very officiously authorized Charles Logie the british Consul-General and Agent at Algiers, not only to treat, but to conclude, for and in behalf of this Court, not only without any Authority, but without even consulting it; — A Truce was accordingly concluded between the Dey, and the british Agent (for twelve Months) in behalf of her most faithful Majesty, for the performance of which on the part of her Majesty the British Court is Guarantee — the Condition is, that this Court shall pay to the Dey one third as much as he receives, annually from the court of Spain, — When this Court received information of this proposed Condition from M^r Walpole the british Envoy to this Court; They informed him, that however desirous they might be of a Peace with Algiers, they were so far from being disposed to submit to such a condition, that it was the determination of her most faithful Majesty not to pay one farthing, but in the interval the Truce was signed by the self constituted Agent M^r Logie, — The Minister M^r Pinto farther informed me that this Court had ordered an Augmentation of their Number of Armed Ships on the Mediterranean Station, so little was their expectation of a Truce or Peace with Algiers, and intimated that the Algerines would probably ere long be less at liberty to cruise than at present, and mentioned less than a Month but though I have great confidence in his sincerity, and in the good wishes and disposition towards us of many of the Portuguese Nobility, and of their sincere hatred of the English, yet the Prince is young, weak, and obstinate, and can, and probably will determine as his own Caprice or Martin de Mello may direct, — The Conduct of the british in this business leaves no room to doubt, or mistake their object, which was evidently aimed at Us, and proves that their envy, jealousy, and hatred, will never be appeased, and that they will leave nothing unattempted to effect our ruin, — as a farther confirmation it is worthy of remark, that the same british Agent obtained a Truce at the same time between the States of Holland and the Dey, for Six Months, whereby We and the Hanse towns are now left the only prey to those Barbarians, — This last Truce has in all probability cost the English very dear, as the Algerines had profited much by Captures from the Dutch, since the commencement of the late hostilities between the two Nations, —

This will I fear give a fatal Stroke to the advantages which we might otherwise have derived from our Neutrality. —

I am at this place interrupted by intelligence from A staunch friend to America, who has information from the fountain head — it has greatly shocked me — I have reason to fear that there is an infernal combination in Europe against Us, France excepted, — and that we have no other hope or resource but in our own Strength. —

Monday 14th I have just received a letter from Gibraltar of the 8th with orders to charter a Vessel to carry the intelligence to you Copy of which letter I send herewith — At this moment a Swedish Vessel arrives — on the 9th in Lat: 38. 13, She was boarded by an Algerine Frigate, at a small distance She saw another, which had just Captured 4 Americans, 2 Brigs, 1 Ship & 1 Schooner, — and one Genoese Ship —

She was informed of the Truce, and that it was for 12 Months with Holland & Portugal — I have forwarded letters by Express wherever I thought it necessary to notify our Citizens of their Danger, — We are betrayed and many, many of our Countrymen will fall into the Snare, — I send you a list of those in this port, — I have chartered a Ship this Moment for £800 Sterl^s to carry my Dispatches, She sails tomorrow — they will be delivered to you by M^r Livingston to whom refer you for farther particulars, which In my great hurry I may omit; I have not slept since Receipt of the news of this hellish plot, — pardon me for such Expressions — Another Corsair is in the Atlantic, — God preserve Us, — News is just arrived P^r Post, that the French have retaken Toulon — have repulsed the Duke of Brunswick with great Slaughter; and that the Prince de Cobourg is in great Danger of a total defeat, being hemmed in by a very powerful Army, which he dares not attack, *Cetera desunt*, — I have chartered the Vessel to go, and return with a Cargo of wheat, or Flour to this Port or Cadiz, for £800 Stl^s, her freight back will go far to pay the Expence of her hire — — God grant her a safe and speedy passage — Small hopes now of a peace with Algiers — It is currently reported here, that 3 or 4 some say 2 & some but 1 of the Algerine Frigates now cruising against Us, were a late present from the british King, but for this I have no other Authority than common report; if it should be thought I have chartered the Vessel at a high price, I wish the Governm^t to be informed that all the protected Ships demand at least double since the confirmation of this Algerine News, and I have been rather favoured in the Contract which I have made, and therefore, hope no blame will fall on me, but that I shall be enabled by the Government to fulfill my Engagement, —

Upon farther enquiry I am sorry to inform you that the letter containing the above french News, comes from doubtful Authority. — It is a matter of certainty, which I have received from undoubted Authority, though contradicted by the Minister Luiz Pinto, and at present a great Secret, that one of the present Port^o Ministers is in this execrable plot, a plot loudly and publicly execrated by this Nation — I asked if it was Martinio de Mello? and was answered that all his consequence & his pecuniary Resources were derived from the Mediterⁿ fleet, or Algerine War, and of course no suspicion could justly fall upon him — Was it the Secretary Luiz Pinto? my Informant only knew at present that one of the four Ministers had been privy to the whole transaction, but could not fix it, but could and would tell me very soon, at present he seemed disposed rather to suspect the first Minister, the Marquis Ponte-de-Lima, because he was

the inveterate Enemy of Martinho de Mello, whom my Author heard say on a former occasion to An Ambassador on his taking leave of the Court to go to Algiers to Negotiate a peace, Sir! the Ships attend you, you will therefore proceed without delay on your Embassy, but remember what I have said, and what I now repeat, as of the greatest consequence (*meaning to himself*) if you succeed in making a peace you will do well, but if you should not succeed you will do much better — the relation of these circumstances tho' trivial in themselves, may possibly enable you to form a more adequate idea of this Court than I should be able otherwise to give you, it is with this view I trouble you with them, —

One of the Frigates now Cruising under Algerine Colours was a present from the King of Spain but not very lately — and one is certainly a very late present from the british King — I write in great haste, and perturbation of mind, yet hope and believe I have omitted nothing in my power to communicate for the public good & Safety, to promote which, I pray you to believe me ever most firmly and sincerely devoted — If by the harshness of some of my expressions I should appear to you to be more strongly prejudiced against the british, or british politicks, than my Countrymen in general, I trust it is only because I know them better; Few of my Countrymen having been so much conversant with them for 30 years last past, the Interval of the late War excepted, and Fewer perhaps have observed & Studied them so much, I am convinced they were making large Strides again in America, and would probably ere long have possessed an influence there which sooner or later would have proved our ruin, but Heaven I hope has timely interposed, and doomed them to fall into the pit which they were digging for Us, and that great good will ultimately be derived to Us from this great Evil, it is greatly to be deplored that so many of our Citizens must be doomed to perpetual Slavery, but better so, than the whole Nation, of which there seemed to be not a little danger. —

I keep this letter open to make such additions as occasions may offer, 'till the moment the Vessel weighs Anchor, She has nothing to do but to take in Water —

I send you by this opp^t a large Packet of letters from Col^l Humphreys which doubtless contain the most important intelligence —

[SDA. CL, Lisbon, Vol. 1, 1791-1802.]

[14 October 1793]

Circular to Citizens of the United States from Edward Church, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, Portugal

CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Nine Algerine Corsairs are now cruising in the Atlantic, They carry from 22 to 44 Guns — They sailed out of the Mediterranean on the 6th instant, and were seen on the 9th to capture four American Vessels, and one Genoese — A Truce for 12 months between Portugal and Algiers, was signed the 12th Sept^r last, by the british Agent at Algiers, in behalf of her Majesty the Queen of Portugal — and another Truce by the same Agent about the same time in behalf of the United Netherlands — The foregoing authentic intelligence goes by Express, from your truly distressed, and faithful fellow-Citizen

LISBON 14 Oct^r 1793

N. B A Swedish Ship saw the Algerines after taking an American discharge part of the Cargo of Grain into the Sea, this was probably that the Vessel might sail better meaning to arm her on the Spot with a few Guns, in order to increase their Number of Cruisers

We are informed that ten of the Dutch Captains taken by Algerines since their War with Holland have died of the plague in Algiers, how many of other descriptions or Nations I have not heard,

By an American fortunately arrived this day from Falmouth, We are informed that the American Vessels now in England are returning in Ballast, the English not chusing to risk their property in American bottoms, but no reason has been assigned for this mysterious conduct, mysterious in England, but evident Enough here

E C

LISBON 15 Oct^r 1793

[NA. SDA. CL, Lisbon, Vol. I, 1791-1802.]

To Secretary of State, from Peter Walsh, of Dominick Terry and Company, Cadiz
Spain

Cadiz 17th October 1793

SIR I have the honour to transmit you by the Brig *Fair Hebe* Capⁿ Brown, for Philad^a, a Copy of my Letter to you of yesterday [referring to Mr. Humphreys' circular of 8 October 1793] by the *Two Sisters'* Capⁿ Sheffield. — both vessels go out together, which affords' a better chance of the Dispatches reaching you which I have received from M^r Humphreys', & of which a duplicate goes herewith. —

While I am writing there are two American vessels' beating in, which I have advised of their danger; — they are within the reach of our Guns. —

We labour under great difficulty on account of a practice which calls' loudly for redress. whatever English ships' of force come into this Bay strip all American Vessels of their Men, the Natives of that Kingdom they take out of them by main force, tho' these always' enter as American Citizens', & Swear themselves to be Such, & the Americans they use every endeavour to entice away. — There is now here an English Frigate, the *Andromache* Capⁿ Jones, which has hardly left two Men on board of any American Vessel, & we have the mortification to see Capⁿ Sheffield threatend with being deprived of 3 of his, which if executed, he will not be able to get away. — I am endeavouring to prevent it, but as there is no Person here authorised to represent the American cause, there is no redress of grievances to be obtain'd.

My exertions on these occasions' proceed not from Officiousness, but from a sincere attachment to a Country in which I have resided upwards of 3 year's, & of which I became a Citizen, & shall ever consider myself as such tho' Establish'd here in Trade. — My House is extensively connected in Business with the United States, & the grievances which I complain of bear hard on it. —

The Dispatches with which you entrusted me in November 1791 for M^r Carmichael at Madrid were duly forwarded & received by him. —

[SDA. CL, Cadiz, Vol. 1-1791-1805.]

To Secretary of State from Peter Walsh, of Dominick Terry and Company, Cadiz, Spain

CADIZ 17th Oct^r 1793

SIR In addition to what I wrote you this Morning by the *Fair Hebe* I have now to advise that Two American Brigs & a Schooner are just arrived, with the Ship *Nancy* Capⁿ Butler, from New York, bound to Barcelona, which was chased several hours, & got clear by means of her Superior sailing, & runing into four fathom water for the shore; on seeing which the Algerine made for an American Sloop, which Capⁿ Butler apprehends must have been Captur'd. — humanity shudder's for the fate of those who may have the misfortune to fall into the hands of the Pirates.

[SDA. CL, Cadiz, Vol. 1, 1791–1805.]

To Secretary of State from Edward Church, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, Portugal

LISBON Tuesday 22nd Octo^r 1793

SIR On Saturday the 19th Instant, the Vessels belonging to the Hanseatic Towns were ordered to be in readiness to sail the 25th under Convoy of Two Portuguese Frigates, ordered by her Majesty to Convoy them to a certain Latitude. — One of the Articles of the Truce with Algiers which was communicated to me on the 12th Inst^t by Luiz Pinto the Minister for foreign Affairs, expressly restricted the Portuguese from affording protection (without exception) to any one Nation, Nevertheless the Consul and Agent for the Hanseatic Towns, petitioned for a Convoy, and strongly Urged a right founded on a prior Treaty of a very ancient date existing between the two Nations, this was generally understood to be the principle upon which the Convoy was granted, and was so publicly declared by the Agent, — but I had strong reasons to believe that this Government were by no means pleased with the conditions of the truce, or the manner in which it had been negotiated FOR and not BY this Nation, and that tho' they did not think proper formally to disavow and reject it, yet that they wou'd not be displeased if a plausible pretence shou'd offer to break it, — I was also convinced that a great Majority, if not the whole Nation, were extremely offended for various reasons, they conceived it intended not only to throw on them the odium of the manifest treachery in the business, but that it was also aimed at their Navy, which was now an object of their particular attention, and which for want of some employment, wou'd again sink into neglect, which they suppose to have been one object of the English in so eagerly precipitating this Truce. — Upon the presumption that such was the general opinion, and my knowledge that the Spanish Ambassador when at Court on the 15th Inst^t had been treated rather roughly by all the Nobility present when he congratulated the Prince on the happy event of the Truce; — I wrote a letter to the Minister Yesterday, of which transmit you a Copy p^r this opportunity, and as I have been diligent, in my Enquiries prior to my writing, and am particularly favoured with the interest and support of two very distinguished Personages here, who have honored me with some particular attentions, I am greatly flattered with hopes of Success; if I find there is a prospect of a speedy and favorable Answer, it is probable I may detain the Vessel a day or two in order to Convey such intelligence which will be so very important and acceptable to the United States. * * *

P. S. I cannot give a stronger proof of the Sincerity of the disgust and disappointm^t of this Court on account of the Truce wth Algiers, than that the Spanish & British Ministers were unsuccessfully opposed to the granting Us a Convoy, this comes from the best Authority, even Martin ho de Mello favoured Us in this instance — in short the British have lost ground by this left-handed policy, and the general opinion that I do not love them over-much is now no small recommendation of me; I think this would not be an unfav^{ble} moment to propose a commercial Treaty upon a broad & liberal Basis — the advantage could not fail in every view to preponderate in our favor — I wish this may be taken into immediate and serious consideration as our Commerce wth this Country holds out very many advantages to the U. S. if under proper regulations. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Lisbon, Vol. I, 1791-1802.]

[22 October 1793]

To Edward Church, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, Portugal, from Luiz Pinto de Souza,
Minister and Secretary of State, Portugal

Translation

In answer to the letter you addressed to me of yesterday's date on the protection & convoy which you solicit in favor of the vessels of the U S. of America which have to sail to their destinations, in danger from the cruizers of Algiers, I am ordered to inform you that her most faithful majesty, desirous of manifesting to the said states whatsoever may benefit their navigation or commerce as far as may be compatible with her own supreme justice, is very ready to give her royal orders that the vessels of the said states shall enjoy in their passage the same protection which she has ordered to be extended to the vessels of the Hanseatic towns until the conclusion of the ratification of the truce adjusted between her M. F. Majesty & the regency of Algiers: provided nevertheless that the vessels of the US. which shall desire to shelter themselves under the protection of the said convoys, shall unite & assemble in sufficient number to merit to be convoyed; as this measure cannot be practised in favor of a few, for clear reasons which manifest themselves.

PALACE OF QUELUZ 22. Octob. 1793.

[NA. SDA. CL, Lisbon, Vol. I, 1791-1802.]

To Secretary of State from John M. Pintard, U. S. Consul, Madeira

MADEIRA 29th October 1793

SIR

* * * * *

It is with great concern that I now Inform you the Portugese Government have Concluded a truce for one year with the Algireens In consequence of which they have permitted five Algireen Corsairs to Come out of the Streights and they are Now Cruising off [f] Cape S^t Vincents and the Rock of Lisbon two vessells arrived yesterday from Lisbon that were Boarded by them & I am very fearfull they will Make great Havock among our Shipping Bound to Cadis or Lisbon. Coll^o Humphryes Sailed from Lisbon for Giberalter on ye 16th of Septembr and M^r Church Remained in Charge with the affairs of the United States I had no letters from him by either of the vessells that

arrived here another vessel was to Sail the next day by w^{ch} I presume I shall hear particularly from him But the Intelligence I now give you If too true It is said that the treaty or truce was Negotiated by the English Government at Giberalter. the Season being now so far advanced I presume they will go in the Streights again soon but in the Spring of the year they will be out in Swarms. This I presume is a political Maneuver of the Combined powers who were envious of the growing prosperity of the United States. I shall Continue to give Such Information as may come to my Knoledge in this as well as every other Matter which may Relate to United States

[NA. SDA. CL, Funchal, Vol. 1, March 1793–July 1831.]

To the House of Dominick Terry and Company, Cadiz, Spain, from Samuel Calder, Master of American Schooner *Jay*, and Slave in Algiers

ALGIERS 3th Novem^r 1793 —

GENTLEMEN I am very sorry to inform you of my present Situation which is most deplorable, I was taken by an Algerine Cruizer on the 8th [*] of October 45 Leagues to S: W: of Cape S^t Vinsent. and arrived here the 30th ins^t [October] and am sorry to inform you that I found ten sail of Americans amongst which was Capⁿ Newman of the *Thomas* Capⁿ Morse of the *Jane* Capⁿ Wallace of the *Dispatch* all from Cadiz, the others from America—we was all stript of all our Cloaths some Came on shore without even a shirt, we was immediately put into Chains and put to hard Labour, with only the allowance of three small loaves of black bread p^r day & water & as it will take some time to get any supply from America, & its not possible to Live long, in this situation, I am under the Necessity of begging you to suply me with about. one hundred dollars, throu the hand of the Spanish Cousul, for which I will send you bills upon M^r David Pearce, or upon my wife in America, I must Like wise beg you to forward the Inclosed By the first opportunity to America, and shall write to M^r Pearce Jun^r by New opportunity if you should be writing to M^r Pearce please to inform him of my Capture— * * *

[*Document of 4 December states 11th.]

[SDA. CL, Cadiz, Vol. 1, 1793–1805.]

To Secretary of State from Peter Walsh, of Dominick Terry and Company, Cadiz, Spain

CADIZ 20 Nov^r 1793

SIR My last respects' to you were of the 12th ins^t, & as an American Citizen I shall continue to advise you of what occur's here, until M^r Yznardi arrives, but afterward's it wou'd be officiousness in me to do it. —

Four American Vessel's arrived here since my said last, which are performing Quarantine at the upper Part of this Bay by order of the Governour, who has received alarming accounts' from the Spanish chargé, of a Pestilential disorder which prevail's in Philad^a, & carry's off great number's of People, but as there are recent advices from New York, mentioning this disorder to have nearly subsided I expect these Vessel's will be admitted to Pratick in 10 to 15 day's. — Their Cargo's, Consisting of Wheat, Flour, Indian Corn & Rice will sell exceeding well, these articles having risen considerably in Consequence of what happen's with the Algerines

Some of these are still out, and Cruize Considerably to the Nor'd of the Westⁿ Island's. — I received an Express Yesterday from Edw^d Church Esq^r advising of their having chased into Lisbon the American Brig *Neptune* Capⁿ [space] Griffith's, who was coming from Amsterdam to this Place with Wheat for the King's acc^t. my House has prevail'd on the Agent's to suffer the Cargo to be tranship't on board of Neutral Vessel's for this Bay, which frees the *Neptune* at Lisbon & secures her Freight, and we have made similar arrangement's for several more American Vessel's which have put into different Ports to take Shelter from the Algerines —

The sum of four Hundred thousand Hard Dollar's has been just raised here by a number of English, Irish, & Scotch Houses for the purpose of speculating on the American Property which may be taken by the Algerines. The Merchant's of Gibraltar are disposed to do the same, & I am sorry to observe many among them there & here, who owe much to America. This I fear will encourage these in their attempts' against our Vessel's,

I am much alarm'd for the saftey of my Brother Walter Walsh who Command's, & own's, the American Brig *Hope*, & must have sail'd from Charleston for this Place two months' ago, shou'd he be so unfortunate as to fall into their hand's his Ransom wou'd fall heavy on me — there is no Insurance to be obtain'd here under 25 p^r c^t, & I am ask'd 50 p^r c^t for one on my said Brother. — all this will put an effectual stop to our intercourse with America untill something is done with these Algerines

[SDA. CL, Cadiz, Vol. 1, 1791-1805.]

To Secretary of State from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar

GIBRALTAR 25th November 1793 —

SIR Its with extreme concern I have to acquaint you, I yesterday received a letter from Captain OBryen dated Algiers 5th Ins^t in which is the following paragraph, "In consequence of the Portuguese and "Dutch obtaining a Truce with this Regency, the Algerine Cruisers "has captured in the latter end of October ten American Vessels, the "Masters & Crews to the number of 110 Men is brought to Algiers and "is made Slaves of to this Regency, these and all the other Ameri- "can Captives is in a distressed and naked situation"—he adds at foot of his letter

"Captured 4 Ships	2 of Philadelphia Captains Penrose &
4 Brigs	McShean
2 Schooners	

also Ship *Hope* of N York" —

I am induced to give you this quotation verbatim because it appears to make eleven Vessels, and ten are only mention'd in the letter, but it would seem as if the *Hope* had arrived after it was written. —

All the Cruisers were at Algiers save one Ship and ready to sail again, with the addition of a Genoese Polacra they had armed. — This ship I am very sorry to add passed up about ten days ago, having been at anchor 12th Ins^t off Larach with an American Brig loaded at S^{ta} Cruz with Wax, Hides & other Articles the produce of that Country. —

I have only to add to my advice of the 21st last Month, that the report still gains ground that the Portuguese Squadron have orders, to

prevent the Algerines passing again to the Atlantic, but I dare not give it to you as a fact; altho' yesterday a Ship of the Line, one of the Convoy sailed from the Tagus on the 4th Ins^t arrived in this Bay, and the Captain reported the same as the others, that he expected the whole Fleet here; — I cannot think of any other object they can have in view at this Season of the Year, but to guard the Straits, certainty of which we shall know first Levanter. —

[SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. 1, April 1791–Dec. 1795.]

List of American Vessels Captured by the Algerines in October & November 1793

- Ship *Hope* of New York George Burnham Master bound from Rotterdam to Malaga in Ballast.
- *Minerva* J.^a M^{rs}Shane from Philadelphia to Barcelona.
- *Prudent* of Philadelphia William Penrose Master from Philadelphia to Cadiz with Grain Flour &c
- *Thomas* of Newberry Port Thomas Newman Master from Cadiz to Amsterdam with Sugar, Wooll & Sundries.
- Brig *George* of Road Island James Taylor Master from Lisbon with Grain & Indian Corn.
- *Polly* of Newberry Port Michael Smith Master from Baltimore to Cadiz with Flour.
- *The Olive Branch* of Portsmouth William Furness Master with Grain from Virginia to Lisbon.
- *Jane* of Haver Hill Moses Mosse Master with Hides, Indigo from Cadiz to Ostend.
- Schooner *Jay* of Colchester Samuel Calder Master from Malaga to Boston with Raisins, Figs, Wine &c
- *Dispatch* of Petersburg William Wallsy Master from Cadiz to Hamburg with Sugar Indigo Sarsaparrilla &c
- Brig *Minerva* Joseph Ingram Master with Sundries bound from Leghorn to New York 7 Men
105 American Slaves.

[SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. 1, April 1791–Dec. 1795.]

[1 December 1793]

Instructions to Robert Montgomery, U. S. Consul, Alicante, from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal

SIR In the application of that part of the money (the property of the U. S. of America rec^d by you from me which is design'd for releiving the necessities of the Citizens of the U: S. who are prisoners in Algiers; and for defraying the Contingent expences which have been or may be inevitably incurr'd on the subject of Algerine affairs; you will be pleased to be guided by the following ginerall principles Viz^t

In the first place in order to hide the nakedness and skreen from the inclemency of the weather the poor American prisoners in Algiers, you will have the goodness to provide for each one of them a comfortable suit of Cloathing as nearly in conformity to the estimate which has been made out for the purpose: unless the Captains should chuse rather to receive the am^t in money in which case you will comply with their wishes.

Secondly you will please to transmit regularly by way of subsistance and for all other personal expences eight dollars p^r Month to each of the Captains six dollars p^r month to each of the Mates & at the rate

of twelve Cents p^r day to each of the Mariners. Thirdly you will please repay whatever monies have been advanced by the Consul General of Sweden or his Brother Pierre Eric Skjoldebrand Esquire, to releive the pressing necessities of the Citizens of the U. S. lately captur'd & Carried into Algiers; also such other sums as may be expended by either of them for Communicating intelligence of importance, or for other Contingent charges which may become indispensibly necessary.

Given at Alicante this first day of December 1793.

Signed D: HUMPHREYS

*Commissioner Plenipotenciary from the united
States to the Dey & Regency of Algiers —*

(Copy)

[NA. SDA. CL, Alicante Vol. 1, Aug. 1788–Dec. 1834.]

To David Pearce, Junior, from Samuel Calder, Slave, Algiers, formerly Master of American Schooner *Jay*

(Copy)

ALGIERES Dec^r 4th 1793

SIR I wrote you on my first arrival here which perhaps may not come to hand, for fear of which I now write you informing you of my being Captured the 11th [see 3 November] of Oct. by an Algirine Frigate of 26 Guns 50 Leagues S W. of Cape S^t Vincent and brought to this place where I arrived the 30th of Oct. when we were all put on shore, where I found the unfortunate Crews of 10 more Americans all captured in October, On our landing we were all put into Chains without the least distinction and put to hard labor from daylight untill night with only the allowance of two small black loaves and Water & close confined at night we suffered much on board the Cruiser, for when they boarded us they even took the clothes from our backs & brought us on board almost naked in this situation they put us into the Cable Tier without any thing, not even a blanket to Cover us where we remained untill our arrival here without even a shirt to shift us. Death would be a great relief & more welcome than a continuance of our present situation, without a peace you may be assured that the whole coast of Europe will be blockaded by their Cruisers, as they have been as far as Cape Ortegat, and it is not a doubt but they will go as far next Spring as the Channel of England, as they are building more Cruisers, They have now four Frigates from 26 to 46 Guns. Two Brigs of 24. four Zebecks of 20 guns & four smaller ones which have all been at sea since their Truce with Portugal. The Cruisers that are now at sea we expect will bring in more Prizes tho' God forbid for the situation of the Convicts at the Castle would be happiness to our situation, for we think ourselves happy if we escape through the day being beat by our drivers, who carries a stick big enough to Knock a man down, and the innocent, often suffer with the guilty as they say we are all Christians — In my last letter to your father I gave him an account of what Cargo I had on board which was 650 Casks Raisins, 20 Casks Wine. 30 Jars of Raisins & 3 d^o of Grapes & 40 boxes d^o the gross Sales of my Cargo was 68-000 R^{vs} [possibly *real de vellon*] by which you will find the Cargo tho' damaged paid a Freight out — and from the goodness of the fruit & wine, I make no doubt I should have done well had I got safe home as I got my Fruit 6 R^{vs} cheaper than any that was then ship'd But

alas! all my hopes are blasted & whether ever I shall get away from this is entirely uncertain, indeed if I may judge by the unfortunate Cap^t OBrien & Stevens who have been nine years here & most of their Crews are already Dead, & if our Country could not relieve so small a number what will they do where there is nearly 140 men in the 13 Vessells that's already taken & we have no reason but to expect more — however we have no Reason but to expect but that the Plague will in the course of a year take off many of us, as the last Plague took away 800 out of 2000 Slaves — I hope your father had the *Jay* Insured as I make no doubt you had the Cargo. I would if it was in my power forward you a regular Protest, but you know its impossible in this Country & I suppose one from a Slave would be of no importance I am very sorry for your Misfortune but my Own is so much greater than yours that there is no Comparison

[SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 1, Part 1, April 1785–July 1795.]

To Secretary of State from Michael Morphy, U. S. Consul, Malaga, Spain

N^o 6

MALAGA the 4th December 1793

SIR, Since my letter N^o 5, of which the foregoing is a Copy, I have been deprived of a Conveyance from hence to America to have the honor of addressing you. Captain Gooch of the *Deboniar* was chased by an Algireen which obliged him to put into Gibraltar and continued there till the 28th of November when he Sailed with four other American Ships bound home under convoy of a portugueeze Frigate of war destined for Lisbon: —

I had the pleasure of seeing Colonel Humphreys at Malaga very soon after he sent me the express from Gibraltar mentioned in my former letter, from hence he proceeded on by land to Alicante where he has been waiting for an answer from Algiers to know if he would be allowed to go and treat with the Dey of that Regency. I have no advice from the Colonel on the Bussyness, but advices have come here lately from Alicante that he has received a most arrogant Denial forbidding his going to Algiers, I wish the report may not be true. —

By advices from Algiers of the 4th November I am informed that y^e Algireen fleet that Sailed the 6th of October through the streights into the Atlantic were all returned to that Port and had brought with them thirteen American and three Genoese prizes, but no list of the Names thereof have yet appeared excepting one Capital Ship called the *Hope*, John Burnham that was coming to Malaga from Rotterdam in ballast and was met by the Enemy at the entrance of the streights, this Ship is of four hundred Tons measurment her crew consisted of eighteen men and two British Passengers one of which has a house of bussyness Established at this place to whom he gives a very deplorable account of the treatment given to the American and other prisoners taken by them Barbarians. —

It is well known that her Faithfull Majesty is much displeased with the Algireens having so suddenly committed a breach of the truce agreed for her with the Regency, for it would appear that the latter was bound not to send a Cruiser into the Atlantic untill the expiration of four months after exchangeing the preleminarys, and the Commander of her naval force that was Stationed in the Streights was blamed for letting their fleet pass on the 6th october. —

The Portuguese in lieu of calling home their Squadron Stationed at Gibraltar, have reinforced it with two Sail of the line and three Capital Frigates that arrived last week from Lisbon and they are now ten sail. but the object of their having so strong an Armament is not publickly known. some pretend to say, it is to hinder the Algereens from passing to the westward, and others that the Truce cannot last long whereas the Regency makes a demand of a very Considerable Sum for Concluding a peace: — in the mean while the Portuguesee Admiral have offered to give convoys to our Ships going from Gibraltar to the westward as far as he can leave them in Safety under which surity the bearer Captain Thomas Sanders of the Schooner *Goddess of Liberty* bound for New York will leave this Port the first Spirt of a fair wind: —

The interruption given to the trade of our flag by the Algereens getting into the Atlantic, is greatly regretted both in Portugal and Spain w[h]ere the products of America such as flour Wheat Indian Corn Rice Lumber and other articles are much wanted and deal of money was making by the Subjects at all Sides —

It is to be hoped Sir, that the trade and Navigation wont be kept long in its present State and that Congress will use the necessary means for repelling the force of those Sea plunderers that are causing such destruction to our flag that our subjects may again benefit of the fruits of their Industry —

I have the honor to assure you that notwithstanding a Commercial treaty has not been yet concluded between the United States and Spain, that our flag and subjects are shewn the same privileges and meet the Same protection within my District as does the most favored Nation, —

* * * * *

[NA. SDA. CL, Malaga, Vol. 1, June 1793–May 1814.]

Marine Force in Algiers in January 1794

1 Frigate.....	44	Guns	built in Algiers by a spanish Constructor
1 D ^e	36		English built
1 Corvetta ..	24		French D ^e
1 D ^e	24		Levant D ^e
1 Polacre.....	18		Genovese D ^e
2 Brigs.....	20	each.....	D ^e by the Spanish Constructor
1 Xebeck.....	20		D ^e D ^e
1 D ^e	14		} built on the Coast
2 D ^e	12	each.....	

11 Sail besides Sixty Gun & Mortar Boats

3 Small Galliot's of 4 Guns each at Oran

1 Brig..... 22 Guns launched last November by the spanish Constructor — at Algiers —

N, B, they carry at the Rate of Ten Men to each Cannon in the large Corsairs — There is about twelve thousand Turks in the Regency, every one of which is a soldier and Noble —

The Treasury is Computed to be worth from 20 to 30 Millions of hard Dollars —

[NA. SDA. CL, Malaga, Vol. 1, June 1793–May 1814.]

To Secretary of State from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar

Nº 19

GIBRALTAR 3^d January 1794 —

Copy

SIR, Having already written you by this opportunity of Captain Saunders, I have now only to acquaint you, I yesterday received a letter from Captⁿ O'Brien, dated Algiers 6th Ult^o, in which he confirms that no more than ten American Vessels, were Captured on the Algerines first Cruize, notwithstanding the reports to the contrary. —

I am Sorry to tell you, he advises Capture of the Brig *Minerva* of New York—Captⁿ Ingram from Leghorn, on the Second Cruize. —

O'Brien Says the condition of peace to Portugal is to be, Redemption of their 90 slaves now there, —

1,200,000. dollars to the Public Treasury

600,000. — — — to the Dey & Family —

600,000. — — — to the Officers of the Regency —

Ambassadorial & Consular presents, which he Estimates at 600,000. dollars more. —

If this be a true representation, I am very much of M^r O'Brien's oppinion, that the truce will not be matured into a Peace. —

P. S. On the 6th December the Truce between Algiers & the Dutch was renewed for three Months by Consul Logie.

[SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. 1, April 1791–Dec. 1795.]

Concerning Naval Force adequate to protection of commerce of the United States against Algiers

Communicated to the House of Representatives, 20 January, 1794

Mr. Fitzsimons, from the committee appointed to report the naval force adequate to the protection of the commerce of the United States against the Algerine corsairs, together with an estimate of the expense, and the ways and means for defraying the same, made the following report:

THAT, by the best information the committee could obtain, it appears that the naval force of the Algerines consists of light vessels, of different size and force, (exclusive of galleys) carrying in the whole two hundred and eighty-two guns; and that it has not varied considerably for many years past; that the vessels (except two or three) are slenderly built, smaller in size than vessels of war belonging to the Christian Powers, carrying the same number of guns, and principally manned with people little accustomed to the management of large ships.

From a consideration of these circumstances, the committee are of opinion that four ships, capable of carrying forty-four guns, each, and two ships, carrying twenty-four guns, each, will be sufficient to protect the commerce of the United States against the Algerine corsairs.

That the cost of the naval armament aforesaid, including six months' stores and provisions, and three months' pay to the officers and seamen, will amount to ----- \$600, 000

That the annual expense of the said armament, as the same may probably be kept in service, will amount to ----- 247, 960

The particulars of which estimate are detailed in the papers submitted with this report.

The ways and means proposed by the committee for defraying the cost and annual expense of all the said armament are,

An additional duty of one per cent. on all goods which now pay a duty of seven and a half per cent.

An additional duty of five per cent. on all stone and earthen ware, and marble and slate, bricks, &c. imported. An additional duty of three cents per bushel on salt; of twenty-five cents per ton on all ships or vessels, other than ships or vessels of the United States; and of six cents per ton on all ships or vessels of the United States, employed in foreign trade; which said several duties they estimate to produce three hundred and three thousand seven hundred and thirty-two dollars, agreeably to the estimate No. 1, herewith.

In pursuance of all which, the committee submit the following resolutions:

Resolved, That a naval force, to consist of four ships of forty-four, and two ships of twenty guns, each, be provided, for the protection of the commerce of the United States against the Algerine corsairs.

Resolved, That, for the purpose of defraying the cost of a naval armament, and the annual expense thereof, after the ----- day of -----, -----, there be levied, collected, and paid, upon all goods, wares, and merchandise, imported into the United States, and on which a duty of seven and a half per cent. is now payable, an additional duty of one per cent.

Upon all marble, slate, and other stone; on bricks, tiles, tables, mortars, and other utensils of marble or stone; and, generally, upon all stone and earthen ware, an additional duty of five per cent. Upon salt, three cents per bushel, estimating the bushel at fifty-six pounds.

On ships or vessels of the United States, employed in foreign trade, six cents per ton; on all other ships and vessels, twenty-five cents per ton.

That the like drawbacks and allowances be made of the said additional duties as are now made of the duties upon goods exported from the United States, and upon fish and salted provisions.

That a separate account of the said duties be kept.

That the President of the United States be authorized to receive, on loan, a sum not exceeding ----- dollars, to be applied towards the building and equipment of the said naval armament, at an interest not exceeding ----- per cent. per annum; and that the said loan be open to any individual, body politic or corporate, within the United States. That the revenues herein before recited be pledged for the payment of the interest on the loan aforesaid, and the annual expense of the said armament; and that the surplus of such revenue be applied to the repayment of the principal, and to no other purpose whatever.

That a committee be appointed to bring in a bill or bills in conformity with the foregoing resolutions.

[See Act of Congress approved 27 March 1794.]

[Am. State Papers, Nav. Af., Vol. 1.]

To David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, from Secretary of State

PHILADELPHIA, January 20th 1794.

SIR I had the honor of writing to you on the 10th instant by the way of London, through the hands of M^r Pinckney; and I shall punc-

tually transmit to you the state of things at the moment, whensoever, I shall receive notice from this port, New-York, or Baltimore, in consequence of the arrangements, which I am taking, that any vessel is sailing for your residence.

I did not expect to have troubled you with another letter, before an answer was prepared to that of compliment from her Majesty. But being just informed that the vessel expedited with the Algerine intelligence, is returning directly from New-York to Lisbon, and that the mail of to morrow is the last, which will reach her, I cannot neglect the opportunity of enabling you to anticipate by your informal and occasional interviews with the Ministry those sentiments of regard, which her Majesty's late conduct has inspired, and which the President will soon embrace an occasion of interweaving in the reply to her letter.

By advices from several respectable quarters, we daily learn, that some one or other of the powers of the Mediterranean, who have hitherto contributed to keep the pirates of Algiers in check, are withdrawn, by negotiation, terror, or actual invasion from hostility against them. If our correspondents had been even silent as to the original author of this defection, *our general suspicions would have directed us to the British government. But all doubts would vanish if it be true as it is represented, that a british Consul, without authority from the Queen of Portugal, has presumed to conclude a truce with the Algerines, imposing a heavy tribute upon her, and annihilating the principal cause of vigor to her marine.*

It cannot, therefore, be too strongly impressed upon the Court of Lisbon, how highly the President of the United States esteems the magnanimity *with which that truce, has been resisted* by her Majesty, with what satisfaction he discerns in her *opposition* an attention to the welfare of the United States — how aptly it reciprocates our wish to bind the two nations more closely together; how grateful the Citizens of the United States have shewn themselves to this instance of her favor; and how much it must be an object with the American shipping to resort to her ports, where they will find such ample protection. *The arrogance of the British Consul, in forming the truce, if he acted without orders from home, and the indignity to the Portuguese nation, if no previous assent was given to the measure, — strike us here very forcibly. But you, who are on the spot can alone determine, whether the sensibility of the Court be enough alive, and circumstances permit, that remarks of this kind may be used.* It is the earnest desire of the President, that nothing be omitted, which is conciliatory, and that every thing which may irritate, be avoided.

We entertain a hope, founded upon your zeal and knowledge, that Algiers before the receipt of this letter, will have been soothed into terms, proper for our acceptance. But as this is uncertain, and a peace with those, who are educated in Sea-robberies, is very unstable, altho' sanctioned by every profession and solemnity; we ought to obtain a statement of some facts, which we do not seem yet to possess with accuracy. I am anxious therefore to be precisely informed.

1. What are the nations, bordering on the Mediterranean, who are generally exposed to the ravages of the Algerines —

2. What naval force those nations have been accustomed to employ, or can, in case of exertion, employ against the Algerines.

3. Is it probable, that they would associate with us, to restrain the Algerines; and upon what terms?

4. Upon what terms, is it probable, that they would furnish a stated armament, equal to the object, without any Ships being supplied by the United States.

5. Which of the Mediterranean Powers, who are commonly at war with Algiers, have been debauched from it, *by the interposition of Great Britain, or any other Government.*

Portugal, however, is the best bulwark which any alliance on our part can find against those Rovers. Let me entreat you therefore, to enter freely into discourse with her Minister, and fix with precision, his ideas of the mode, which promises most success. We cannot doubt his candor; *but the ascendancy of Great Britain, is too often manifested in her Councils.* Hence you will impose no restraint on yourself, in your conversation with him, *except so far, as there may be a danger of injurious communications being made to the Court of London.*

The President has instructed me to urge you to seize the present moment for discovering what may be expected from an attempt to accomplish a treaty of commerce. With the omen of a good disposition in Portugal; with the intrinsic importance of our trade with her, increased by the multiplication of our Citizens, and secured by a neutrality, which a convulsion in Europe, although nearly universal, cannot compel us to abandon; — Portugal must discover inducements to a connection with us now, which perhaps may not be so strongly felt, when the other nations are less engaged in war, and their displeasure may fall more sorely. * * *

EDM: [EDMUND] RANDOLPH.

[Italics indicate words written in cypher.]

[NA. SDA. Dip. Cor., Inst. to Min., Bk. 2, Aug. 1793–June 1795.]

To Secretary of State from Nathaniel Cutting, Lisbon, Portugal
(Duplicate.)

LISBON, 10th Feb^y 1794.

SIR, Knowing that Colonel Humphreys has been very assiduous in improving every opportunity to acquaint the Executive of the United States with the steps he has taken in pursuance of his mission to the Dey & Regency of Algiers, I have hitherto thought it unnecessary for me to give you the trouble or perusing anything on that Subject: — but as I had the honor of being employ'd by the Department of State, in a subordinate capacity [Secretary of David Humphreys], on the same mission, I hope you will not think me impertinent in communicating to you some observations relative to the business in question which have occurred to me in its progress. The only Letter I have written relative to my proceedings in it was from this City soon after my arrival here last year, — giving a simple narrative of my progress towards Algiers, and of the circumstances which had unexpectedly impeded it. — I beg leave to refer you to that Letter, and to resume the subject at the period when it is dated. —

The intelligence that I received soon after my arrival at Lisbon, and a comparative view of all the information I previously possessed, confirmed me in the opinion I had long entertained that the mission to Algiers would prove fruitless. As a proof that my mind was then impressed with that idea, I take the liberty to observe that in a Letter which I wrote to John Vaughan Esq^r — Philadelphia, under date Lisbon 9th Sept^r ult^o, without giving any indication of my real pursuit,

I express my apprehension that *Coercion* would be an indispensable preliminary to a Treaty of Peace with Algiers on reasonable terms. The Event but too fully justifies my opinion. I presume that Colonel Humphreys has given you in detail, as far as was necessary, an account of the slow & tedious job which I undertook at Gibraltar; I mean that of adjusting the affairs which the late Thomas Barclay Esq^r had at that place, (in his capacity of a Public agent.) — As he left no books of accounts, nor any regular Invoices, to direct us, I had to proceed on such detached documents as happened to be deposited with M^r James Simpson of that City, with whose friendly and unremitted assistance, I was enabled to make the arrangement which Colonel Humphreys has, I suppose, transmitted to your office, and which I hope is honored with your approbation. We had to examine and repack every article of merchandise left there by M^r Barclay, in order to select such as might be useful in the negotiation we had in hand, — and likewise that we might ascertain precisely, & obtain a specific receipt for, the merchandise that might still remain deposited at Gibraltar. —

Before this business was accomplished, we had the mortification to hear of the Truce between Algiers & Portugal, and to see the Pyrratical Flag display'd in the Bay of Gibraltar by one of those Ships of War which the insidious policy of certain European Powers has let loose to ravage the Commerce of America in the Atlantic. Though from that moment it might naturally be concluded that our mission would prove abortive, yet Colonel Humphreys, whose attachment to, and zeal in support of, the True Interests of his Country is not to be shaken by any common obstacles, — thought it indispensibly necessary for us to proceed on our expedition as far as we could with any degree of safety to ourselves, or prospect of advantage to the United States.

A previous step to be taken was to dispatch Expresses both by Sea & Land to convey intelligence to Cadiz, Lisbon & Malaga respecting this unforeseen occurrence, which threatened such terrible depredations on the Commerce of the United States.

M^r James Simpson of Gibraltar, seconded all our operations with that indefatigable zeal and activity which indicates sincere amity and an invincible attachment to the cause of humanity. * * * * * We had reason to apprehend that certain British Agents, either authorized by Government, or self-constituted in the hope of promoting their own interest by injuring that of the United States, — had vigilantly regarded our proceedings and had transmitted such intelligence to the Algerines as might render it particularly dangerous for us to proceed up the Mediterranean by Sea, though under the protection of a Flag now respected by the Dey & Regency of Algiers; — and the property of the United States aboard the Vessel, it was thought, would pass more securely to Alicante without us, in case of being examined by any of the Pyrates, than if Colonel Humphreys and myself were on board. For if any of the Renagadoes discovered that we were Americans it would immediately excite their suspicions respecting the property on board; and discovering so large an amount in Specie, they would probably have been induced to disregard the neutrality of the Flag we were under, and either take us and the property out, or carry the Vessel and all into Algiers. It was therefore thought expedient for us to proceed to Alicante by

Land; — *that* being the Port where we could have the most ready communication with Algiers. After a tedious & fatiguing Journey of above four hundred miles, over the worst roads, perhaps, in the Universe, we arrived at Alicante on the 2^d November. — We found in M^r Montgomery the American Consul there, a steady, zealous and active friend, firmly attached to the interest of the United States, and disposed to co-operate in our pursuits even to the neglect of his private affairs. — Doubtless Colonel Humphreys has transmitted you in detail the account of his dispatching an Express Boat to Algiers — Of the haughty and insolent reply of the Dey to the person who acquainted him with our mission, — and finally, of his utter refusal to receive Colonel Humphreys as Commissioner Plenipotentiary from the United States, or to treat with him on any terms whatever.

The property which we had in charge belonging to the United States, yet remained on board the Swedish Vessel which convey'd it to Alicante; — and as the object of our mission appeared now to be unattainable, it became necessary to deposite this property in other hands. The pressing necessities of those unfortunate Americans who had been recently carried into Algiers, as well as those who had been years in Captivity there, demanded an appropriation of a considerable proportion of the Specie. —

Colonel Humphreys, whose humanity was deeply interested on this occasion, naturally judged that not only the Executive of the United States, but the Citizens at large, would applaud the exercise of his discretionary power in applying such a sum to the immediate relief of the suffering prisoners as might prevent their sinking under the hardships which they must inevitably encounter. — He therefore determined to take immediate order for that benevolent purpose. On mature deliberation it was thought proper thus to appropriate Sixteen thousand dollars, — as being a supply sufficient for one year, in the course of which the Government of the United States might make such further arrangements as should be found expedient. Intelligence from Madrid, & the critical situation of the political Connection between Europe and the United States of America, excited some suspicion that a rupture might soon take place between the latter & Spain: — I therefore took the liberty of advising Colonel Humphreys not to leave the remaining twenty-four thousand dollars in specie, within the power of the Spanish Government; but to authorize M^r Montgomery to invest it immediately in good Bills on London, which were then under par at Alicante; — by which means it might be transferr'd to Lisbon so as to gain about ten p^t Cent whenever it should be necessary to re-invest the amount in Mexican dollars. — My advice was seconded by the opinion of M^r Montgomery, — but Colonel Humphreys, no doubt for very good reasons, did not think proper to follow it; — and postponed any final decision on the subject till he should have consulted M^r Carmichael and M^r Short at Madrid. Therefore by direction of Colonel Humphreys I had both the specie and merchandize landed; the former deposited with M^r Montgomery; the latter in the Custom House. What ulterior arrangements Colonel Humphreys has made in the business, I do not know, — as he has not honored me with any communication on that subject since we left Alicante. — We returned via Madrid, and arrived safe at this City on the night of the 24th ult^o —

Permit me now to make a few observations which occur on the subject of the foregoing narrative. —

From the best intelligence I have obtained, and from comparing circumstances, I am fully of opinion that the English Government has been the principal and primary cause that our mission to Algiers has proved abortive. The Portuguese Cabinet of itself has had but little hand in bringing about the melancholly catastrophe which has added so greatly to the number of our suffering Citizens — to the actual loss of property as well as to the general injury of our Trade.

The Success which the Corsairs of Algiers have already had, has confirmed the Dey in his exorbitant conditions for a Peace, & renders it more necessary than ever that the principal preliminary on our part be a respectable *naval armament*. If Colonel Humphreys had been so fortunate as to arrive in Algiers previous to the Portuguese Truce being agreed on, he might possibly have retarded that Event, or have contrived some means to prevent its immediate ill consequences to the Commerce of the U. S. A.; — but I firmly believe that neither the Logic or Eloquence of an Angel would have prevailed on the Dey & Regency to have agreed to a peace with the U. S. A. on any of the Terms prescribed by our Legislature. The pecuniary consideration was not sufficient, — no, not by some hundreds of thousands of dollars! — I wish, however, very sincerely, that the experiment could have been tried. * * * * *

In my opinion it would be more to the honor and advantage of any nation which is determined to keep up a naval establishment, to expend ten times the sum in supporting a Squadron of Ships of War in the Mediterranean sufficient to protect its Commerce, than tamely to comply with the insolent demands which the chief of a gang of Robbers is pleased to make. —

The grand principle that has hitherto operated upon all the maritime Powers of Europe in this business, appears to me to be not so much the offspring of fear and avarice, as of jealousy & envy. — A miserable spirit of illiberality has induced them to practice all the infamous arts of *finesse* rather than openly and steadily to pursue a gallant warfare against those petty villains who wantonly infringe the rights, and impede the social intercourse between different members, of “the great family of mankind”. — Each one seems to entertain the contemptible apprehension that some other, or perhaps all the other, Commercial Nations might profit of its exertions, and enjoy the advantages of a peaceful Commerce without being at any trouble or expense in protecting it; — therefore each aims separately to bribe the common aggressor, whom they might easily crush, — in the expectation of gaining some exclusive advantage by it: or rather, actuated by the despicable motive abovemention’d, no one of them is willing disinterestedly to promote the general welfare of mankind; — but occasionally plays off this scourge of Commerce upon each other, according as particular passions or interests may happen to predominate. —

How small a proportion of the immense amount that has been received by the States of Barbary as the price of peace with this last half Century, would support a naval armament sufficient to annihilate their Marine! This, I am aware, would not be so easy an achievement as many imagine; — but still I think it within the line of possibility if proper methods are pursued. It is not *great force* that is so necessary to effect this desirable purpose, as *great vigilance, activity, patience &*

perseverance. — Portugal, by keeping a small Squadron on this service for some years past, has demonstrated that the depredations of the Pyratical Corsairs of Algiers & Tunis may easily be confined to the Mediterranean. The Portuguese Naval Commanders though brave, & their mariners though probably capable and obedient, yet are supposed to have been rather remiss in pursuit of the object for which they were, ostensibly, stationed in the Mediterranean; — and are known to be very timid with respect to cruising where time or place presents any difficulty. If the Portuguese so effected much, what might be expected from a similar force, the operations of which would be directed by skill & intrepidity, stimulated by resentment of unprovoked injury, — by a wish of obtaining exemplary revenge, — and above all actuated by the noble desire of serving the cause of humanity & promoting the interests of Universal Commerce! —

* * * * *

Another proof of the envious and vindictive disposition of the English Government towards us is the unjust capture & detention of so many of our ships on false or frivolous pretences. — And, finally, to cramp our flourishing Commerce still further, and to do us irreparable injury, I am convinced that the same Government, by its malevolent machinations, has paved the way for, and incited the Algerines to, actual *Hostilities* against our nation; for the consequences of which, it is impossible in the nature of things that we can ever obtain adequate compensation. —

The known and immediate *agent* in this infernal conspiracy against our peace and prosperity is at this instant walking in the Garden beneath my window, with all the apparent composure & self-complacency that can be inspired by successful villainy: M^r Logie, late the British Consul at Algiers, — who, unsolicited by the Court of Portugal, negotiated the fatal Truce which has eventually wrested from a considerable number of our industrious Citizens their *Liberty*, from others their *property* — and from some, *both*: — and probably has deprived their sympathizing Country & Connexions of the services of many of them forever! — M^r Logie the other day in conversation with Colonel Humphreys had the impudence to attempt exculpating himself and the British Government from the blame cast upon them by every disinterested person, — and, so far as I can learn, by the *Court of Portugal itself* — for this nefarious and abominable transaction. He asserts that this *Court* earnestly prest him to it; but I do not believe him. * * *

After maturely weighing in my own mind actual circumstances and their consequences, I feel confident that if my Fellow Citizens at large in the U. S. have the *WILL*, they will find no deficiency in the *POWER*, immediately to equip a naval Force that would be sufficient to defeat the malicious purposes of their enemies abroad, and be the surest guarantee of peace and prosperity at home. —

* * * * *

As I have hinted above, some politicians, — as shallow, perhaps, as myself — may think it premature to launch into the expence of a naval expedition against the Algerines, till we have by Treaty secured certain privileges in *any* or *all* of the European Ports. — In my humble opinion no other possible circumstance nor argument could give so much efficacy to our negotiations for those privileges, or any

other of a Commercial nature, as our having a respectable naval armament ready to put to sea. — This spirited & necessary exertion on the part of the United States, though expensive in the first instance, would eventually prove good economy, — and must operate every way in their favor. It would, I am persuaded, preclude much useless discussion that now protracts the negociations of their Agents with foreign Courts — it would almost instantaneously liberate our valuable Commerce in the Mediterranean, and greatly facilitate our intercourse with other markets where many productions of our Country would meet an advantageous sale;—and it is evident that the result would be a reduction of expence in some instances and an increase of revenue in others. —

* * * * *

[SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 1, Part 1, April 1785–July 1795.]

To Secretary of State from Stephen Decatur, Senior, Philadelphia, Pa.

PHILADELPHIA 11th March 1794

SIR An Act being under consideration of the Legislature of the United States, for the equipment of some Ships of War, to check the depredations of the Algerines upon the Commerce of America, and understanding that it will rest in the option of the President, either to build the proposed Armament here, or to procure them in any way, that he may judge most eligible. — You have promised to excuse me, while I take the liberty to communicate such information as fell under my notice when I was last in France. — I was at Bourdeaux in June last when I saw a number of fine large Copper-bottomed Frigate built ships, from 26 to 30 Guns — some of which were quite new — these Vessels had been built for the East India and Guinea trade, and which, from the situation of that Country were become useless to the Owners—many of whom would have been happy to have disposed of them, for less than half their first cost — I had certain information that at Brest, there were several ships mounting forty Guns, under similar circumstances with those at Bourdeaux I cannot indeed say whether the French Government will permit those Ships to be fitted under the Flag of the United States — but I will venture an opinion, that if this permission could be obtained, those ships might be put to sea at an expence far below what such Vessels would cost here, & several Months earlier at sea. —

I am just now about sailing upon a Voyage to Havana shall be ready on my return to answer any questions you may think proper to ask respecting this business. —

I will esteem it as a particular honour, if You will be pleased to mention my name to the President of the United States, for the Command of One of the Armed Vessels — my character is well known in this City, Yet should it be necessary to present a recommendation my Friends Gurney & Smith will procure it and act for me during my absence which I don't expect will exceed two Months. —

[SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 1, Part 1, April 1785–July 1795.]

[27 March 1794]

Act pertaining to the Navy

UNITED STATES STATUTES AT LARGE. THIRD CONGRESS. SESS. I.

An Act to provide a Naval Armament.

WHEREAS the depredations committed by the Algerine corsairs on the commerce of the United States render it necessary that a naval force should be provided for its protection:

SECTION 1. *Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the President of the United States be authorized to provide, by purchase or otherwise, equip and employ four ships to carry forty-four guns each, and two ships to carry thirty-six guns each.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That there shall be employed on board each of the said ships of forty-four guns, one captain, four lieutenants, one lieutenant of marines, one chaplain, one surgeon, and two surgeon's mates; and in each of the ships of thirty-six guns, one captain, three lieutenants, one lieutenant of marines, one surgeon, and one surgeon's mate, who shall be appointed and commissioned in like manner as other officers of the United States are.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That there shall be employed, in each of the said ships, the following warrant officers, who shall be appointed by the President of the United States, to wit: One sailing-master, one purser, one boatswain, one gunner, one sail-maker, one carpenter, and eight midshipmen; and the following petty officers, who shall be appointed by the captains of the ships, respectively, in which they are to be employed, viz: two master's mates, one captain's clerk, two boatswain's mates, one cockswain, one sail-maker's mate, two gunner's mates, one yeoman of the gun room, nine quarter-gunners, (and for the four larger ships two additional quarter-gunners,) two carpenter's mates, one armourer, one steward, one cooper, one master-at-arms, and one cook.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the crews of each of the said ships of forty-four guns, shall consist of one hundred and fifty seamen, one hundred and three midshipmen and ordinary seamen, one sergeant, one corporal, one drum, one fife, and fifty marines; and that the crews of each of the said ships of thirty-six guns shall consist of one hundred and thirty able seamen and midshipmen, ninety ordinary seamen, one sergeant, two corporals, one drum, one fife, and forty marines, over and above the officers herein before mentioned.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby empowered, to provide, by purchase or otherwise, in lieu of the said six ships, a naval force not exceeding, in the whole, that by this act directed, so that no ship thus provided shall carry less than thirty-two guns; or he may so provide any proportion thereof, which, in his discretion, he may think proper.

SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That the pay and subsistence of the respective commissioned and warrant officers be as follows: — A captain, seventy-five dollars per month, and six rations per day; — a lieutenant, forty dollars per month, and three rations per day; — a lieutenant of marines, twenty-six dollars per month, and two rations per day; — a chaplain, forty dollars per month, and two rations per day; — a sailing-master, forty dollars per month, and two rations per day; — a surgeon, fifty dollars per month, and two rations per

day; a surgeon's mate, thirty dollars per month, and two rations per day; — a purser, forty dollars per month, and two rations per day; — a gunner, fourteen dollars per month, and two rations per day; — a sailmaker, fourteen dollars per month, and two rations per day; — a carpenter, fourteen dollars per month, and two rations per day.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That the pay to be allowed to the petty officers, midshipmen, seamen, ordinary seamen and marines, shall be fixed by the President of the United States: *Provided*, That the whole sum to be given for the whole pay aforesaid, shall not exceed twenty-seven thousand dollars per month, and that each of the said persons shall be entitled to one ration per day.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That the ration shall consist of, as follows: Sunday, one pound of bread, one pound and a half of beef, and half a pint of rice: — Monday, one pound of bread, one pound of pork, half a pint of peas or beans, and four ounces of cheese: — Tuesday, one pound of bread, one pound and a half of beef, and one pound of potatoes or turnips, and pudding: Wednesday, one pound of bread, two ounces of butter, or in lieu thereof, six ounces of molasses, four ounces of cheese, and half a pint of rice: — Thursday, one pound of bread, one pound of pork, and half a pint of peas or beans: — Friday, one pound of bread, one pound of salt fish, two ounces of butter or one gill of oil, and one pound of potatoes: — Saturday, one pound of bread, one pound of pork, half a pint of peas or beans, and four ounces of cheese: — And there shall also be allowed one half pint of distilled spirits per day, or, in lieu thereof, one quart of beer per day, to each ration.

SEC. 9. *Provided always, and be it further enacted*, That if a peace shall take place between the United States and the Regency of Algiers, that no farther proceeding be had under this act.

APPROVED, *March 27, 1794.*

[Statutes Vol. I, p. 350-351.]

To Secretary of State from Michael Morphy, U. S. Consul, Malaga, Spain
N^o 11

MALAGA 3^d April 1794 —

SIR. I had the honor to address you the 13th of last Month (Via Boston) which conveyed a copy of my letter N^o 9 of the foregoing day under cover of our Charge des affaires Colonel Humphreys at Lisbon which I hope went safe;

I have now the pleasure to write by the American Ship *Friendship* Captain William Baxter Smith bound to Baltimore who came here the 2^d March from the Port of Cartagane on this Continent. — I judged it necessary for the Publick Service to detain this Vessel on account of the evident risk that threaten'd her of falling into the hands of the many Algerine Corsairs that are at sea, till I could procure her protection to proceed with safety on her intended Voyage; — I have luckily succeeded, and have now Sir, the pleasure to inform you that she goes from hence under the Convoy of the Swedish Frigates of war *Camilla* and *Eurydice* of 40 Guns, who are bound to Sweden and will Guard her from all Danger at my Solicitation; —

The advices at Gibraltar from Algiers, which are of a fresh date, does not say any thing of new captures having been made on our Flag; The Ultimatum of her Faithfull Majestys determination with the Al-

gerines for maturing, the Truce made by English Agent at Algiers, into a Peace, it is believed will not be satisfactory to the Regency, the ship that co[n]veyed those Dispatches called at Gibraltar in her way up the streights the 13th Ult^o, so that we may very soon expect to hear what will result on the Bussyness; —

There is now a certainty of the English forces under the Command of Lord Hood, having landed on the Island of Corsica the 6th february. the earliest accounts received after then at Gibraltar, are of the 11th March, brought by the *Aquilon* frigate who left the british colours hoisted at Martello, and Saint Fiorenzo, and by which it appears that the Conquest is not intended for Lewis the 17th —

[P. S.]

The 7th April — [1794]

SIR Captain Smith with the swedish Frigates having been Stopped here by Contrary winds, I have opened this letter to hand you the following pleasing intelligence which I just now received from M^r James Simpson of Gibraltar dated the 3^d Instant —

“I have the pleasure in acquainting you that the Algerine Vessels did not take any American Vessel, in their late Cruize, “and that the Truce between that Regency and Portugal ended “the 26th Ult^o — this news we have by Capt^o Thompson who “returned to this Bay on thursday Evening last, five days from “Algiers — the Cruizers were all in Port — and fitting for Sea, “but the Portuguese Squadron here will of course be watchfull “to prevent their passing the streights.”

I am quite happy Sir, with the Spirrited determinations of the Portuguese Government on the occation. the Truce, from best authority, was made without her Majestys knowledge by the Agent of a certain Power to hurt our trade, without a cause but providence has prevented it, and will, I trust put our flag soon on a most respectable footing. — I wish much for seeing our squadron in the Mediterranean and if joined to the Naval force of Portugal it will cause Such terror to the States of Barbary, that it cannot fail of bringing them to seek for peace with both powers on easy terms, and for gaining the liberty of our Subjects in slavery at Algiers —

[NA. SDA. CL, Malaga, Vol. 1, June 1793–May 1814.]

To Secretary of the Treasury from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War Department April 21. 1794

SIR I have the honor to transmit you an estimate of the quantity and quality of Timber, Plank, Scantling and Copper &c. which will be required for each of the four largest frigates contemplated by the Act entitled “An Act to provide a naval armament” nearly the same quantity will also be wanted for each of the thirty six gun ships mentioned in the said Act.

It has been decided by the President of the United States that the said frigates be built in the following ports, to wit

Boston.....	one 44 gun ship
New York.....	d ^o
Philadelphia.....	d ^o
Baltimore.....	one of 36 guns
Portsmouth Virginia.....	one of 44 d ^o
Charleston So. Carolina.....	one of 36 d ^o

It appears to be of indispensable necessity that immediate arrangements should be made to obtain the articles contained in the estimate and to have them transported to the ports before mentioned — excepting such articles of the timber as may be obtained at, or in the neighbourhood of, the said places.

The live oak and red cedar must principally be obtained from the islands on the coast of Georgia. Some parts however may be obtained in North Carolina, although it is alledged that the farther South the live oak the better.

Different opinions are entertained as to the most certain, and the most economical mode of obtaining the live oak and cedar from Georgia, and transporting the same to the ports where the ships are to be built.

Some persons recommend that one or more persons in whom due confidence may be placed, should repair to the Islands of Georgia, and contract with the proprietors of the timber as it stands for such parts as will serve the moulds, and that a sufficient number of axe-men with their provision, be sent from the northward, in order to cut the same, and transport it to the places where it is to be used. These persons assert that any contract made in Georgia or other parts to the Southward, will be executed by negroes, whose indolence and carelessness will inevitably produce disappointment or loss.

The moulds for the timbers of both sized ships are preparing and nearly finished. These must be transported to the places where the timber is to be cut, otherwise mistakes would arise and disappointment of course ensue.

Besides the mode before mentioned, there are persons who recommend a contract with some persons, if such could be found, which is said to be the case to procure the timber in Georgia, and transport it to the respective ports or places.

You will please to judge which of these two modes will be preferable. I have understood that in 1776 or 1777 the frames of two 74 gun ships were cut under the authority of the United States, part at Sunbury and part at a place called Kilkenny near the mouth of Savannah River, and that as the said timber was very large, part of it yet remains it may therefore be proper to look it up, and if it should answer for the frames of the proposed frigates as probable it would be excellent from its long seasoning.

I have the honor to submit to you a letter from M^r Wereat of Georgia upon this subject, the purport of which is confirmed by Brigadier General Gunn of the same state.

The manner in which these vessels ought to be built has been under consideration, that is whether the hull and other parts susceptible of the measure should be built by a contract, or by a capable agent or agents appointed for the purpose of procuring the labor and materials. Upon enquiry however it appears improbable that a contract could be formed with the Shipbuilders in this place for the one directed to be built here. They alledge that if a contract was offered and accepted by two or more it would excite the ill will and envy of those who had no part in it, and as the frigate would require many hands the price of that sort of labor would rise, and that therefore it would be in the power of those not employed to raise the wages of the Journeymen a shilling or two per day, which would occasion great embarrassments, if not ruin, to the undertakers. Hence it would appear to

follow as a consequence that if the Shipbuilders of Philadelphia, some of whom have considerable capitals, would decline a contract, that it would be almost or quite impracticable to obtain the building by contract elsewhere. If this should be so, then Agents respectable for their intelligence, activity, and integrity must be sought in the places in which the said frigates are directed to be built.

The President of the United States has approved of the said vessels being built under the directions of some agent or agents which I presume it will be in your department to nominate to him.

I suppose however if you should find it practicable to build them by contract, that the subject will still be reconsidered by him, and as for myself I should find great satisfaction in a contract, if one, upon solid principles, could be obtained.

[Enclosure]

Estimate mentioned in paragraph 1

Estimate of timber &c.
for a frigate made by
JOSHUA HUMPHREYS

An estimate of the quantity of Timber Plank &c. for a frigate of 147 feet keel, 43 feet beam, 14 feet hold, 6 feet 9 inches between decks, and 7 feet waist

All the plank to be as
long as possible 60 or
70 feet if possible

White Oak

Pitch pine

1 piece for keel 80 feet long, 18 by 24 inches in middle
2 d° 55 d° 1 of 18 by 30 d°, and 1 of 18 by 23
1 stern post Knee as long as can be had
1 stem keelson rider, and one for stern
1 piece dead wood forward
1 d° d° 24 inches by 8, 100 feet, or 2 of 50 feet
1 lower piece stem and five pieces for keelsons 310 ft, 18 in. square
80 floor raising timbers and crotches.
2000 feet of 6½ inch wales 9 inches wide running measure
200 d° 5 d° 9 d° d°
4200 d° wale stuff 6 by 9 for decks d°
2000 d° 4 inch plank for gun deck
4000 feet scantling for carlings 6 by 6 reduced measure
1000 d° ----- 6 by 9 d°
1 deck stem and 1 deck sternpost knee to mizen & foremast
1400 feet of 5 inch plank 12 inches wide for clamps.
600 feet of 6 d° 10 inches wide for limber streaks running measure
1000 d° 5 d° 14 d° inside bilge streaks d°
1500 d° scantling for carlings for orlop deck
18000 feet of 4 inch plank for bottom and cealing 200 good white oak logs
1000 feet running measure of 5 inch plank 900 of 4½ inch and 5000 feet 3 inch
10000 feet of 3½ heart pine plank for lower deck
7000 d° 4 d° gun d°
8000 d° 3 d° quarter deck & fore-castle
54 heart pitch pine beams for lower deck 14 by 16, 30 to 42 ft long
60 d° d° gun deck 15 by 18, 30 to 40 ft long
12 d° fore-castle 10 by 11, & 12 by 13, 22 to 35 feet long
34 d° for quarter deck 10 by 11 and 13 by 14 from 28 to 36 ft long
50 d° orlop beams 10 by 12, 30 to 38 feet long
6000 ft Jersey pine two inch plank for orlop deck

The Knees may be had in North Carolina, the others in Georgia	Live Oak and Red Cedar	170 live oak lower futhooks	} Those timbers are calculated for four tier, but it is doubtful whether they can be procured that length, if not add 340
		174 d° middle d°	
		178 d° upper d°	
		150 live oak } toptimbers	
		50 red cedar	
		200 cedar half timbers	
		2 live oak Knight heads	
		8 d° hausepiece	
		12 d° bow timbers	
		1 d° upper piece stem & 1 piece apron	
		40 d° stanchion	
		1 d° stempost 30 feet long, sided 17 inches	
		1 d° transom 30 d°, 22 inches square & 10 smaller ones	
		2 d° corner counter timbers	
		6 d° middle d°	
		12 cedar half timbers d°	
		500 knees for lower and gun deck of live oak	
		130 d° quarterdeck and forecastle d°	
		8 d° for transom d°	
		2 d° d° standard d°	
from Sweden		8 live oak breasthooks from 18 to 20 feet long d°	
		6 pieces for partners for masts live oak	
		200 feet 1½ inch copper bolts for breasthooks	
made in Philad ^a		1600 d° 1½ d° for floor, keelson dead wood, and sternpost knees.	
		850 d° 1½ d° for stem, stern, keel scarfs rudder and riders	
		1550 feet 1½ inch for but & bilge bolts	
		7 pair composition braces and pintles for rudder	
		16 composition dovetail plates	
		12000 feet of sheet copper for bottom	
		5000 feet cedar, 1 inch, and of half inch.	
		30000 feet boards and scantling	
		50000 locust trunnells, 18 inch, 24 inch, & 30 inches long	

I think it will take 55 men two months, to cut the timber of live oak and red cedar, calculating 24 working days in a month, for one ship

JOSHUA HUMPHREYS

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790-1798.]

[24 April 1794]

To Secretary of State from John Marsden Pintard, U. S. Consul, Madeira

Hon^{ble} EDMOND RANDOLPH Esq^r

SIR I have but a moment to inform you Via S^a Cruz, that a Vessel arrived here the day before Yesterday, from Lisbon. by which I have received a Copy of the Declaration of War, by the Court of Portugal, Against the Regency of Algiers — dated the 10. Ins^t at Lisbon, in Consiquence of which I am informed from Undoubted Authority that two sail of the Line & two frigates are already dispatched by the Court of Portugal to the Straights in order to shut up the Hell hounds, that were lately let loose on our Unfortunate Countrymen — This Intelligence altho by way of the West Indies may reach you sooner than any Accounts direct from Lisbon, And you may rely on the fact — * * *

MADEIRA 24. April 1794

[NA. SDA. CL, Funchal, Vol. 1, March 1793-July 1831.]

To Captains Barry, Nicholson, Talbot, Barney, Dale, and Truxtun from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War department, June 5th 1794

SIR The President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, has appointed you to be a Captain of one of the Ships to be provided, in pursuance of the Act to provide a Naval armament, herein enclosed. —

It is to be understood that the relative rank of the Captains are to be in the following order —

John Barry
Samuel Nicholson
Silas Talbot
Joshua Barney
Richard Dale
Thomas Truxtun —

You will please to inform me as soon as convenient whether you accept or decline the appointment. —

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under the War Department, 1790–1798.]

To Secretary of War from Captain John Barry, U. S. Navy

(Copy)

STRAWBERRY HILL June 6: 1794

SIR The honor done me in appointing me a Commander [Captain] in the Navy of the United States is gratefully Acknowledged and Accepted by — * * *

JOHN BARRY

The Hon^{ble} HENRY KNOX
Secretary of War

[NYPL, Ford Col.]

To Joshua Humphreys from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War Dep^t June 28. 1794 —

SIR — You are appointed the Constructor & Master builder of Forty four Gun Ship [frigate *United States*] to be built in the port of Philadelphia at the rate of compensation of two thousand dollars p. annum.

This compensation is to be considered as commencing on the first of May last, — in consideration of your incessant application to the public interest in adjusting the principles of the Ship, drawing up draughts and making models —

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790–1798.]

[1 July 1794]

Captain John Barry's Oath

I John Barry do solemnly swear to bear true allegiance to the United States of America and to serve them honestly and faithfully against all their Enemies or opposers whomsoever; and to observe and obey the orders of the President of the United States of America, and the orders of the Officers appointed over me, according to the

Articles of War, and that I will support the Constitution of the United States — So help me God

(Signed) JOHN BARRY

Sworn before me this
first day of July 1794

RICHARD PETERS

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under the War Department, 1790-1798.]

To Henry Jackson, Navy Agent, Boston, Mass., from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War dep^t July 2nd 1794

SIR, I am desirous that M^r John Hackett near Newbury Port who built the *Alliance* frigate during the late War, should be engaged as the Constructor of the Forty four gun Ship [frigate *Constitution*] to be built at Boston. It has been decided as the best mode that the Constructor shall be engaged upon a salary, including all his personal expences. — Any sum therefore for which the said M^r Hackett may engage not exceeding at the rate of Two thousand dollars p. annum you will stipulate to him. — I should think the sum ought not to be less than one thousand four hundred dollars & certainly cannot exceed Two thousand. — It is to be understood that there are three Hackets, one of whom, named William I believe, and who is subject to temporary insanity — you will of course not engage. This point must be well ascertained —

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under the War Department, 1790-1798.]

To Josiah Fox, Clerk in Department of War from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War dep^t July 16. 1794

SIR, You are hereby appointed a Clerk in the department of War, at the rate of Five hundred dollars p. annum, to be appropriated at present to the assistance of Joshua Humphreys who is constructing the models and draughts for the frigates to be built in the United States, and when that business shall be finished you will be directed to perform — Your compensation to commence the 1st instant. —

[Josiah Fox's Oath]

I Josiah Fox appointed a Clerk in the Department of War of the United States do solemnly affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and that I will well and faithfully, to the best of my abilities, execute the Trust committed to me in my aforesaid Capacity —

(signed) JOSIAH FOX.

Affirmed the 17th day of July 1794 before me — Hilary Baker, one of the Aldermen of Philadelphia

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790-1798.]

To William Pennock, Navy Agent, Norfolk, Va., from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War dep^t July 19. 1794

SIR, I have rec^d your letter of the 13 instant. — I have now the honor to enclose you general instructions for your government as Naval Agent. — The Secretary of the Treasury will furnish you with money & instructions for the purchase of certain articles. —

A M^r Morgan, a Master builder of considerable abilities will probably be appointed to construct the proposed frigate [eventually named *Chesapeake*] — he is now employed in superintending the cutting of the Timber for the Ships in South Carolina and Georgia, after having effected this object he will be directed to repair to Portsmouth —

I request to know the prices at which Journeymen Shipwrights and Blacksmiths may be obtained p. day. —

General and particular instructions will be given to the Master builder and Clerk of the Yard. —

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790–1798.]

To David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, from Secretary of State

PHILADELPHIA, *July 19th 1794.*

SIR, From experience I know the unpleasantness which you mention in your letter of the 6th of March last, of managing public money. But as it is the inevitable fate of diplomatic men to submit to these inconveniences, when they arise in the course of their functions, I can compensate it only by a promise not to heap such business upon you unnecessarily. But I trust, that you will take the proper measures, respecting the public money in M^r Montgomery's hands at Alicant, and reimburse the Swedish Consul, according to the ideas, which you have expressed on that occasion —

We were fearful from your letter of the 17th of February 1794, that the important, interesting, and never to be forgotten subject of our fellow citizens in Algiers would suffer from the want of some person who might embrace any favorable moment. You then declared, that you considered yourself as discharged from the Algerine mission. But a subsequent indication of hope, and your reassumption of the affair, until you should be relieved, have banished much of the anxiety which was entertained. In truth, Sir, it is impossible to dismiss you from this service —

The enclosed letter from M^r Gouv^r Morris, connected with your former instructions, this letter and your own operations mark the sense of the Executive and the point at which the Algerine business has arrived. Col. Monroe, the Successor of M^r Morris as our minister in France, has been written to on this subject. He has been informed, that the President learns with great satisfaction the new testimony, given by the French Republic of attachment to the interests of the United States; not doubting at the same time, that it must prove beneficial to the supplies of France from hence: that the powers derived from M^r Morris to the Agent who was to accompany on our part, the French Commissioner, though as yet unknown to us, have no doubt been judicious, and the acts in conformity with those powers will be confirmed if they be found to come within the plan hitherto adopted: that you were however appointed to this business in a special manner, possess a full knowledge of our views and our means, and have been particularly conversant in our attempts for peace with Algiers: that you will therefore instruct, if you shall find it necessary, the Agent appointed by M^r Morris; that we trust the auspices of the French Republic will be continued to the efforts under your guidance; and that as an evidence of our confidence in the French Government Col. Monroe is empowered, if he thinks proper, to impart the terms, upon which we offer to buy peace.

You will therefore consider yourself, as again charged with this important interest of our country, according to the former instructions. A power is lodged with Mess^{rs} Willinks, Van Staphorst and Hubbard to borrow 800,000 dollars, and to hold the same to your draught. Whensoever therefore the money can be used in our objects at Algiers, you will draw for it. It must be submitted to your discretion, upon the view of all circumstances, as well of personal danger as public benefit, whether you will go over yourself: a measure which unquestionably would enable you to seize more certainly, than when at a distance, one of those moments of good humour and caprice, which the letters transmitted through you from Algiers designate as the lucky seasons for impressing the Dey, and consider, as having unfortunately for our country escaped without being caught. If however you find it unsafe or impracticable to undertake the mission yourself, it will then be proper to use the instrument, selected by M^r Morris and to instruct him accordingly; maintaining always perfect cordiality and concert with the French Commissioner, but at the same time not hesitating to follow your own ideas, when they shall seem preferable; and resorting to the Swedish Consul at Algiers, his brother, or any other individual or expedient according to your judgment on the best mode of accomplishing success —

The President has under consideration the mode, in which the 800,000 dollars may be expended in the purchase of a peace; that is how much shall be applied to the ransom and how much to the peace —

The newspapers will be sent by this conveyance. The letters whose receipt I have to acknowledge since my last are the following. N^o 117. 118. April 10th 121. April 20. with sundry duplicates and triplicates —

I should not have closed this letter, before an addition, which I contemplate on the general state of our affairs was completed; were it not for my solicitude for our friends in Algiers. I will however add at present, that finding a loss to the United States by the exchange of bills on Amsterdam, I have determined to remit for the use of our ministers at Lisbon and Madrid in an order from the Commissioners of his Catholic Majesty here on the public treasury at Madrid. I have accordingly sent to M^r Short a draught from them for 9,000 dollars; upon which you will be pleased to draw; and I shall continue this mode of remittance half yearly, unless you should disapprove it.

[NA. SDA. Dip. Cor., Inst. to Min., Bk. 2, Aug. 1793–June 1795.]

To Naval Constructor Joshua Humphreys, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War dep^t July 24. 1794

Sir, I request that you would have the moulds for the Frigates prepared with all possible dispatch for the purpose of being transported to the following places, towit —

Norfolk	— 44 gun ship	— to the address of W ^m Pennock — Agent
Baltimore	— 36	Jeremiah Yellot “
New York	— 44	John Blagge “
Boston	— 44	Henry Jackson “
Portsmouth		
New Hampshire	— 36	ditto John Langdon “

M^r Fox who is under your direction will also apply himself closely to this business —

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790–1798.]

To Captain John Barry, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War dep^t Aug^t 7th 1794.

SIR, You are to consider yourself as the Superintendent of the Frigate to be built at the port of Philadelphia and which is to mount 44 guns.

Your constant attendance will be necessary for the purpose of observing that all parts of the business, harmonize and are conformed to the Public interests. —

The Frigate will be built and equipped under the following general regulations. —

The Treasury of the United States will make special contracts for the principal materials which will be used in the construction and equipment of the Ship. —

The Agents Mess^{rs} Gurney and Smith will provide all the materials not otherwise provided by the Treasury. They will also excepting the Constructor, procure and pay all the workmen and labourers of all sorts necessary for the building and equipment of the Ship.

The numbers and qualities of Workmen and labourers are to be furnished by the Agents in pursuance of requisitions in writing by the Constructor for the Hull or Master Mechanic on each branch of equipment, but in both cases to be counter signed by the Superintendent

All the materials for the Hull not provided by the Treasury, are to be provided by the Agents in pursuance of estimates in writing by the Constructor, countersigned by the Superintendent.

The materials for the equipment not provided by the Treasury are to be obtained by the Agents in pursuance of the estimates of the Master Mechanic in each branch, countersigned by the Superintendent. —

The Constructor will have the immediate direction of all the workmen employed upon the Hull of the Ship — The rolls of the workmen and of the labourers must be called every working day at the commencement and termination of their labour and after returning from dinner. This must be done in the presence of the Constructor and Clerk of the Yard, whose certificate will be an indispensable condition of payment.

The Clerk of the Yard will receive, issue and account for all the public property. The orders for the issue of Articles for the Hull must be signed by the Constructor and countersigned by you. —

The Articles for the equipment to be issued on the estimate of the principal mechanic in each branch with your order thereon. —

You will as well as the Constructor be particularly careful that none but the best materials be used in the construction of the Hull, and you will observe the same precautions with respect to the equipment of all sorts —

You will also carefully observe that there be no deviations from the directions which shall be issued with respect to the proportions of the Hull and equipment of all sorts. —

You will report to me weekly the number of Workmen employed and the progress made in the execution either of the Hull or equipment. —

[NDA. Correspondence, when the Navy was under War Department, 1790–1798.]

To Captain Richard Dale, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War dep^t Aug^t 8.1794.

SIR, It will be proper that you repair to Norfolk without delay in order to concert with the Agent every thing necessary to commence the Frigates, as soon as may be with all possible vigor.—

I have provisionally appointed M^r John Morgan the Constructor of the Frigate at Norfolk, but it is possible he may be delayed — You will therefore in conjunction with the Agent M^r William Pennock endeavour to find a builder capable of constructing as well as actually building the frigate. The terms to be the best you shall be able to make —

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790–1798.]

To Captain Silas Talbot, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War dep^t August 8, 1794

SIR, You will immediately repair to the City of New York for the purpose of superintending the construction of the Ship [frigate *President*] to be built at that place and to concert every thing with the Agent M^r John Blagge. — Your instructions will be forwarded to New York to the care of M^r Blagge, who will deliver them to you on your arrival there —

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790–1798.]

To Captain James Sever, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War dep^t Aug^t 8.1794

SIR, You will immediately repair to Portsmouth in New Hampshire for the purpose of superintending the construction of the Ship [eventually named *Congress*] to be built at that place, and to concert every thing with the Agent. — Since my letter to you of 18th ult^o it has been thought advisable for the public advantage that Cap^t Thomas Truxton should go to Baltimore.

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790–1798.]

To David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, from Secretary of State

PHILADELPHIA, August 25th 1794

SIR I beg leave to refer to my Letter of the 19th July, a duplicate of which is now enclosed as indicative of the President's wish, that you should continue in the destination for Algiers. It is too interesting to the feelings of us all, not to retain you in a mission, for which your experience in the subject and other qualities combine to fit you, rather than any other person, who could be sent —

These are the instructions of the President —

1. Ransom and peace are to go hand and hand if practicable; but if peace cannot be obtained, a ransom is to be effected without delay.

2. After endeavouring to obtain a ransom at the lowest possible rate, or at the rate, allowed by Portugal or other Nations, the least favored; you may, if necessary, go as far as three thousand dollars per man.

3. You will refer to the former instructions for the real wishes of the government as to the sum to be paid for peace; keeping in mind

the preference of a larger annuity and a smaller douceur in hand, to the reverse. But we would not break for fifty thousand dollars per annum, and two hundred thousand dollars by way of douceur, to secure a peace for a convenient term of years. But tho' this form of the thing is most eligible; yet it is not judged to be a *sine qua non*. For after all, what is usual and effectual must decide, and the payment in gross may be accommodated to the necessity of accomplishing the object —

4. If, however, by any other modification of the sum of eight hundred thousand dollars, a peace, and ransom can be obtained, you may modify accordingly; restricting yourself on the head of a ransom within the above mentioned limit of three thousand dollars per man.

The President contemplates to send immediately a Consul for the Barbary coast, who is well acquainted with Algiers in particular. He will be directed in the first instance to Lisbon, there to receive your orders.

Aug^t 26th — After the hope, which these liberal means for the delivery of our fellow citizens at Algiers presented, it was with great pain, that we were informed by your letter of the 11th June, of the fleet equipped at Larach. It is certainly a quarter, from which the evils of piracy may be renewed upon us, even after the cessation of hostility with Algiers. Your attention has been therefore very properly turned to the anticipation of the consequences which may flow from this armament, and we wish to be acquainted with every circumstance, as it arises.

It would seem from the representations which you have received, that Muley Solymán must keep his ground against his rivals. If on the receipt of this letter, or rather when you enter upon the measures, which I shall immediately here suggest, he shall be in firm possession of the ascendancy, which he has gained, he may be addressed, as the established Prince. For under the threatening appearance of the naval preparations, we must regulate ourselves, upon the probability of his being permanent —

Altho' you have copies of the instructions given to M^r Barclay, I inclose another copy of them, as containing still the sentiments and pleasure of the President; with this difference, that the sum for the recognition of the treaty may be twenty thousand dollars, instead of the limit of ten thousand —

A M^r Gabriels, of Portsmouth in Virginia, is allotted by the President to be Consul of the United States on the coast of Barbary. He will be expedited without delay. But as the occasion may press, you are authorized by the President to name any proper person as an Agent —

You will draw on Mess^{rs} Willincks &c. our bankers in Amsterdam for the monies necessary for these several objects; except the twenty thousand dollars, which may be very urgent; and therefore you may find it more convenient to draw on M^r Short at Madrid for that sum. He is instructed to honor the bills —

This particular letter is sent by express to New York, where a vessel is hastening to sail. By another going from this Port a few days hence, a general letter will be forwarded —

[NA. SDA. Dip. Cor., Inst. to Min., Bk. 2, Aug. 1793-June 1795.]

[about 28 August 1794]

[NOTE.—In a Letter Book in the Navy Department Archives entitled "Correspondence on Naval Affairs when Navy was under War Department, 1790-1798" are the following:—

Pages 60, 61 — Dimensions of the Timber and Plank for the Frigates (1794)

Pages 62 to 73 inclusive — Dimensions and sizes of Materials for building a Frigate of 36 guns. (1794)

Pages 74 to 85 inclusive — Dimensions and Sizes of Materials for building a Frigate of 44 guns. (1794)

Signed by Joshua Humphreys.

Follows after letter dated August 28, 1794, and is before a letter dated October 17, 1794]

To Secretary of State from Peter Walsh of Dominick Terry and Company, Cadiz, Spain

CADIZ 20 Sep^r 1794

SIR I remit you herewith Copy's of Several Letter's which my House has just received from Alger's by a Vessel from thence, & a Correct List of the American Vessel's taken, with the number of Person's on board. — it seem's there are Ten still existing in Captivity of the American's that were formerly taken. This List has been sent to us by the Swedish Consul. we have a Letter from the Danish Consul at said Place of the 25th ult^o, mentioning the several Cruizer's to be again ready for sea; the wind has ever since been from the Eastward, & I am much alarm'd for the safety of our Vessel's. — my House has again prevail'd on the Captain General of this Marine Department to grant Protection to the American Vessel's now here, & 22 of them are to sail tomorrow under Convoy of a 74: & I have no doubt but they will be taken good care of

I have in a former Letter taken the liberty to mention the practice of English Commander's pressing American sailor's in the Bay, which still Continues. we have Several American Vessel's now to our address which have been Strip't of their Men in this way, & are exposed to lose the Convoy for want of hands' to Man them. an Able, Spirited Consul is much wanted to redress this Evil. —

I forward by this opportunity a Letter I have just received from M^r Carmichael for the President

My House sent a thousand Dollar's for the relief of the American's at Alger's early in November last.

[SDA. CL, Cadiz, Vol. 1, 1791-1805.]

[October 1794]

To David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and charged with negotiating Treaty with Algiers from Richard O'Brien, Algiers

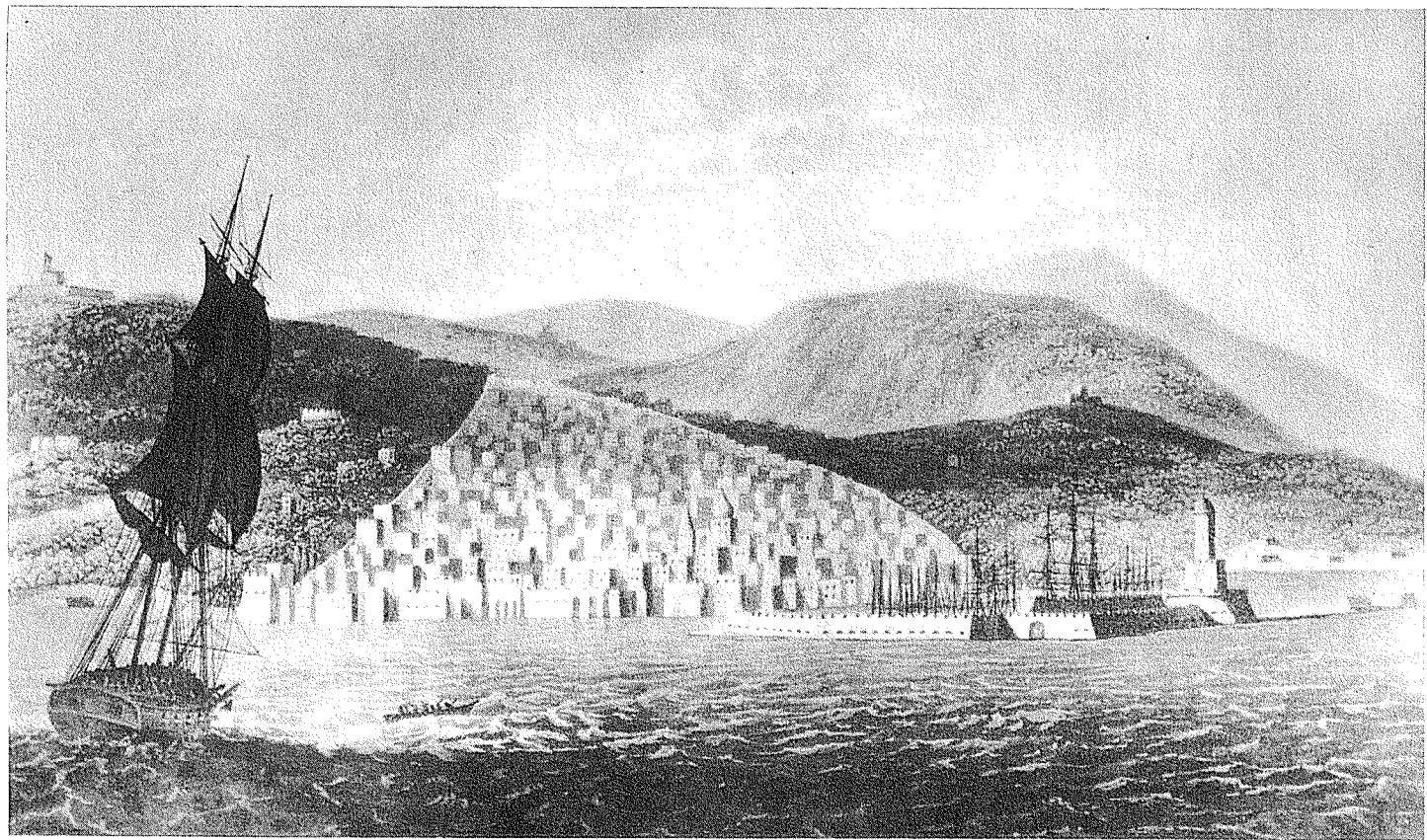
No. 1

POLITICAL REMARKS, AND OBSERVATIONS, ON THE DEY OF ALGIERS', EXORBITANT DEMANDS FOR A PEACE WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Recapitulation of the Terms exacted by the Dey and regency of Algiers for apeace with the United States of America & for the Ransom of 100 American Captives.

Viz†	Dollars —
2 frigates of 36 Guns Each Coppered at the lowest Calculation Equal to.....	248, 000
For the Casna or Treasury the Sum of.....	1080, 000
For the Dey's private Emolument.....	540, 000
For the 2 ^d Class of officers of the Regency.....	98, 000
For the Redemption of one hundred American Captives.....	354, 000
For the Principal officers of the Regency.....	115, 000

First Cost for the Peace and Ransom in Mexico Dollars..... 2435, 000. —



ALGIERS FROM SEAWARD.

These are the Terms perscribed by the Dey for apeace with the United States and which the Dey intends to present to the American Ambassador. The Honourable Coloniel David Humphrey^s on his arrival in Algiers, which when read and perused by the Ambassador, should not hesitate to Reject the whole

And Observe that his Country or no nation could ever conceive or Imagine that the Dey and Regency would ever expect such an exorbitant Sum, to be asked from the U S. which is one thousand Leagues distant Over a Vast Ocean from Algiers, and from a new nation that wished to be friends with all Mankind, and that never armed a Corsair against Algiers — & never gave any Just or offensive motives for war, that we were a nation much in debt. The productions of our Country not Valuable, therefore, the U S. hoped and expected the dey and Regency would admit them to apeace on as Moderate Terms as those Concluded on with the Swedes and dutch, and that he the Said Ambassador, Could only propose to the Dey, and regency such Terms As was in the power of the U S. to perform, or pay, which were as —

Viz—	Dollars —
For the peace for 60 years the sum of.....	200000
To the Dey for his Particular friendship.....	100000 —
For the one hundred American Captives the Sum of.....	200000 —

This offer to include the whole expences in. Mexico Dollars..... 500000

For a free gift annually in Maratime & Military Stores & Money &c..... 30000 — D^{rs}

Then there is a regala — as Customary on the peace, of Stores &c
 Also Ambassadorial and Consolary presents, & Money to persons of Influence — which in my Opinion would amount to upwards of fifty thousand Dollars —
 Also to be paid a duty of 16 per Ct. on the ransoming of Captives which with this Statement all expences included, by Establishing the peace ransom of Captives and setting the Consul in his post, would cost the United States upwards of 600000 D^{rs}

* * * * *

If the Dey Gets in his usual Blustering Convulsions of Passion, and orders the Ambassador. to be gone from his presence and depart Algiers. Obey these orders Instantaneously, but remember that from the fluctuating and Variable character of the Dey, that the Ambassador should leave some person of Confidence empowered To Conclude with the Dey. on the Terms you offered or proposed. that is proviso if the Ambassador. will find himself Justifiable to Delegate his commission or powers to persons of Confidence, and friends. of the United States, is Mons^r Skjoldebr^{de} If the[y] can Act without the orders. of their Court, or Mons^r Vallier the Consul of the French Republic. or Mons^r faure. none Else of the Christians The Bockeries. Jew Merchants is a good house. for Alg^s of Influence with the Dey & Ministry. and for their own interest or to serve themselves if Comision^d The[y] will make the Greatest exertions to Bring about the peace for the U S The Turks might revel Kill the Dey Elect a chief. war with the U S. the two frigates. we gave at the peace is employed capturing & dragging into Slavery, the American^s

What can be the Dey^s motives for asking such an exorbitant sum for apeace with the U S there still remains some of Seeds or Dregs. of the political influence of the british on his mind, which was imbibed into him, when the[y] were all. and all. and of influence durement many years past — and particularly durement the expectations. on the portugeeze Truce and particularly on ascertaining the Terms of the peace which buoy^d up this regency with such Great expectations that Portugal would acquise to the Demands. of the Regency, but since the Dey & Ministry has been fully convinc^d that no peace with portugal will take place, on account of the Americans threaten[ing] to starve the Portugeeze by prohibiting the suplies of provisions and further threatened portugal with a war, in Case of the peace taking place with Algiers. as it would be Very prejudicial to the U S — the Dey thinks as the americans prevented portugal in giving him [h]is demands. There Motives must be by their looking for the peace to give me what the[y] would not let the portugeeze give —

And the Dey Considers as the Americans is a great Commercial people. that the[y] have Considered the extent of his Demands. and consider it ransom Otherwise the[y] would not sollicit. my prices current for apeace & ransom is well known, therefore the Dey builds his demands on the U S. as he did on Portugal, * * *

he asked 3 times more then he afterwards agreed to in Making the Swede & Dutch peace — but at the time of the Swede peace the Dey was poor and by his

exorbitant demands he has certainly some inward or secret Motive for not wishing to be at peace with the U S. his Demands will never be complied with by Congress. The[y] would certainly be the most dishonourablest that was ever brought before a Republican Government to Debate on

It is worthy of Remark and Political Observation — that at the period when Bussara & Dinio was empowered on American affairs and that our Views became to be Known and that an American Ambassador. was expected to come and put a finishing hand to the business. that at this period in order that the dey should be diverted from the American peace. the Spaniards proposed. to the Dey the prussian peace. and about this time or a little after the Spanish Consul had sent a Spanish Gazette. or newspaper. to the Dey, wherein it stated. The importations and amount of the exportations of the U S, which by this political Lying & Invidious Gazette. the exportations of the U S. for one year was calculated to amount. to 26. or 28 Millions of dollars — whether this was the Truth or not it certainly was not a favourable Symptom of the friendship of Spain towards the U S, but of course this information or Political Lancet of Spain had its full force with the Dey. the Gazette I procured from the Dey's Gulfa — or room & it contained no other interesting news — but this on American affairs — These particulars I communicated to Mr Carmichael & Montgomery it was their duty to communicate the same to Congress. whether the[y] did or not I do not know —

Notwithstanding this information to the Dey. had the Ambassador come to conclude on the Terms ascertained by Bushara & Dinio. the Dey then being poor & needy he would not extort but would conclude — but as I then declared, that favourable Opportunity on the part of the U S. was undoubtedly & Irretrievably lost.

But I observe that the affaire of the Gazzetta intelligence and frequently since backed by underhand Spanish insinuations and aided by their Confederate the British, that all must have its Just weight & influence with the Dey. and of course he recollects, that if the exports of the U S. amounts to such a sum as 26 or 28 Millions of Dollars that is in one year: that for apeace with this regency for one hundred years that it is not exorbitant in him to Demand 2½ Millions

* * * * *

We shall take a view of the Political proceedings of the present Dey — when he became the Chiefe or head of this Government. he renewed the peace with the British and in all the principal articles. adhered to the Treatie. this he did through feare. knowing the English was a strong nation by Sea — that would not admit of any Gross insult.

The same motives necessiated the Dey, to observe the same line of conduct relative to France, but a little weaving, * * *

The Dey when General of the Marine brought about the peace for Spain by bribery well palmed and regalled. Signed to the treatie, to preserve every article, but no sooner he became Dey and he finding Spain as usual Dastardly, haveing heretofore changed their national flag — paid Vast sums for the peace — the Dey considered the[y] would give him what he wants, sooner than run the risque of looseing all. Therefore this Very Dey that the U S. is to leave at his Mercy 2½ Millions of Dollars — this Dey tells the Spanish Consul. that he can. renew no peace with Spain except Spain will first surrender to Algiers the Garrison of Oran — what must Spain do — acquise surrender Oran, make immense presents also

* * * * *

Next the Dey renews the peace with Sweden — but say I shall see now, what I get, by all appearance, being friendly, but finding but as [his] customary presents, he then say and considers that this is an Old peace. it must be renewed or repaired. makes war. expects many prizes to make him popular as a new Dey — disappointed Gets no prizes makes the peace fills his belly a little content.

With the Dutch the Dey cheerfully renews the peace receives the Customary but extra presents. the Dey writes the States in the most friendly manner. giving the strongest assurances. after the expiration of 1¼ years — receives the Tribute. & presents Eats the whole. and under a pretence. of 14 Spars being indifferent makes the war with the Dutch captures and condemns 5 sail makes the peace Got 153 thousand Sequins this was certainly for the interest of the regency. it was putting money in the stuffed or cramed treasury. it was following the precepts. of the holy Al Koran. the Evangelists of the Musselmen. it was taking from the infidels it was Enriching the True Bilivers —

The Vinitians had been run pretty strong. the[y] cringed bribed underhand & has so fur weathered the Gale — more favourable than when the late Dey Bobba Mr the Saint of Algiers — Came to the throne whom Observed to the Vinitian

Comodore & Consul. that he knew his friends by the presents the[y] brought.
* * * the Dey declared the war took prizes and then after the Vinitians
obtains apeace the[y] bought it. but is threatened strong it is old it wants Renewing
or refreshing with one hundred thous^d Vinitian Sequins —

The Deans with this Regency is Very Functial in their Regalas — or — in the
payment of their tributes * * *

I will Observe that it is bad news to the Consuls in Algiers when the Algerine
Corsairs returns to port without taking a prize. The Dey like the hungry Lion.
say^t what must I do I cannot starve I must Eat my friends as I cannot Catch my
Enemies — and allso Discontent is all the officers & crews. of the Marine the[y]
take no prize the[y] say the[y] are at peace with too many nations

The Spaniard thinks & conjectures that the Dey will make war with the deans
or Vinitians these two thinks the Spanish peace will be of no duration. It cannot
be me say^t the Dean I stand well with the Dey * * *

We shall Observe that if it was a fact. or Certainty or well secured or gaurenteed
to the U S. that for the sum of 2½ Millions the[y] should have peace with Algiers
for 100 years, it would under this security and Consideration be a Very Cheap and
Moderate peace, but dishonourable to all intents and purposes — but if secured
Certainty in the run of 100 years the commerce of the U S. to the Meditteranian
would gain or profit full, the sum of 150 Millions —

But who will Gaurentee this peace — where is the security. Certainly those
people will not reform. the next Dey would say — you gave me nothing. You
gave the other Dey — 2½ Millions I must have the same. do you think that I
shall observe treaties made by a dead foolish man. no Consul of the U S. agree to
give me my demands. I am poor — the Christian nations must make me rich I
cannot take the public money out of the treasury — when I can extort
from you — * * *

Well we shall suppose the United States agrees to the Dey^t it is well known that
even [if] we are at peace with Algiers our flag is not free in those Seas we have to
obtain peace with Tunis & Tripoly and the Grand Signiors Dominions — our
peace is Established with Algiers We go to Tunis ask for apeace — what is the
ans^t of the Bey or Bashaw of Tunis. you know the Terms you agreed to with
Algiers you must pay me nearly the same. we Obtain the peace with Tunis for 2
Millions. our next look out is Tripoly — and as we succeed in one place our
enemies bribes ahead of us & is allway^t throwing Obstacles in our way — however
with difficulty we shall suppose we are at peace with all the Barbary States, & with
the Grand Turk which by the time the Colours of the U S. is free in those Seas. it
Costs the U S. full 6 Millions of Mexico Dollars — not mentioning our annual
Tribute as it will be Observed that those people only thinks of the Money whilst
the[y] are receiving it. next day all is forgot.

next our Enemies will try in what manner our Commerce is to be alarmed. A Dey
or Bey Dies our enemies immediatly Bribes the new Dey. to Make war with the
U S. Remember in all treaties there is to be found some pretence for hostilities, but
suppose suddenly 50 — or 70 thousand Sequins from france Spain or England[;] has
not this Money its full weight do you think you american Politicians. but this sum
on the like instance but you lost youre peace I say yes — and Quote from the
experience of My Observations duri^{ng} a Period of neare 10 y^r Captivity [sic].

How fur would it be prejudicial to those nations that is at peace at present with
this Regency if the Americans agreed to the Dey^t exorbitant demands for the
peace and Ransom —

It would be as giving a bounty to those people for every 2 — or 4 years to make
war with one of those weak nations the[y] are at present at peace with. the Swedes
Deans Dutch Vinitians & shortly Spain would in Rotation of Each other loose
their peace. and as naturally for the interest or benefit of commerce the[y] would
try for apeace — would not the Dey to Each of those mentioned nations perscribe
those terms for their peace which the Americans had agreed to would not the
Dey — ask at that period more exorbitant sums for the ransom of Sea Captives
then he does at present for the Americans I say yes — therefore I observe that if
the Americans obtains apeace it is the interest of many of those nations at present
at peace to try that the Americans obtains at a very moderate rate so that in case
any of those mentioned nations should loose their peace that the[y] may hope to
Obtain their peace on the same moderate Terms & the ransom of their Subjects.

* * * * *

Since the 12th October Bushara has been often up with the Dey. and discourseing
with the Dey on american affairs — Cathcart assures me that he has reason to
think that Bushara & Dininio is the Enemies of the U S. & is conjectured to be
rewarded on this business by the Spanish & English —

ALGIERS *October 1794*
and 10th yeare of American Captivity
in this Regency —

NB On all other affairs I refer & submit to youre perusal, my remarks on the Portuges & Dutch Truce & peace — and My Observations on the affairs of the United States relative to this Regency, and including Observations on all other nations that is at peace or is at war with the barbary States.

To the Honourable Colonel HUMPHREY
American Ambassador,

expected in Algiers. on affairs of importance whom I trust the Almighty will instruct for the Good of the U S —

[SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part I, April 1785–July 1795.]

To Secretary of State from Michael Morphy, U. S. Consul, Malaga, Spain

MALAGA 17th November 1794

Nº 18

SIR, I had the honor to address you my respects the 19th September Nº 17, after then no opportunity has offered for any Port of the U S from hence till the present one of Captain Reed for New York —

Since that Period nothing material has occurred with the Naval forces of the beligerant powers in the Mediterranean that I can learn, Admiral Hood in the *Victory* is lately gone home and the Command of the Fleet left with Admiral Hotham who by last accounts continued the blockade of the french Ships at the Island of St Jean but it is expected that he will be obliged to leave that Station when the bad weather sets in being a very dangerous Coast;

The Algerine Cruizers have very recently put to Sea they are eight in Number of their largest Vessels. Two of them put into Alicante and six have been seen about a month since cruising between Cape de Gat and Barcelona. I dont apprehend they will venture to make their approaches nearer to the Streights on account of the Portuguese Squadron *their enemy* that keeps that Station. — Our Vessels Seldom venture to come the length of this Port for fear of accidents and hitherto they have been very safe in their navigation to Cadiz and Gibraltar and may continue so while the portuguese forces continue at the entrance of the streights. —

The present unsettled State of the Empire of Morocco under the present Government of Mulley soliman the chosen Emperor of the people of Fez and Mequinez gives room for dreading that his operations with the Christian Nations who were in peace with y^e late deceased Emperor may not be very Satisfactory, his Cruizers have been lately at Sea and it is reported that they had orders given them to take all Vessels of such flags as had not a Consul resident in his Dominions, wherefore when I got this intelligence I instantly furnished M^r James Simpson of Gibraltar with a copy of the treaty established by the deceased M^r Barclay with Sidy Mahomet supposing that Soliman had not it that it may be laid before him for the purpose of the latters paying due respect thereto, and I have the pleasure of knowing since from M^r Simpson That he had accordingly wrote to Mulley Soliman and that he was in hopes of receiving a favorable answer soon, in the mean while he acquaints me that he had advice of the Emperor Cruizers being returned into Port and he had heard only of a Ragusean

Vessel that they had Stopt which had 60,000 Mexico Dollars on-board —

* * * * *
[NA. SDA. CL, Malaga, Vol. 1, June 1793–May 1814.]

To David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, from Secretary of State

PHILADELPHIA, *Novem^r 21st 1794.*

SIR I have been honored by your letter of the 18th of September last — Mine of August 25th 1794, has come up to your calculation for redemption; as it is understood by the President. There is therefore no difficulty in repeating, that the terms are acquiesced in. —

The same Letter has also conveyed the Instructions, which you requested; and the means of executing them —

As to the four points, upon which you desire the explicit assurance of government; the answer is, that Skjoldebrand's terms are to be acceded to; if better cannot be obtained — that wood for construction, military Stores and ammunition are not to be promised, unless it be indispensable, after every effort for procuring a peace and ransom: and that contingent expenses and adequate assistance will be allowed. —

[NA. SDA. Dip. Cor., Inst. to Min., Bk 2, Aug. 1793–June 1795.]

To the House of Dominick Terry and Company, Cadiz, Spain, from Moses Morse
Master of American Brig *Jane* and slave in Algiers

Copy

ALGIERS 1st Dec^r 1794

GENTLEMEN I have the disagreeable new's of informing you that 4 days after my departure from Cadiz I was captur'd by an Algerine Corsair of 24 Gun's, & a few Hour's after my Friend Capⁿ Newman was likewise captur'd by the same ship, and arrived at this Place the 1st Nov^r the whole of the American Vessel's Captur'd during the cruize was 10 in number, since which on another cruize there has one American Prize Brig arrived here, the *Minerva* of Portsmouth. we were all of us Strip't of evry thing, even part of our old sea cloths on our backs were taken, and the day after our arrival here was put in Iron's, & a chain of about 30 lb. and in that situation, without the least Distinction was put to the Hardest Labour, and continue at the same every day. they have since taken off our Iron's, but the cruel treatment is too much for me to discribe. as it is uncertain if there will be a Peace, or the redemption of Prisoners the Dey having refused to admit of Col: Humphrey's, who is empower'd by Congress to treat with him, (to an *audience at Present* and nothing allowed us to subsist upon but bread & water, I have desir'd my Friend M^r Philips Kidder of Haverhill to pay any draft you shall draw on him at sight for any money you shall Please to send to me for my support while a distressed slave in this Place, & have to request as a singular favour you wou'd advance me one hundred Spanish Dollars & transmit the same to me by the way of the Spanish or Swedish Consuls.

[SDA. CL, Cadiz, Vol. 1, 1793–1805.]

[18 December 1794]

To Secretary of State from John Burnham, Wethersfield, Hartford County, Conn.
To the Hon^{ble} EDMOND RANDOLPH Esq^r

Secretary of State for America —

The Memorial of John Burnham late Master of the Ship *Hope* of New York — humbly sheweth that he was born in the County of Hartford in the State of Connecticut — and that at the age of seventeen years he entered into the Service of the United States in the year 1777 — in a Battalion commanded by Col: Sam^l B: Webb — that within a few months he was in an action with the british Troops taken a prisoner and lodg^d in a loathsome Church in New York, where in an inclement Season of the year he endured almost every thing but Death — & by the Interposition of his friends after about four months he was released and joined the Battalion to which he belonged in which he served for three years and then was honorably discharged — after which he went into Sea Service on board an armed vessel belonging to America — your Memorialist after a great variety of fortune at the end of the war, took the command of several vessels employed in the Merchant service from New York & Virginia to Europe — and in June 1793 he sailed from James River in Virginia for Rotterdam in the above s^d Ship *Hope* and after his Cargo was discharged in Rotterdam he sailed for Malaga in s^d Ship — and on the 6th Day of October 1793 near the Straits of Gibraltar he fell in with & was taken by a Ship of forty four guns belonging to & in the Service of the Regency of Algiers — when your Memorialist & the people under his Command were carried into Algiers & there made Slaves, where he continued in the most abject & wretched Situation which can be imagined untill the 27th Day of March AD 1794 when by writing to M^r James Duff Consul to his Brittannic Majesty in Cadiz he procured on loan four thousand Dollars which he paid to the Dey of Algiers — for which together with four hundred Dollars for the Duty freight and Insurance of the money from Cadiz to Algiers he has given his bond to the s^d M^r Duff payable in London on the third day of April next —

Your Memorialist would beg leave further to observe that when captured he lost almost the hard earned savings of his whole life, having on board s^d Ship to the amount of five thousand Dollars in merchandize — your Memorialist is now reduced from easy circumstances to want & has not where withal to compensate his generous & disinterested friend M^r Duff for the Monies advanced for his redemption —

And he is now informed that monies are placed in the hands of the Executive of America by the government of this Country, for the redemption of y^e American prisoners who have ben captured by the Algirenes — he conceives that altho he has found a friend who has advanced his Redemption Money he is in equal Equity entitled to his share of as tho he was now in Slavery —

Wherefore he prays that the money may be delivered to him to discharge the said Bond or that some measure may be taken whereby he may be exonerated from the same or such part thereof as shall seem Just & reasonable & he as in Duty bound will pray —

Dated at PHILADELPHIA
this 18th Dec^r 1794

[SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part I, April 1785–July 1795.]

[22 December 1794]

Presents exacted from the United States by the Dey of Algiers

LAUS DEO.

The Terms exacted by the Dey & Divan of the Regency of Algiers to conclude a treaty of Peace with his Excellency the President & Citizen Subjects of the United States of America for the term of one Century to commence from the day said Peace is ratified, an account of said treaty being duly register'd in the Publick Register of this Regency. Copied by James Lea^r Cathcart, the Deys Head Christian Clerk. Dec^r 22nd 1794 —

The Dey demands on the part of this Regency, two Frigates sheath'd with copper to mount 36 Guns, 12 pounders on the Gun deck & every way compleatly equip'd &c —

	Mexican Dollars
The Dey demands the United States of America to pay to the Publick Treasury of this Regency in Six different payments the sum of Six hundred thousand Algerine Sequins, Value in Mex ^a Doll ^r	1080, 000
The Dey expects for his own private emolument three hundred thousand Algerine Sequins, eq ^l to.....	540, 000

The following sums to be paid to the Dey to be distributed by him at his own discretion

For the Deys Wife & Daughter.....	60, 000	
For the Deys Casnadar or Chamberlain.....	5000.....	5, 000
For the Deys two Head Cooks.....	5000 each.....	10, 000
For the two Vikilhades of the Pallace.....	3000 D ^e	6, 000
For Hadgi Omar 1 st Moorish Clerk.....	4000 D ^e	4, 000
For Ciddi Yousef 2 nd D ^e D ^e	3000 D ^e	3, 000
For the two Money Counters.....	3000 D ^e	6, 000
For the Hodge of the Pallace door.....	3000.....	3, 000
For the head moorish Chaux.....	1000.....	1, 000
For the Moorish Chauxes.....	3000.....	3, 000
For 13 Officers of Justice.....	.....	5, 000
For 62 Officers of the antient Divan.....	.....	13, 000
For 125 Cappa negroes or Officers of the pay Table.....	.....	39, 000
		158, 000

The Sum Exacted for the Ransom of one hundred American Captives is as Viz

For 11 Masters & one Super cargo @ 6000 Doll ^r each.....	72, 000	
For 14 Mates.....	4000 Doll ^r each.....	56, 000
For the Deys Christian Clerk.....	4000 D ^e	4, 000
For His three American pages or Serv ^{ts} @.....	4000 D ^e	12, 000
For the Redemption of 70 Mariners @ 3000.....	D ^e	210, 000
		354, 000

The following sums are to be sent privately to the following Grandees Houses Viz

To the Hasnagi or prime Minister.....	15, 000	
To the Aga or Generallissimo of the Turks.....	15, 000	
To the Hodge of Cavallos or Farmer General.....	15, 000	
To the Beitalmel or receiver de les droits d'Aubain.....	15, 000	
To the Vikilhadj or Intendant of the Marine.....	15, 000	
To the four Hodes or Turkish Secretary's — 10,000 Doll ^r each.....	40, 000	
		115, 000

The whole sum exacted for the Peace & Redemption of 100 American Captives is..... 2247, 000 D^r

The Dey & Divan of the Regency of Algiers farther demands, that the United States of America shall pay annually unto this Regency the sum of twelve thousand Algerine Sequins in Warlike Stores timber &c. The Dey & Divan on their parts farther declare that in Conse-

quence of the United States complying with the above demands on the Arival of an Ambassador Plenipotentiary from said United States, That they will insure the United States an advantageous Peace with the Regency of Tunis, even below their most sanguine expectations, and will grant the United States every Commercial priviledge equal to the most favour'd Nation, & will likewise comply with any reasonable request said Ambassador may make on the part of the United States of America — — —

DONE by our ORDER in the DEYS PALLACE ALGIERS Dec^r the 22^d 1794

AUTHENTICATED & SEAL'D with the PUBLICK STAMP of this REGENCY
HASSAN BASHAW
Dey of the City & Regency of Algiers



JAMES LEA^r CATHCART
Deys Head Christian Clerk

[SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part I, April 1785–July 1795.]

[27 December 1794]

Report of Secretary of War concerning Construction of Frigates under the Act of 27 March 1794, communicated to the House of Representatives, 29 December 1794

The Secretary of War, in obedience to the orders of the President of the United States, submits to the House of Representatives the following report respecting the frigates authorized by the "Act to provide a naval armament."

That the passing of the said act created an anxious solicitude that this second commencement of a navy for the United States should be worthy of their national character. That the vessels should combine such qualities of strength, durability, swiftness of sailing, and force, as to render them equal, if not superior, to any frigates belonging to any of the European Powers. Researches, therefore, have been made for the best principles of construction, and such proportions adopted as have appeared best, upon the most mature advice and deliberation.

The largest ships, of forty-four guns, will be constructed upon a scale to contain thirty cannons of the caliber of twenty-four pounds upon the gun deck. The others, of thirty-six, twenty-eight cannons, of the same caliber, upon the gun deck. The remaining force will be made up of twelve pounders and brass howitzers.

The frigates will be built of live oak and red cedar, in all parts where they can be used to advantage. These valuable woods afford the United States the highest advantages in building ships, the durability being estimated at five times that of the common white oak. Besides these woods, the best white oak, pitch pine, and locust, are directed to be used in the construction.

Expedients have been devised for seasoning the plank, as expressed in the letter of Joshua Humphreys, herewith submitted.

But the procuration of the live oak and cedar, being of Southern growth, has been retarded by the circumstances specified in the letter of the Commissioner of the Revenue.

The building of the ships has been directed in the several following ports of the Union, in order, as well to distribute the advantages arising from the operation, as to ascertain at what places they can be executed to the greatest advantage, to wit:

One thirty-six at Portsmouth, New Hampshire;-----[Congress]
 One forty-four at Boston;-----[Constitution]
 One forty-four at New York;-----[President]
 One forty-four at Philadelphia;-----[United States]
 One thirty-six at Baltimore; and-----[Constellation]
 One forty-four at Portsmouth, or Norfolk, Virginia.-----[Chesapeake]

The following arrangement has been adopted for the building and equipment of the frigates:

1. All contracts for the principal materials of construction and equipment have been made in pursuance of law, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury.

2. All labor, and inferior materials, not otherwise provided by the Secretary of the Treasury, are to be procured by agents whose compensations are two and a half per cent. conformably to their instructions, hereunto annexed, marked No. 1.

3. The captains of the frigates are to superintend the construction and equipment, in pursuance of their instructions, No. 2.

4. The constructors, or master builders, are to be regulated by their general instructions, No. 3.

It has been endeavored to take these characters from the best qualified of their profession; and in order that the public should derive all the advantage of their whole time, they have been detached from all private pursuits by a liberal compensation, at the rate of two thousand dollars per annum. It is possible that, in one or two instances, *agreements for their services* might have been obtained at a rate somewhat lower; but the invidiousness of the distinctions of different rewards for men performing the same services would but ill comport either with the invariable feelings of the human heart, or the public service; they have, therefore, all been placed upon the same footing.

A clerk to each yard, or place of building, is to receive, issue, and to account for, all public property belonging to the ship, according to his instructions, No. 4; at the rate of seven hundred and fifty dollars per annum.

The progress which has been made in the business is generally stated in the letter of the Commissioner of the Revenue, and the letter of the captains and constructor of the port of Philadelphia, herewith submitted.

It is to be understood that no expenses were authorized until the appropriation of the 9th day of June last, although the act for building the frigates was passed the 25th day of March.

That few or no materials of any sort, either for construction or equipment, existed in their proper shape.

That every thing, if not to be created, was to be modified. That the wood of which the frames were to be made was standing in the forests; the iron for the cannon lying in its natural bed; and the flax and hemp, perhaps, in their seed. That the materials will be soon collected, and the building vigorously pushed, so that the frigates, according to the opinions contained in the documents herewith submitted, may be afloat in the course of the year one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five.

That, from the expenditures hitherto made upon the naval armament, no accurate judgment can be formed at present what further sums, if any, will be wanting to complete the same.

It is respectfully suggested, that the idea contained in the letter of the Commissioner of the Revenue, respecting the publicity of some of the measures upon this subject, merits consideration.

All which is respectfully submitted.

H. KNOX, *Secretary of War.*

Department of War,
December 27th, 1794.

[Am. State Papers, Nav. Af., Vol. 1, pp. 6-8.]

To Secretary of State from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar

Nº 48

GIBRALTAR 17th February 1795

SIR, I had the honor of addressing you (47) yesterday, as this by way of Cadiz, and have now the unpleasant task of imparting the result of my friend's enquiries at Muley Taib, which is that vessels of the United States will not be in Security from Muley Soliman's Cruizers, untill arrival of an Ambassador: — unpleasant as this is, it's better to be known, than continue in the State of uncertainty we were, and I shall in consequence take the most immediate measures for conveying the intelligence to All Ports in this Country, as well as Portugal and England. —

I shall now very anxiously wait answer to the last letter I wrote Muley Soliman, of which Nº 47 conveyed you copy — unless that moves him to give the Solicited orders to the Captains of his Cruizers, I very much fear they will continue their Endeavors to intercept vessels of the United States untill a peace be made. —

The Brig carried to Tangier having been clearly proved to be English, has been released, and arrived here this morning. —

[SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. I, April 1791–Dec. 1795.]

Message of President George Washington to the Congress of the United States

UNITED STATES, February 28, 1795.

Gentlemen of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:

In my first communication to Congress, during their present session, I gave them reason to expect that "certain circumstances of our intercourse with foreign nations" would be transmitted to them. There was at that time every assurance for believing that some of the most important of our foreign affairs would have been concluded, and others considerably matured, before they should rise. But, notwithstanding I have waited until this moment, it has so happened that, either from causes unknown to me, or from events which could not be controlled, I am yet unable to execute my original intention. That I may, however, fulfil the expectation given, as far as the actual situation of things will, in my judgment, permit, I now, *in confidence*, lay before Congress the following general statement:

Our minister near the French republic has urged compensation for the injuries which our commerce has sustained from captures by French cruizers, from the nonfulfilment of the contracts of the agents of that republic with our citizens, and from the embargo at Bordeaux. He has also pressed an allowance for the money voted by Congress for

relieving the inhabitants of St. Domingo. It affords me the highest pleasure to inform Congress that perfect harmony reigns between the two republics, and that those claims are in a train of being discussed with candor, and of being amicably adjusted.

So much of our relation to Great Britain may depend upon the result of our late negotiations in London, that, until that result shall arrive, I cannot undertake to make any communication upon this subject.

After the negotiation with Spain had been long depending, unusual and unexpected embarrassments were raised to interrupt its progress. But the commissioner of His Catholic Majesty near the United States having declared to the Secretary of State, that, if a particular accommodation should be made in the *conducting* of the business, no further delay would ensue, I thought proper, under all circumstances, to send to His Catholic Majesty an envoy extraordinary, specially charged to bring to a conclusion the discussions which have been formerly announced to Congress.

The friendship of Her Most Faithful Majesty has been often manifested in checking the passage of the Algerine corsairs into the Atlantic Ocean. She has also furnished occasional convoys to the vessels of the United States, even when bound to other ports than her own. We may, therefore, promise ourselves, that as, in the ordinary course of things, few causes can exist for dissatisfaction between the United States and Portugal, so the temper with which accidental difficulties will be met on each side will speedily remove them.

Between the Executive of the United States and the Government of the United Netherlands but little intercourse has taken place during the last year. It may be acceptable to Congress to learn that our credit in Holland is represented as standing upon the most respectable footing.

Upon the death of the late Emperor of Morocco, an agent was despatched to renew with his successor the treaty which the United States had made with *him*. The agent unfortunately died, after he had reached Europe, in the prosecution of his mission. But, until lately, it was impossible to determine, with any degree of probability, who of the competitors for that empire would be ultimately fixed in the supreme power. Although the measures which have been since adopted for the renewal of the treaty have been obstructed by the disturbed situation of Amsterdam, there are good grounds for presuming, as yet, upon the pacific disposition of the Emperor in fact towards the United States, and that the past miscarriage will be shortly remedied.

Congress are already acquainted with the failure of the loan attempted in Holland for the relief of our unhappy fellow-citizens in Algiers. This subject, than which none deserves a more affectionate zeal, has constantly commanded my best exertions. I am happy, therefore, in being able to say, that, from the last authentic accounts, the Dey was disposed to treat for a peace and ransom, and that both would in all probability have been accomplished, had we not been disappointed in the means. Nothing which depends upon the Executive shall be left undone, for carrying into immediate effect the supplementary act of Congress.

[Am. State Papers, Foreign Rel., Vol. 1.]

To President George Washington from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

W. D. March 14. 1795

The PRESIDENT

SIR, Solicitous to retain in the Public service so estimable an officer as Captain Dale, I wished to place, the indulgence he requests on such ground as might save that service from injury & afford a justification to the Executive of the United States in granting him a furlough.

Cap^t Dale will undoubtedly return from China in full time to take command of the frigate to which he has been appointed. —

The superintending of her while building may be committed to Captain Samuel Barron as soon as he returns from Sea, and in the interim to his uncle Cap^t Robert Barron. Both are of Norfolk experienced Seamen, & recommended by the Agent M^r Pennock & others. Samuel Barron is a Candidate for a first Lieutenancy in the Navy; & will feel a peculiar interest in performing attentively the office of Superintendent. — Cap^t Dale will compensate them for the services they render in his stead.

Cap^t Barry & Cap^t Truxton have engaged to afford every advice & assistance that may be required, relative to Cap^t Dale's frigate during his absence.

Under these circumstances I have thought it would be expedient that Cap^t Dale should be indulged with a furlough, during the time necessary for performing his intended voyage to China; otherwise an officer so universally & highly valued & esteemed will be forever lost to the Naval service of the United States. —

On communicating the matters here stated to Gen^l Knox, I have the pleasure to find his opinion entirely concurring with my own.

Should the reasons, Sir, appear satisfactory to you, I shall beg to be honored with your determination as early as may be convenient. — Captain Dale, had an expectation of sailing Tomorrow. —

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790-1798.]

To David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers, from Secretary of State

[PHILADELPHIA]

Department of State, March 28th 1795.

Instructions to Colonel DAVID HUMPHREYS,

SIR The instructions heretofore communicated to you in several letters from the office of the Department of State, respecting the negociation with the Dey of Algiers &c: for concluding a treaty of peace and liberating our Citizens from captivity, contain the sentiments of the President on those subjects, and will serve accordingly for your general government. If we should not be able to make a Treaty, comprehending all the articles contained in our Treaty with Morocco; we must acquiesce in the liberation of our Citizens and a Treaty of Peace only.

With respect to Morocco, it is proposed to obtain from the Prince Muley Soliman, a recognition of the Treaty between the United States and his father the former Emperor. This you will endeavour to effect if possible for twenty thousand Dollars; but if you shall find that it cannot be accomplished under twenty five thousand Dollars, you are authorised to go to that amount. This negociation you may

either accomplish yourself, or by such Agency as you shall deem best calculated for the purpose, according as you shall find the state of affairs in Morocco, upon your arrival in Europe.

For want of more particular knowledge of Tunis and Tripoli, you can only be informed generally, it is the instruction of the President, that Treaties of Peace should be concluded between the United States, and each of those States, upon as nearly similar principles to those contained in the Treaty between the late Emperor of Morocco and the United States, as the circumstances will allow, or upon such general friendly terms as the existing state of affairs may seem to justify. — Provided a Treaty with each one of the said States can be concluded for the sum of twenty five thousand Dollars in money or presents. Joseph Donaldson Junior is named by the President as Consul to those two States. He will of course be employed as Agent to negotiate with them, unless circumstances should make it necessary for you to proceed up the Mediterranean. In case of the death, sickness or inability of the said Joseph Donaldson Junior, you are authorised to appoint such Agent for the purpose as you shall judge proper. — In the first place, however, it is expected that M^r Donaldson will (if deemed necessary) be employed in an Agency with M^r Pierre Eric Skjoldebrand (now named as Consul of the United States for Algiers) in ascertaining and agreeing upon the provisional or preliminary terms of a Treaty with Algiers; and in causing (under your directions and instructions) the money appropriated by law for that purpose, to be paid at Algiers, in the manner which shall be agreed upon. M^r Donaldson while employed on these Agencies, will be allowed by the United States his expenses and one hundred Dollars per month. After he shall be established as Consul, he will be entitled only to the salary limited by law. — As it is conceived that Philip Sloan (second mate of Captⁿ O'Brien's vessel when taken by the Algerines and lately returned from slavery) will be a very useful man on this service, he may be employed as Interpreter and Messenger accordingly. — In addition to his outfits, as furnished by the Purveyor of the United States he will be allowed his expenses — and twenty six dollars per month, that being the pay of a first Mate of a revenue cutter in the service of the United States —

M^r Pierre Eric Skjoldebrand is named Consul of the United States for Algiers, to whom you will transmit the Commission accordingly.

If Captⁿ Hans Heissel should accept the Consulship for the territories of Morocco, under the dominions of the Prince Muley Soliman, to reside at Tangier or such place within the same as shall be named you will cause the Commission to be delivered to him accordingly — otherwise you will retain the same and give information to the Executive —

The funds, appropriated by Law for Barbary affairs, are placed under your controul. You will obtain information of the particulars thereof from the Secretary of the Treasury. You will correspond with Mess^{rs} John & Francis Baring and draw upon them (in order to remit to the Barbary States in money, presents or bills) for such sums as may be necessary (in conformity to your instructions) for the negotiations &c: with Algiers, Tunis and Tripoli —

In addition to the presents which will be carried from this port and those at Gibraltar (intended for the Morocco negotiation) you will draw for the money belonging to the United States in the hands of

Mess^{rs} John Bulkeley and Son of Lisbon, and such further sum from the money belonging to the United States in the hands of M^r Robert Montgomery, Consul of the United States at Alicant, as to make the whole amount equal to the sum before specified, to be applied to the Morocco negotiation, viz, Twenty five thousand Dollars. — A letter is given to you for M^r Montgomery, for placing the whole public property in his possession under your controul, as appears necessary from the tenor of his receipt for the same. The residue of that property may be applied to the Barbary negotiations, according to your instructions —

You will endeavour to state in as satisfactory and clear a manner as the nature of the circumstances will admit, the application of the public money or property appropriated for Barbary affairs which may come into your management, under your Commissions or these instructions — and you will endeavour to keep the Executive as regularly informed as may be of the state of these negotiations —

[NA. SDA. Dip. Cor., Inst. to Min., Book 2, Aug. 1793–June 1795.]

[30 March 1795]

To the Emperor of Morocco from President George Washington

GEORGE WASHINGTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
To His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Morocco.

Being desirous of establishing and cultivating peace and harmony between our nation and his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Morocco, I have appointed David Humphreys, one of our distinguished citizens, a commissioner plenipotentiary, giving him full power to negotiate and conclude a treaty of amity and commerce with you. And I pray you to give full credit to whatever shall be delivered to you on the part of the United States by him, and particularly when he shall assure you of our sincere desire to be in peace and friendship with you and your people. And I pray God to give you health and happiness.

Done at Philadelphia, this thirtieth day of March, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, and in the nineteenth year of the independence of these States.

G. WASHINGTON.

By the President of the United States of America:

EDM. RANDOLPH,
Secretary of State.

[Am. State Papers, Foreign Rel., Vol. 1.]

To David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers, from Secretary of State

[PHILADELPHIA]

Department of State, April 4th 1795.

SIR In addition to the instructions of the 28th ultimo, you are hereby authorized to associate or not M^r Donaldson and M^r Skjoldebrand in the negotiation at Algiers: to employ M^r Donaldson alone therein, if you think proper: and to withhold M^r Skjoldebrand's Commission or cause it to be delivered, as may seem best. — On my part I will remove the idea of indelicacy towards the French Republic, by assigning to our Minister at Paris the reason, why an attempt to negotiate was made in the first instance without their aid. But it is

supposed proper and is therefore recommended to you, to proceed as early as possible to France, for the purpose of obtaining the co-operation of that government in this negotiation.

[NA. SDA. Dip. Cor., Inst. to Min., Bk 2, Aug. 1793-June 1795.]

To Secretary of State from Robert Montgomery, U. S. Agent, Alicante

ALICANTE 2 May 1795.

SIR I had the honour of addressing your Excellency under the 14 ultimo, to which have only to add that the boat sent by Captain Heysell to Algiers is returned but without bringing him any answer to his letter to the Dey, but for this he consoles himself in his usual way and has now recourse to the expectation of a large Packet from him Via Carthagera by first opportunity

I have by this Vessel of Heysells received several letters from Algiers, in particular from M^r Valliere the French Consul and from the first Secretary to the Dey, these agree in advising what I had apprehended, that Heysell's letter had given Very great offence to the Dey who called it audacious impudence, and say that only by assuring him that this was a peice of officious folly in the Dane he could be induced to lave things in *Statu[s] Quo* as when Colonel Humphreys sailed for America, the Dey will wait for the return of that Gentleman but not listen to any Overtures from this man who he calls imposter and says his designes were to ruin our affairs in Algiers, thus we may congratulate our selves with having escaped with so little harm, and I trust it will never be again in his power to do so much

I cannot yet conceive what could be this mans designs in precipitating the business, whether in order to supplant his friend Humphreys (who brought him to light) or as the Dey alledged to ruin the business and prevent our sharing the Trade of the Medeterranian with his Country men, or elce from his gross Ignorance of Business and Vain of what he thought his appointment which he published with the greatest secrecy to All who knew him he could not contain his desere of becoming conspicuous, but certain it is that contrary to my best advice and warmest remonstrances contrary to Written orders which I had received from M^r Humphreys and contrary to every thing that good Sence or prudence could dictate he sent forward his letters the purport of which he totally concealed from me, I should not have dwelt so long on this subject but the impertance of it was great and I trust your Excellency will think that thro the whole transaction I have faithfully endeavoured to comply with my duty

A Cruiser belonging to Oran of 10 [or 18] guns and 150 is now here She has yet made no prize

[NA. SDA. CL, Alicante, Vol. 1, Aug. 1788-Dec. 1834.]

To William Pennock, Navy Agent, Norfolk, Va., from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

W. O. May 14th 1795.

SIR, The bearer is M^r Josiah Fox who for near a year past has been employed in the Navy department in this city, assisting M^r Humphreys the Constructor in making the draughts & moulds for the frigates. He is handsomely spoken of by M^r Humphreys, who thinks there are few men in this Country equally qualified in this line.

M^r Fox's good character & professional skill, render him a valuable acquisition to the U. S.; & I beg leave to recommend him to your attention. —

The absence of M^r Morgan, who was destined to construct the frigate to be built at Norfolk in Virginia, has induced me to send M^r Fox to that place as an Assistant Constructor; & who will be able to direct with certainty the application of the draughts & moulds in fashioning all the timbers & building the Ship. —

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790–1798.]

[18 May 1795]

To Joseph Donaldson, Junior, U. S. Agent, Algiers, from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers

(Secret & confidential)

SIR. You will be pleased to proceed to Algiers, without delay, in order to deliver the letters herewith committed to you, and particularly that addressed to the Consul of France, who has on a former occasion offered us his friendly assistance & who is now most earnestly solicited to use his best influence in favour of our negotiations with the Dey & Regency.

If, upon conferring in a confidential & secret manner with the Consul of France, you shall find that a Treaty can be effected within the limits of the Sums mentioned in the enclosed Extract of a letter of the 16th of Aug^r last from Algiers, marked N^o 1. (or upon better terms if they can be obtained, and which you will endeavour to obtain if possible) — or for the amount of the Sum appropriated by Law for the purpose (as specified in the enclosed Memorandum, marked N^o 2.) you will proceed to arrange & agree upon a Provisional Treaty. That is to say, a Treaty providing, that the liberation of our Citizens in Captivity at Algiers shall take effect, as soon as the Money can be paid according to agreement. If this object should be so far accomplished, it will then be necessary for you to come to Lisbon, with as much expedition as possible, for the purpose of transferring the Money, which it is hoped & expected may be in readiness by that time or very shortly afterwards. The more haste is urged on this occasion because it is most ardently wished that we may be enabled to extricate our Citizens from Slavery, if it be by any means practicable, before they shall again be visited by that dreadful scourge of Heaven, the Plague. The early liberation of these unhappy men from their present distressing & perilous condition is considered to be an object too dear & too interesting to all the feelings of humanity, to admit of one moment's delay. — even of that delay which would in the first instance be requisite to concert with the Government of France (as we contemplate to do immediately, and as we flatter ourselves from their friendly dispositions & intimations we shall be able to do) such measures as may be efficacious for giving success to our negotiations with Algiers, Tunis & Tripoli.

But if, by your confidential & secret conferences with the Consul of France, you should find, that, in all probability, a Treaty can not be by any means effected, at the time when you may be at Algiers, within the limits before alluded to, you will carefully abstain from making any propositions or overtures whatsoever, and appear as a

private Person, who, under Sanction of a Flag of Truce, is the bearer of letters &c — And, after having gained all the information you can acquire from the Consul of France & other Persons friendly to the interests of the United States, you will come to Lisbon, as expeditiously as may be, in order to our prosecuting the farther measures proper to be pursued, in this thorny business; in consequence of the arrangements which shall in the mean time have been made in France. As you will perceive, from what has already been intimated, that we have great reason to expect the friendly and efficacious co-operation of the French Republic in our Barbary negotiations, & particularly with those States, where we have not hitherto had Treaties established; you will be pleased to keep this expectation constantly in mind, and act entirely with the privity & concert of the Agents or Consuls of that Republic accordingly.

In case of forming a Provisional Treaty, it is wished that it may be as nearly conformable to the Draught herewith delivered to you as the circumstances will allow. But we must acquiesce with having the negotiation terminate in the liberation of our Citizens & a Treaty of Peace & Friendship only, if nothing farther can be obtained.

Philip Sloan, who is lately returned from captivity in Algiers, & who appears to be well acquainted with the Dey, will attend you as Interpreter and Messenger, and be employed in such manner as you shall judge advisable: — he being engaged in the service of the United States for the purpose, at the rate of twenty Six Dollars p^r Month & his expences; which you will be pleased to pay from the fund allotted therefor in the next Article

During the time you may be employed on this Agency (that is to say, previous to your commencing to act under your Commission as Consul for Tunis or Tripoli) you will be allowed by the United States at the rate of one hundred Dollars p^r Month & your expences. A Credit on M^r James Simpson, Consul of the United States at Gibralter, is herewith given to you for the pay & expences of yourself & Philip Sloan: who has received his monthly pay to the first of June next. — The circumstances of the United States require such economy as may consist with conveniency, decency & propriety, and which is accordingly recommended. At the same time, it is also requested that the Statement of your Account together with the Vouchers for Expenditures, should be as accurate, clear & satisfactory as possible.

It will not escape your attention that the greatest possible secrecy ought to be preserved. It is requested that you will keep the Secretary of State (if you should have good opportunities of writing directly to him) and myself, as fully advised of your proceedings, as the difficulties of conveyance and other circumstances may permit: taking the best precautions to prevent any important events relating to Barbary affairs from falling into the possession of the Individuals or the Agents of Nations, not friendly to our interests. You are therefore authorised to incur such expences on account of the United States in employing Messengers or Expresses, as you may conceive, in your best judgment, the service of the United States shall require.

Given at Gibraltar this 18th day of May 1795.

D[AVID] H[UMPHREYS]

[Enclosure No. 1]

Extract from a letter from Algiers dated August 16, 1794

N^o 1 Memorandum.

Translation.

As to the first, I think I can tell nearly what a Peace will cost; that is to say, to the Dey himself 200,000 Piastres fortes of Spain. to the Treasury (either in Money paid in hand, or timber for construction) 50,000 Dollars—to the first Lords & the Relations of the Dey 100,000—Consular Present in Jewels, Cloths &^e to the value of 30,000 — the Redemption of all the Slaves from 200, to 250,000 Dollars — in the whole between 6 & 700,000 Piastres fortes — and every year a Present of Ammunition or of Timber for Construction to the value of 25 to 30,000 Piastres fortes — and also, every two years, a Consular Present to the amount of about 9 or 10,000 Dollars.

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain, Vol. 3, 1795–1797.]

[Enclosure No. 2]

N^o 2 — Memorandum.

The Sum lately appropriated by Law, by the Legislature of the United States of America, for Barbary Affairs is 800,000 Dollars. —

Deducting from this Sum the probable diminution, by transmitting & converting a Loan of a particular description into hard Money — the application of a part of it (according to Instructions) to the other Barbary States — together with the possible loss of Exchange or cost of transference — it will then remain to be ascertained how far the Nett amount of the appropriation to this particular object, may correspond with the preceding Estimate. —

In case of success, it would be extremely interesting for us to know, whether Bills on Leghorn, Gibraltar, Cadiz, Lisbon, or any commercial Place will answer the purpose, or whether Dollars must actually be transported to Algiers.

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain, Vol. 3, 1795–1797.]

[21 May 1795]

To James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar, and Agent at Tangier, from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers

(Secret & confidential)

SIR. After you shall have received the necessary advices now expected from Barbary, You will proceed as expeditiously as may be to Tangier, or such other Port in the Empire of Morocco as you shall judge most convenient for carrying into effect the Agency committed to you. In accomplishing this business (as defined in the authentic Documents & Powers herewith put into your hands) You will endeavour to confine the expenditure, in addition to the Arms, Military Stores & other Presents allotted for this purpose according to the annexed Invoices, to as small a sum in money as the nature of the circumstances will admit: always remembering, and, if occasion shall require, alledging that our circumstances are very different from those of the other Nations of the Earth. Indeed our pecuniary resources are at this time so limited that it would not be eligible to exceed the small fund this day placed at your disposal by my Bills on Mess^{rs}

John Bulkeley & Son of Lisbon. In short, the less money shall be thus applied, the better — provided the business can be effected, as I hope it may by means of the Presents. — As economy is most essentially requisite in all the public transactions of the United States, and more particularly so with regard to all transactions with the Barbary States in order to avoid improper Precedents for the future.

It is hoped & believed that the little Supply of Arms & Military Stores will be particularly useful & agreeable to his Imperial Majesty. Even this little Present has the merit of being the result of more exertion than might be supposed, as we have but too much occasion for such articles ourselves on account of our war with the Natives of America. But conceiving that such articles would be peculiarly acceptable to the Emperor in his present situation, we have notwithstanding the inconvenience to ourselves spared them accordingly, and hope as a token of our hearty good will they may tend, very much to conciliate his particular friendship for the United States. In the distribution of the other Presents, you must be governed in a great degree by your own knowledge of the Country & the Customs prevalent on similar occasions: at the same time endeavouring to avail yourself of the experience of others, and especially to obtain such information from the Swedish & Danish Consuls as to the best mode of proceeding, as may render your conduct most honorable to yourself & beneficial to the United States.

On a former occasion, it was suggested to the late Mr Tho^s Barclay, that, in the distribution of Presents, he would treat Francisco Chiappe (who was thought to have deserved well of the United States & who had exhibited an Account of 394 Dollars of expenditures against them) so liberally as not only to cover that demand, but to go beyond it in such a manner as to fix him deeply in our interest. This, however, to be done without recognising the Account, as our Laws oppose the application of Money so informally. To other Persons who might have claims, or pretend to have them, without having been in any manner employed, it was not judged advisable to pay the same regard. To these original instructions I request your attention. The reason originally assigned, being, "the money which would make one good friend, divided among many would produce no attachment".

You will be pleased to exhibit as clear a Statement as possible (with such Certificates or Vouchers as the nature of the business will admit) of the application of all the public Money or Property put into your charge for the purposes of your present Agency.

You will be allowed by the United States of America all the necessary expences attending the transaction of this business, and at the rate of one hundred Dollars p^r Month while employed upon it.

The form of the Treaty, Act or Instrument of recognition, by which his Imperial Majesty Muley Soliman will renew or recognise the Treaty made by the United States of America with his father Sidi Mahomet (according to the Copy of the original Treaty given to you) may either be in conformity to the Sketch herewith delivered to you, or of any other due form & diction which shall substantially & effectually comprehend the same objects. That Treaty, Act or Instrument to be forwarded to me by the first safe conveyance, in order to its being transmitted for receiving a final Sanction in the legal Mode. — In the mean time you will be pleased to keep me advised of the progress of the business.

In recommending to you to avoid all injudicious ostentation, & unnecessary expence; and to use your best judgment & prudence to promote the real interests of the United States, I remain,

GIBRALTER *May 21. 1795.*

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain, Vol. 3, 1795-1797.]

[21 May 1795]

To Muley Soliman, Emperor of Morocco, from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers

To His Imperial Majesty Muley Soliman, Emperor of Morocco, Fez, Mequinez, and all the Garbe. &c &c &c

I have the honour to inform your Imperial Majesty, that the President of the United States of America has caused to be made out, under the Seal of the United States, the full Powers necessary for renewing with your Imperial Majesty the Treaty of Peace which was so happily established between the Empire of Morocco & the said United States, in the reign of your late August Father, of glorious Memory. On this auspicious occasion, I had flattered myself with the hope of approaching your Royal & Illustrious Person, as the happy Instrument of renewing the Treaty, the faithful Organ of my Country for expressing its friendship, and an additional witness to the World of the Wisdom, magnanimity & virtues for which your Imperial Majesty is so justly celebrated. And I pray your Imperial Majesty to be assured, that nothing could equal my grateful sensibility of the favourable expressions contained in your letter written to me, on the 7th of Jan^{ry} 1795 (according to the Christian Era) except my ardent desire to avail myself of your goodness by visiting your Royal Residence. But being myself a fixed Minister of the United States, several years since, destined to reside constantly near Her Most Faithful Majesty, and being moreover actually charged with the performance of certain objects relating to my official duty, which indispensably require my presence elsewhere, the imperious dictates of necessity debar me from the high gratification of passing to your Majesty's Dominions. Insomuch that I shall be obliged to hasten my departure from this Place, before this letter can reach your Imperial Majesty. It is therefore most respectfully entreated, that your Imperial Majesty will be pleased to receive graciously M^r James Simpson, Consul of the United States of America at Gibraltar, as the Person duly charged with plenary Powers authority (as will appear by the authentic Powers & Documents in his possession) on the part of the United States to renew the aforesaid Treaty with your Imperial Majesty.

It is likewise most respectfully requested that information may be communicated to M^r James Simpson, at what place he may have the honour to present to your Majesty the Military articles brought by me from America.

May God Almighty preserve the precious life of your Imperial Majesty, and crown it with health, happiness & glory to the latest period.

At Gibraltar on the 21st of May 1795
(according to the Christian Era)

This letter is addressed to your Royal Presence, with the profoundest veneration & homage, by

Your Imperial Majesty's

Most humble & most devoted Serv^t

DAVID HUMPHREYS

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain, Vol. 3, 1795-1797.]

To Josiah Fox, Clerk in Department of War, from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War Office June 23. 1795.

SIR. I have received your letter of the 9th, and handed it to M^r Humphreys for his information, and remarks.

His opinion on the laying of the keel of the frigate, building at Portsmouth, Virginia, is expressed in the inclosed copy of his letter of the 22^d to which you will substantially conform.

[Enclosure]

NAVY YARD June 22. 1795.

SIR I have to observe on M^r Fox's letter to you, dated Naval Yard, Portsmouth, June 9. 1795, that neither time nor expence should be spared in laying the keels of the frigates in the best possible position for launching: I think from his description of the ground, it will be very proper to lower the keel abaft, in fact, to keep it as low as possible on the blocks, all fore and aft, as will barely admit of putting on the false keel. If they have sufficient water for launching, I would give the keel the same declivity as the launching ways. If the water is scant, it should be less, as described in a former letter to you on that subject.

(signed) JOSHUA HUMPHREYS.

The SECRETARY OF WAR.

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790-1798.]

To Tench Francis, U. S. Purveyor, from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War Office June 29. 1795.

SIR. The report of Col^o Copperthwait, returned from his mission to Georgia, relative to the live oak to be procured for the frigates. That it will now take one year to complete the quantity wanted, induces me to change the plan of sending partial supplies to all the six Navy yards. By continuing that plan, the business in every yard will be kept in a lingering condition, at a heavy expence, without completing anything. Had the difficulties of getting the live oak been foreseen — had it been known that full and regular supplies for two only, could be kept up — certainly, the carrying forward of six frigates at the same time, would not have been attempted. What should not have been begun, ought now that the facts are known, to be laid aside. Consequently I shall direct four of the Constructors to suspend their labours, or to dismiss all their hands for whom they cannot find constant, and useful employment. Here I refer to any unwrought timber on hand, and to what may be expected by them in the vessels which shall be loaded wholly, or in part, when these new orders shall reach M^r Morgan, for their respective yards. If indeed, they should have on board only a small number of timbers

(say about a dozen, in any one vessel) which have been already supplied to the two yards which are to be kept open, they may be sent to one or the other of those two yards — which are those of Philadelphia, and Baltimore. Those few surplus sticks may be re-shipped, with any other surplus timber, to New York, and Norfolk. — Philadelphia and Baltimore are preferred for continuing the work, because those ports, especially the former, are the most likely to be cut off from winter supplies, by means of ice.

Besides the saving of expence by changing the plan as now proposed, other advantages may arise. Two frigates may be completed many months before the whole, if carried on together, could be finished; and should there be a call for their service, they might be equipped, and sent to sea, while the rest were progressing. — Some errors may be committed in the construction of the first frigates; or improvements suggested. Then in the residue, the errors may be avoided, and the improvements adopted. You will now be pleased to give the requisite orders for the live oak procuring for the frigates in conformity with the ideas here expressed; including in your orders the pine beams, and plank intended for the frigate building at Philadelphia.

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790–1798.]

[25 July 1795]

To Secretary of State from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar, and Agent at Tangier

N^o 3

SIR Under 15th Ins^t I had the honor of addressing N^o 2 by way of Tangier & Cadiz, containing detail of occurrences up to that time. —

I have now to request you will be pleased to acquaint His Excell^y the President, that Sidy Mohamet Ben Ottman, having on the morning of the 18th laid before Muley Soliman, translation of the Treaty made with his Father; he sent me a message same Afternoon by His Majestys order, desiring to know “what sum it would be agreeable “to the United States of America, to pay him annually.” — After the assurances of Muley Soliman, in the letters written since the Month of October last, by his order, of which you have seen translations, and his declaration in the public meshooar on the 9th Ins^t, such a message would scarce have been listen’d to as serrious, by any other, than a person already accustomed to such inconsistent proceeding, in this Country; — on this occasion it gave me the most poignant concern. — I instantly waited on the Secretary of State, and in consequence of a very long conference with him, wrote the letter of which I have the honor of submitting to His Excell^y the Presidents perusal the accompanying copy — This letter with a translation in Arabic, which I thought well to accompany it with, were laid before the Emperor on the 20th by Sidy Mohamet Ben Ottman; who has since assured me, he dwelt on those passages most likely to have weight with the Emperor, towards enducing him to ratify the old Treaty; but after pausing a short time, he was pleased to say, “as the American “will not agree to pay any thing yearly, he must get ready to “return from whence he came, and on his way see Muley Taib.” — This determination was conveyed to me same evening, after which I had a farther conference with the Minister, who assured me the Emperor was determined not to see me again unless I would previously allow him to say, I would treat for a Peace, subject to pay-

ment of a Subsidy, a thing I saw myself in no shape authorised to do, of course assured him I could not treat on any such terms; and I gladly hope the letter written on the subject, as well as my subsequent adherence to the sentiments therein held forth, will meet approbation. —

Early on the 21st I was called upon to give my determination, in consequence of His Majestys Resolution, which was of course an acquiescence to his pleasure of my retiring from hence; — I was induced to do so in explicit terms, because the Cheif Alcayde conducted me hither, came at same moment, to say he had received directions to accompany me on my return. — A firm and determined conduct, I have always found best with the people of this Country, as a shadow of the reverse is construed into what best suits themselves.

Aware on this occasion however, that an immediate retreat, would have exposed the American Flag to danger, and desirous of having a little more time to consider what was best to be done, I sought to ward that blow, by soliciting permission from the Emperor to go to Gibraltar by Sea; because of the inconveniency of travelling by land, in the present excessive hot season, knowing at same time no opportunity then offered. — At a subsequent conference with the Minister that day, whom I have endeavour'd to make our Freind, it was thought adviseable to defer my departure, to afford opportunity for the Freinds of the true Interests of the Emperor, to endeavour to prevail on him to adhere to the old Treaty; and for that purpose I sent notice to His Majesty, that the matter of Subsidy was what had never been thought of on our part, so of consequence I could not have taken Coll Humphreys sentiments or oppinion upon the subject; and being highly desirous of compleating happily, the busyness I had come to this Country on, I signified my having no objection to take the Collonels oppinion upon His Majestys demand, before I quitted the Country, which met his entire approbation.

In consequence I immediately wrote Coll Humphreys a full statement of the matter, and sent a Young Man I brought with me from Gibraltar with the letter, by an opportunity offer'd for Faro: — I now wait the answer, which I am satisfied will be not to listen to the proposed terms — in the mean time I have not failed to take those measures necessary for guarding against accidents at the issue, in case of the worst. — You will no doubt remark in the latter part of the Emperors resolution, a kind of opening left for farther Treaty with Muley Taib, but I have the best founded reasons for wishing to avoid that, and finish the busyness here, if possible — no less than the highest authority for knowing, that the proposition for the demand has been made by Muley Soliman of a Subsidy, positively came from that Prince: and I have equally good proof that the first Idea given his Highness on the subject, was by that unworthy Man John Lamb; who for the trivial object of obtaining permission to ship some horses, flatter'd the Prince at Larach in May last, with the assurance that the United States would pay Morocco twenty thousand dollars annually, for a Peace: — it is some time since I laid all this unfortunate busyness of Lambs open to Coll Humphreys, but should not have troubled you with it, had I not now consider'd it necessary. — I have not been neglectfull in these five days past, to avail of the means put in my power for makeing Freinds here, amongst those people whom I know have the best opportunities of being usefull on this occasion; and

henceforward untill I receive Coll Humphreys answer, I shall take every means for prepairing his Majesty, for the renewed attempt, must then, I expect be made for soliciting his agreeing to Peace with the United States, on the terms I have already proposed. — Permit me Sir on this occasion, with due respect and deference, to urge the grand necessity there is, for the Flag of the United States being seen in these Seas, in such force as to command Respect; — even part of the Frigates you have building, with some Tenders, or smaller Vessels, would be found perfectly sufficient, under prudent Commanders for every purpose of that nation both within, & without the Straits: — here they need only be seen, there it may be necessary for them to act

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RHABAT 25th July 1795 —

[SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. I, April 1791–Dec. 1795.]

[About 30 July 1795]

[NOTE.—In Letter Book, Navy Department Archives, entitled “Correspondence on Naval Affairs when Navy was under War Department, 1790–1798” are the following: —

Page 118 to — Particular dimensions of 44 Gun Frigates of the U. S. — taken
123 from the Mould Loft Floor.

Page 124 to — Particular dimensions of 36 Gun Frigates of the U. S. — taken
128 from the Mould Loft Floor.

Signed by Joshua Humphreys. (Follows letter dated July 30, 1795, and is before letter dated August 17, 1795).]

To Edward Church, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, Portugal, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar, and Agent at Tangier

Copy

RHABAT 18th August 1795

SIR I have the honor to acquaint you, that the Peace which has hitherto happily subsisted between the Empire of Morocco and the United States of America, has this day been confirmed by His Imperial Majesty Muley Soliman, in terms of the Treaty made with his late Father at Morocco, in the year 1786.

[SDA. CL, Gibraltar, Vol. I, April 1791–Dec. 1795.]

To Secretary of State from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar, and Agent at Tangier

RHABAT, August 18, 1795.

SIR: I have at last the happiness to acquaint you, and request you will be pleased to inform His Excellency the President, that this morning, by appointment, I attended his Imperial Majesty Muley Soliman, at Meshooar, when he was pleased to say to me in public, nearly as follows: “The Americans, I find, are the Christian nation my father, who is in glory, most esteemed. I am the same with them as my father was; and I trust they will be so with me. I have given orders to Sid Ben Ottman to write my answer to their letter, which will be given to you, and to tell them I am upon the same footing with them as my father was.”

I did not fail to assure his Majesty that the United States would, on their part, be equally emulous to maintain that peace and good friendship which had so happily subsisted between them and his father. His Majesty came out of the palace on horseback; and immediately after the recited conversation, proceeded for Mequinez

and Fez. The Secretary of State, who remains a few days to give the Swedish ambassador and myself our despatches, has assured me the letter for the President shall be written immediately; and as he is also entrusted with His Majesty's seal, there needs be no delay. My next will, of consequence, convey the original, or translation, as the conveyance may appear to be secure.

From what I have said, you will readily observe that all I shall (to appearance) obtain will be a letter from Muley Soliman, declaratory of his being on the same terms of peace with the United States as his father was.

I am sorry that the resistance made to my solicitations of a recognition of the old treaty, in form, has been spun out to the last hour of the Emperor's being here, and that I have thereby been prevented from exerting the powerful interest I had happily raised, for accomplishing, in a more satisfactory manner, the end of my mission; though I trust the promised letter will be expressive of what is in fact wished to be established, namely, that peace shall subsist between Morocco and the United States, as in the time of Sidi Mahomet, which, in my opinion, will fully answer the purpose of keeping peace during the present reign, and of resisting any unpleasant demands, should succeeding emperors make such.

Muley Soliman's sudden departure for Fez is differently accounted for. Some allege he is gone purposely with the army to quell some disturbances which have lately happened in the vicinity of that city and Mequinez; others, that it is the consequence of the defeat the troops he sent to the southward, under Muley Cadour, have sustained. In my opinion, both occurrences have their part in it, and that he will not, for the present, contest with his brother, Muley Ishem, the possession he certainly enjoys of the country south of the Morbeya. The garrison of Mazagar have quitted that fortress as untenable, and are expected here by sea.

[Am. State Papers, Foreign Rel., Vol. 1.]

[5 September 1795–7 March 1796]

Algiers—Treaty

[NOTE.—In "Treaties and other International Acts of the United States of America" by Hunter Miller, Volume 2, is printed the Treaty between Algiers and the United States. The following is copied from above publication:

"Treaty of Peace and Amity, signed at Algiers September 5, 1795 (21 Safar, A. H. 1210). Original in Turkish.

"Submitted to the Senate February 15, 1796. Resolution of advice and consent March 2, 1796. Ratified by the United States March 7, 1796."]

TRANSLATION

ARTICLE 1st

From the date of the Present Treaty there shall subsist a firm and Sincere Peace and Amity between the President and Citizens of the United States of North America and Hassan Bashaw Dey of Algiers his Divan and Subjects the Vessels and Subjects of both Nations reciprocally treating each other with Civility Honor and Respect

ARTICLE YE 2^d

All Vessels belonging to the Citizens of the United States of North America Shall be permitted to enter the Different ports of the Regency to trade with our Subjects or any other Persons residing within our Jurisdiction on paying the usual duties at our Custom-House that is paid by all nations at Peace with this Regency observing that all Goods disembarked and not Sold here shall be permitted to

be re embarked without paying any duty whatever either for disembarking or embarking all naval & Military Stores Such as Gun-Powder Lead Iron Plank Sulphur Timber for building Tar pitch Rosin Turpentine and any other Goods denominated Naval and Military Stores Shall be permitted to be Sold in this Regency without paying any duties whatever at the Custom House of this Regency

ARTICLE 3^d

The Vessels of both Nations shall pass each other without any impediment or Molestation and all Goods monies or Passengers of whatsoever Nation that may be on board of the Vessels belonging to either Party Shall be considered as inviolable and shall be allowed to pass unmolested

ARTICLE 4th

All Ships of War belonging to this regency on meeting with Merchant Vessels belonging to Citizens of the United States shall be allowed to Visit them with two persons only beside the rowers these two only permitted to go on board said vessel without obtaining express leave from the commander of said Vessel who shall compare the Pass-port and immediately permit said Vessel to proceed on her Voyage unmolested All Ships of War belonging to the United States of North America on meeting with an Algerine Cruiser and Shall have seen her pass port and Certificate from the Consul of the United States of North America resident in this Regency shall be permitted to proceed on her cruise unmolested no Pass-port to be Issued to any Ships but such as are Absolutely the Property of Citizens of the United States and Eighteen Months Shall be the term allowed for furnishing the Ships of the United States with Pass-ports

ARTICLE 5th

No Commander of any Cruiser belonging to this Regency shall be allowed to take any person of whatever Nation or denomination out of any Vessel belonging to the United States of North America in order to Examine them or under pretence of making them confess any thing desired neither shall they inflict any corporal punishment or any way else molest them

ARTICLE 6th

If any Vessel belonging to the United States of North America shall be Stranded on the Coast of this Regency they shall receive every possible Assistance from the Subjects of this Regency all goods saved from the wreck shall be Permitted to be Re embarked on board of any other Vessel without Paying any Duties at the Custom House

ARTICLE 7th

The Algerines are not on any pretence whatever to give or Sell any Vessel of War to any Nation at War with the United States of North America or any Vessel capable of cruising to the detriment of the Commerce of the United States

ARTICLE YE 8th

Any Citizen of the United States of North America having bought any Prize condemned by the Algerines shall not be again captured by the Cruisers of the Regency then at Sea altho they have not a Pass-Port a Certificate from the Consul resident being deemed Sufficient untill such time they can procure such Pass-Port

ARTICLE YE 9th

If any of the Barbary States at War with the United States of North America shall capture any American Vessel & bring her into any of the Ports of this Regency they shall not be Permitted to sell her but Shall depart the Port on Procuring the Requisite Supplies of Provision

ARTICLE YE 10th

Any Vessel belonging to the United States of North America, when at War with any other Nation shall be permitted to send their Prizes into the Ports of the Regency have leave to Dispose of them with out Paying any duties on Sale thereof All Vessels wanting Provisions or refreshments Shall be permitted to buy them at Market Price

ARTICLE YE 11th

All Ships of War belonging to the United States of North America on Anchoring in the Ports of y^e Regency shall receive the Usual presents of Provisions & Refresh-

ments Gratis should any of the Slaves of this Regency make their Escape on board said Vessels they shall be immediately returned no excuse shall be made that they have hid themselves amongst the People and cannot be found or any other Equivocation

ARTICLE YE 12th

No Citizen of y^e United States of North America shall be Oblidged to Redeem any Slave against his Will even Should he be his Brother neither shall the owner of A Slave be forced to Sell him against his Will but All Such agreements must be made by Consent of Parties. Should Any American Citizen be taken on board an Enemy-Ship by the Cruisers of this Regency having a Regular pass-port Specifying they are Citizens of the United States they shall be immediately Sett at Liberty. on the Contrary they having no Passport they and their Property shall be considered lawfull Prize as this Regency Know their friends by their Passports

ARTICLE YE 13th

Should any of the Citizens of the United States of North America Die within the Limits of this Regency the Dey & his Subjects shall not Interfere with the Property of the Deceased but it Shall be under the immediate Direction of the Consul unless otherwise disposed of by will Should their be no Consul, the Effects Shall be deposited in the hands of Some Person worthy of trust untill the Party Shall Appear who has a Right to demand them, when they Shall Render an Account of the Property neither Shall the Dey or Divan Give hinderence in the Execution of any Will that may Appear

ARTICLE 14th

No Citizen of the United States of North America Shall be oblidged to purchase any Goods against his will but on the contrary shall be allowed to purchase whatever it Pleaseth him. the Consul of the United States of North America or any other Citizen shall not be answerable for debts contracted by any one of their own Nation unless previously they have Given a written Obligation so to do. Shou'd the Dey want to freight any American Vessel that may be in the Regency or Turkey said Vessel not being engaged, in consequence of the friendship subsisting between the two Nations he expects to have the preference given him on his paying the Same freight offered by any other Nation

ARTICLE YE 15th

Any disputes or Suits at Law that may take Place between the Subjects of the Regency and the Citizens of the United States of North America Shall be decided by the Dey in person and no other, any disputes that may arise between the Citizens of the United States, Shall be decided by the Consul as they are in Such Cases not Subject to the Laws of this Regency

ARTICLE YE 16th

Should any Citizen of the United States of North America Kill, wound or Strike a Subject of this Regency he Shall be punished in the Same manner as a Turk and not with more Severity should any Citizen of the United States of North America in the above predicament escape Prison the Consul Shall not become answerable for him

ARTICLE YE 17th

The Consul of the United States of North America Shall have every personal Security given him and his household he Shall have Liberty to Exercise his Religion in his own House all Slaves of the Same Religion shall not be impeded in going to Said Consul's House at hours of Prayer the Consul shall have liberty & Personal Security given him to Travil where ever he pleases within the Regency. he Shall have free licence to go on board any Vessel Lying in our Roads when ever he Shall think fitt. the Consul Shall have leave to Appoint his own Drogaman & Broker

ARTICLE YE 18th

Should a War break out between the two Nations the Consul of the United States of North America and all Citizens of Said States Shall have leave to Embark themselves and property unmolested on board of what Vessel or Vessels they Shall think Proper

ARTICLE YE 19th

Should the Cruisers of Algiers capture any Vessel having Citizens of the United States of North America on board they having papers to Prove they are Really so they and their property Shall be immediately discharged and Shou'd the Vessels of the United States capture any Vessels of Nations at War with them having Subjects of this Regency on board they shall be treated in like Manner

ARTICLE YE 20th

On a Vessel of War belonging to the United States of North America Anchoring in our Ports the Consul is to inform the Dey of her arrival and She shall be Saluted with twenty one Guns which she is to return in the Same Quanty or Number and the Dey will Send fresh Provisions on board as is Customary, Gratis

ARTICLE YE 21st

The Consul of y^e United States of North America shall not be required to Pay duty for any thing he brings from a foreign Country for the Use of his House & family

ARTICLE YE 22^d

Should any disturbance take place between the Citizens of y^e United States & the Subjects of this Regency or break any Article of this Treaty War shall not be Declared immediately but every thing shall be Searched into regularly. the Party Injured shall be made Reparation

On the 21st of y^e Luna of Safer 1210 corresponding with the 5th September 1795 Joseph Donaldson Jun^r on the Part of the United States of North America agreed with Hassan Bashaw Dey of Algiers to Keep the Articles Contained in this Treaty Sacred and inviolable which we the Dey & Divan Promise to Observe on Consideration of the United States Paying annually the Value of twelve thousand Algerine Sequins¹ in Maritime Stores Should the United States forward a Larger Quantity the Over-Plus Shall be Paid for in Money by the Dey & Regency any Vessel that may be Captured from the Date of this Treaty of Peace & Amity shall immediately be deliver'd up on her Arrival in Algiers

Sign'd VIZIR HASSAN BASHAW
JOSEPH DONALDSON JUN

To all to whom these Presents shall come or be made known.

Whereas the Underwritten David Humphreys hath been duly appointed Commissioner Plenipotentiary, by Letters Patent under the Signature of the President and Seal of the United States of America, dated the 30th of March 1795, for negotiating & concluding a Treaty of Peace with the Dey and Governors of Algiers; Whereas by Instructions given to him on the part of the Executive, dated the 28th of March & 4th of April 1795, he hath been farther authorised to employ Joseph Donaldson Junior on an Agency in the said business; whereas by a Writing under his hand and seal, dated the 21st of May 1795, he did constitute & appoint Joseph Donaldson Junior Agent in the business aforesaid; and the said Joseph Donaldson Junior did, on the 5th of September 1795, agree with Hassan Bashaw Dey of Algiers, to keep the Articles of the preceding Treaty sacred and inviolable.

Now Know ye, that I David Humphreys, Commissioner Plenipotentiary aforesaid, do approve & conclude the said Treaty, and every article and clause therein contained, reserving the same nevertheless for the final Ratification of the President of the United States of America, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate of the said United States.

In testimony whereof I have signed the same with my hand and seal, at the City of Lisbon this 28th of November 1795.

[Seal] DAVID HUMPHREYS.

THE TRANSLATION OF 1930

(The Turkish text of the original treaty which is reproduced above has been examined by Dr. J. H. Kramers, of Leiden, in collaboration with Dr. C. Snouck Hurgronje. The new translation of the Turkish made by Doctor Kramers, with his notes thereon, is printed below, following this general comment of Doctor Kramers on the text:

As the 1795 English translation of nearly all the articles of this treaty discloses considerable difference from the Turkish text, a complete new English translation has been given.

¹ Or \$21,000.

The treaty is written in excellent Turkish and does not show any sign of being a translation from an Arabic original.

It seems that the last page of Turkish text of the document was originally the beginning of the treaty, for it contains the preambulatory stipulations to the articles of the treaty, as is also the case in the treaty with Algiers of 1816 (Document 37). Accordingly the translation begins with those introductory clauses.)

[Translation]

Reason for the Drawing Up of the Peace Treaty with the American People

The reason for the drawing up of this treaty and the motive for the writing of this convention of good omen, is that on Saturday, the twenty-first day of the month of Safar of this year 1210,¹ there have been negotiations for a treaty of peace between the ruler and commander of the American people, living in the island called America among the isles of the ocean, and the frontier post of the holy war, the garrison ² of Algiers. To this purpose has been appointed as his Ambassador,³ Joseph Donaldson, who has, in confirmation of the articles and paragraphs of the present treaty, strengthened the mutual friendship and good understanding in the exalted presence of His Excellency the noble Vizier and powerful Marshal who sits on the throne of lordship, the destructor of tyranny and injustice and the protector of the country, Hassan Pasha—may God grant to him what he wishes; and in the presence of all the members of the Divan, of the chiefs of the victorious garrison, and of the victorious soldiers. This peace treaty has been concluded, together with the contractual promise to give annually to the garrison of Algiers 12,000 Algerian gold pieces, provided that, in equivalence of these 12,000 gold pieces, being the price of the peace, there may be ordered and imported for our garrison and our arsenal, powder, lead, iron, bullets, bombshells, bomb stones, gun stones, masts, poles, yards, anchor chains, cables, sailcloth, tar, pitch, boards, beams, laths, and other necessities, provided that the price of all the ordered articles shall be accounted for, so that, if this is equal to 12,000 gold pieces, it shall be all right, but if the price of the articles is higher, it shall be paid to them,⁴ and if there remains something to our credit, they promise to complete it. If, before the conclusion of our peace, our vessels of war have captured vessels of the said nation, these shall not be restored and shall remain our prizes, but if our war vessels capture one of their ships after the date of the conclusion of the peace treaty, it is promised that this ship shall be given back.

All this has been put down in the present document, which shall be consulted whenever needed and according to which both parties shall act.

21 Safar, 1210.

[Tughra ⁵ of HASSAN PASHA]
[Seal of HASSAN PASHA]

ARTICLE 1.

The statements of the first article are that in this year 1210 an agreement has been reached between the ruler of America, George Washington, President, our friend and actually the Governor of the States of the island of America, and the lord of our well-preserved garrison of Algiers, His Highness Hassan Pasha—may God grant to him what he wishes—the Dey, together with the Agha of his victorious army, his minister, all the members of the Divan, and all his victorious soldiers, and equally between the subjects of both parties. According to this agreement our peace and friendship shall be steady and has been confirmed. After this date nothing has been left that is contrary to our peace or that may disturb it.⁶

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 2.

The statements of the second article are that when large or small ships belonging to our friend the ruler of America, and equally ships belonging to his subjects, arrive in the port of Algiers or in other ports dependent on Algiers, and they sell from their goods according to the ancient usage, there shall be taken a duty of

¹ In the chronological tables 21 Safar, A. H. 1210, corresponds to September 6, 1795, which was a Sunday. In this case, however, 21 Safar, A. H. 1210, no doubt answers to September 5, 1795.

² "Garrison" renders the Turkish word "odgiak," which means originally "a hearth" and, as a military term, "a regiment" of the Janizaries.

³ The Turkish text has here "pashador," which seems to be an attempt to render the word "ambassador."

⁴ That is, the difference shall be paid to the Americans.

⁵ "Tughra" is the "name sign," a kind of calligraphic monogram in which a ruler's names are inscribed. The tughra takes the place of the signature.

⁶ Each article concludes with the word "salaam," salutation or peace, which has been left untranslated.

5 piasters from every 100 piasters, in the same way as this is paid, according to the treaties, by the English, the Dutch, and the Swedes, and that no more shall be taken. Also that if they wish to take back their unsold goods and reembark them, nobody shall require anything from them, and equally that nobody in the said ports shall do them harm or lay hand upon them.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 3.

The statements of the third article are that if war vessels or merchant vessels belonging to our friend the American ruler meet on the open sea with war vessels or merchant vessels belonging to Algiers, and they become known to each other, they shall not be allowed to search or to molest each other, and that none shall hinder the other from wending its own way with honor and respect. Also, that whatever kind of travelers there are on board, and wherever they go with their goods, their valuables, and other properties, they shall not molest each other or take anything from each other, nor take them to a certain place and hold them up, nor injure each other in any way.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 4.

The statements of the fourth article are that if war vessels of Algiers meet with American merchant vessels, large or small, and this happens out of the places under the rule of America, there shall be sent only a shallop, in which, besides the rowers, two persons shall take place; on their arrival no more than two persons shall go on board the ship, the commander of the said ship having to give permission, and after the showing of the Government passport, these persons shall perform quickly the formalities with regard to the ship, and return, after which the merchant vessel shall wend its own way.

Further, that if war vessels of the American ruler meet with war vessels or merchant vessels of Algiers, and these vessels are in possession of a passport delivered by the ruler of Algiers or the American Consul residing in Algiers, nobody may touch anything belonging to the said vessel, but it shall wend its way in peace.

Further, that the war vessels of Algiers, large or small, shall not touch Americans not possessed of American passports within a period of eighteen months after the date of the passports given by reason of the peace treaty and after the date of the peace treaty¹, and they shall not hinder them from going their way. Equally, if the war vessels of the American ruler meet with Algerian ships, they shall not prevent them from continuing their journey in the same way, within a period of eighteen months, but they shall wend peacefully their way.

Further that our friend the American ruler shall not give a passport to any crew not being under his rule and not belonging to his own people; if an American passport is found in the hands of a crew not belonging to his own people, we shall take them as prize, for this is not covered by the stipulations of this peace treaty. This has been expressly stated in this article in order to prevent a rupture of peace; so it shall not be neglected.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 5.

The statements of the fifth article are that none of the captains of Algerian ships or of their officers or commanders shall take anybody by force from American ships into their own ships or bring such a person to other places, that they shall not interrogate them on account of anything or do them harm, whatever kind of people they may be; as long as these are on American ships, they shall not molest them.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 6.

The statements of the sixth article are that if a ship of the American ruler or belonging to his subjects shall be stranded on one of the coasts of the territory under Algerian rule and is wrecked, nobody shall take anything from their properties or goods or plunder them.

Also, that if such a thing should happen, their goods shall not be taken to the customhouse, nor shall there be done any damage to their people, and if a similar thing should happen in the places that are under the rule of Algiers, the inhabitants shall do anything in their power to give every possible aid and assistance and help them to bring their goods on dry places.

21 Safar, 1210.

¹ This is a literal translation, but the sense is not very clear. The words "of the passports given by reason of the peace treaty" seem to be superfluous.

ARTICLE 7.

The statements of the seventh article are that no Algerian ship, small or large, shall, with the permission and the authority of the ruler of Algiers, be equipped from countries at war with the ruler of America and commit acts of war against the Americans.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 8.

The statements of the eighth article are that if an American merchant buys a prize in Algiers, or if an Algerian cruiser captain who has taken a prize on the open sea sells his prize to an American merchant, either in Algiers or on the sea, so that it is bought immediately from the captain, and there is drawn up a document concerning this sale, and if he meets afterwards another war vessel from Algiers, nobody shall molest the merchant who has bought this prize, nor shall he prevent him from wending peacefully his way.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 9.

The statements of the ninth article are that the inhabitants of Tunis, Tripoli, Salé, or others shall in no wise bring the people or the goods of American ships, large or small, to the territory under the rule of Algiers, nor shall there be given permission to sell them nor shall they be allowed to be sold.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 10.

The statements of the tenth article are that if the warships of the American ruler bring to Algiers, or to ports under Algerian rule, prizes or goods captured by them, nobody shall hinder them from doing with their booty as they wish, namely, selling it or taking it with them.

Also, that American war vessels shall not pay any tithes or duties whatever.

Further, that if they wish to buy anything for provisions, the inhabitants shall give it to them at the same price as they sell it to others and ask no more.

Likewise, if those people want to charter ships for the transport of goods to whatever region, province, or port, be it to Smyrna or from Constantinople to this region, or for the transport of travelers from Smyrna or other provinces, or in order to convey pilgrims to Egypt, they may charter those ships at reasonable prices, in the same way as other peoples, and from our side they shall not be opposed by pretexts such as that it is contraband or that it is not allowed among us, so that we do not allow those ships to leave.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 11.

The statements of the eleventh article are that if war vessels belonging to our friend the American ruler come to anchor in front of Algiers, and a slave, being an American or of another nationality, takes refuge on board the said war vessel, the ruler of Algiers may claim this slave, at which request the commander of the war vessel shall make this fugitive slave leave his ship and deliver him into the presence of the ruler of Algiers. If the slave is not to be found and reaches a country of unbelievers, the commander of the ship shall pledge his word that he shall return and bring him to Algiers.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 12.

The statements of the twelfth article are that from this time onward the subjects of the American ruler shall not be bought, nor sold, nor taken as slaves, in the places under the rule of Algiers.

Also, that since there is friendship with the American ruler, he shall not be obliged to redeem against his will slaves belonging to him, but that this shall be done at the time he likes and that it shall depend on the generosity and the solicitude of the friends and relations of the slaves.

Further, that there shall be put no term or time for the redeeming of prisoners, that the amount which shall be found convenient shall be paid in due order, and that there shall be negotiations about the price with the masters of the slaves; nobody shall oblige the masters to sell their slaves at an arbitrary price, whether they be slaves of the State, of others, or of the Pasha; but if the redeemed persons are American subjects, there shall not be asked of them more than of other nations in similar circumstances.

Also, that if the Algerian vessels of war capture a ship belonging to a nation with which they are at war, and there are found Americans among the crew of this ship, these shall not be made slaves if they are in possession of a pass,¹ nor shall there be done harm to their persons and goods; but if they are not in possession of a pass¹ they shall be slaves and their goods and properties shall be taken.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 13.

The statements of the thirteenth article are that if one of the merchants of the American ruler or one of his subjects shall die in Algiers or in one of the dependencies of Algiers, the ruler of Algiers or other persons shall not touch in any way the deceased's money, property, or goods; if he has designated before his death an executor, nobody else shall touch any part of his property or goods, either if the executor mentioned is present in Algiers or if he is not there. Accordingly, the person designated as executor by the deceased shall take the properties and the goods, and nobody else shall touch the slightest part of it; so shall it be. The executor or the person delegated by him as his representative shall make an inventory of his money and property, take possession of it, and forward it in due time to the heir.

Further, that if no subject of the American ruler is present, the American Consul shall make an inventory of the said deceased's money and goods and take possession of them and keep them in charge until the arrival of his relations living in their own country.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 14.

The statements of the fourteenth article are that neither in Algiers itself nor in its dependencies shall the American merchants be obliged to purchase goods which they do not desire, but they shall be free to purchase the goods they desire.

Also, that the ships visiting the ports of Algiers shall not be molested in this way—that goods which they do not wish be put into the ships.

Further, that neither the American Consul or anyone else, in case an American subject is unable to pay his debts, shall be held responsible for those debts and be obliged to pay, unless some persons, according to their free will, are bound for the debtor.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 15.

The statements of the fifteenth article are that if one of the subjects of the American ruler has a suit at law with a Mohammedan or with some one subjected to the rule of Algiers, the said suit at law shall be settled in the presence of His Excellency the Dey and the honored Divan, without intervention of anybody else. If there occurs a suit at law among those people themselves, the American Consul shall decide their disputes.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 16.

The statements of the sixteenth article are that should one of the subjects of the American ruler have a fight with a Mohammedan, so that one wounds the other or kills him, each one shall be punished according to the prescriptions of the law of his own country, that is, according to the custom in all other places. If, however, an American kills a Mohammedan and flies and escapes after the murder, neither the American Consul in Algiers nor other Americans shall be compelled to answer for him.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 17.

The statements of the seventeenth article are that the American Consul, now and in future, without regard to who he is, shall be free to circulate without fear, while nobody shall molest his person or his goods.

Also, that he may appoint anyone whom he desires as dragoman or as broker.

Also, that whenever he wishes to go on board a ship or to take a walk outside, nobody shall hinder him.

Further, that a place shall be designated for the practice of their void religious ceremonies, that a priest whom they need for their religious instruction may dwell there, and that the American slaves present in Algiers, either belonging to the Government or to other people, may go to the house of the Consul and practice

¹ The Turkish has "passavant."

their vain religious ceremonies without hindrance from the chief slave guard or from their masters.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 18.

The statements of the eighteenth article are that now there reigns between us peace and friendship, but that if in future there should occur a rupture of our present state of peace and friendship, and there should be caused trouble on both sides, the American Consul, and besides him the subjects of the American ruler either in Algiers or in its dependencies, may not be hindered either in peace or in trouble, and that whenever they wish to leave, nobody shall prevent them from leaving with their goods, properties, belongings, and servants, even if such a person be born in the country of Algiers.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 19.

The statements of the nineteenth article are that a subject of the American ruler, to whatever country he goes or from whatever country he comes, and to whatever kind of people he belongs, shall not be molested in his person, goods, property, belongings, or servants, in case he meets with Algerian vessels, large or small.¹ Equally, if an Algerian is found on board a ship belonging to enemies of the American ruler, they shall not be molested in any way in their person, their property, their goods, their money, or their servants, but the properties of these people shall not be regarded with disdain, and they shall always be treated in a friendly manner.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 20.

The statements of the twentieth article are that every time that a naval commander of the American King, our friend, arrives off Algiers, the American Consul shall inform the commander as soon as the vessel is seen; after the said captain has anchored before the port, the commander of Algiers shall, in honor of the American ruler, order a salute of twenty-one guns from the citadel, after which the captain of the American ruler shall answer gun for gun, and, as the said vessel is a vessel of the King, there shall be given provisions according to the custom, in honor of the King.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 21.

The statements of the twenty-first article are that there shall not be asked duty and taxes for goods that are destined for the house of the American Consul, consisting of eatables, drinkables, other necessities, and presents.

21 Safar, 1210.

ARTICLE 22.

The statements of the twenty-second article are that if there occurs from this time onward a disturbance of our peaceful relations, from whatever side this happens, this shall not rupture our peace, but the peace shall be maintained and our friendship shall not be disturbed. The person injured, to whatever party he belongs, shall claim justice. If, however, the fault and the guilt are on both sides, or on the side of a subject, and the matter is kept secret,² our belief in our friendship shall remain and our word shall remain as good as ever.

21 Safar, 1210.

NOTES

The original of this treaty is in Turkish, not in Arabic as stated in the proclamation. The articles which are written in English on pages of the original document are a translation, signed by Joseph Donaldson, jr., who negotiated the treaty at Algiers.

There is an interesting account of the negotiations, entitled "Narrative of the proceedings of Joseph Donaldson Esq," written by Richard O'Brien, afterwards Consul General at Algiers, in D. S., 1 Archives, Tunis, 1793-1801 (a volume from the consular archives at Tunis), where O'Brien gives this account of himself:

Late Master of the Ship Dauphin, of Philadelphia, but was Captured the 30th of July 1785, fifty leagues to the Westward of Lisbon, by an Algerine Corsair of 34

¹ The Turkish text does not mention the condition that these Americans and their goods are on ships belonging to enemies of Algiers, but this, of course, is the meaning.

² This passage is not very clear in the Turkish text.

Guns & 450 men—& Remained in Captivity until the 11th of September 1795 Redeemed in Consequence, of the Peace made by the United States, with Algiers.

The report of Donaldson on the treaty, dated September 7, 1795 (D. S., 1 Consular Despatches, Algiers), is somewhat confused and in certain respects obscure; but he mentions that the text was in Turkish, saying that James Leander Cathcart, who was one of the American captives and was chief Christian clerk of the Dey of Algiers, "returned to me with Articles of a Treaty in Turkish & then Englished, which Proves to be that of the Sweedes." The Swedish treaty here referred to is the Treaty of Peace and Commerce with Algiers of April 25/May 5, 1792, which was a renewal, with additions, of a treaty of April 5/16, 1729. For the Swedish text and a French translation, see Von Martens, *Recueil des principaux traités*, 1st ed., VI, 296-311; 2d ed., V, 316-31. The substance of each of the respective twenty-two articles of the Swedish and American treaties is in general similar.

The date of the treaty is stated above in the two calendars according to the original documents, namely, Saturday, September 5, 1795, and 21 Safar, A. H. 1210. According to the chronological tables the Mohammedan date corresponds to September 6, 1795; however, the mention of the day of the week (see the opening phrase of the translation of 1930) fixes the date definitively, and in this case there is no doubt that 21 Safar, A. H. 1210, answers to September 5, 1795. From the report of Donaldson above mentioned it appears that the money bargain, to which the negotiations in reality wholly related, was struck on Saturday, September 5, and the treaty was delivered by Cathcart to Donaldson "the next morning."

* * * * [see source below-mentioned.]

[Treaties, ***", by Hunter Miller.]

List of Presents made at the Conclusion of the Peace between the United States and the Dey & Regency of Algiers concluded 5 September 1795

[The original document itemizes several pages of presents to the Dey and his suite. They included jewelry, linen, brocades, damask, broadcloth, and certain indemnities amounting to]

	<i>Sequins</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
Peace Presents-----	20016	Equal to 36028. 80
Hire of Ragusan Brig wh ^b came to		
Alicante for me-----	277. 56	500. 00
Present to Hadgi Ali-----	922	1659. 60
	21, 215.56	38188. 40

[SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part I, April 1785-July 1795.]

[After 5 September 1795]

American Captives released by Algiers, arrived in Philadelphia, Pa.

Mens Names	Stations	Where belonging
Isaac Stephens (Sch ^t Maria)-----	Master-----	Boston
Alx ^t Forsyth d ^r -----	Mate-----	Boston
Thomas Billings d ^r -----	Seaman-----	Boston
James Huse-----	Seaman-----	Philadelphia
Peter Page-----	Seaman-----	Portsmouth, N. H.
John Lemmon-----	Seaman-----	Lancaster in Pennsylvania
George Osburn-----	Seaman-----	Philadelphia
William Furnass (brig Olive Branch)-----	Master-----	Portsmouth N. H.
Nath ^l Kein d ^r -----	Seaman-----	Ditto
Dani ^l Fall d ^r -----	Do-----	Ditto
John Earl d ^r -----	Do-----	Ditto
Geo. Buchanan (of Philadelphia)-----	Master-----	Haverhill
Moses Morse (Brig. Jane)-----	Mate-----	Salem
Edward Harwood d ^r -----	Seaman-----	Ditto
James Pease d ^r -----	Ditto-----	Ditto
Sam ^l Henry d ^r -----	Ditto-----	Ditto
Thomas Fry d ^r -----	Ditto-----	Ditto
Thomas Simmons d ^r -----	Ditto-----	Haverhill
John McFarlin-----	2 ^d Mate-----	Philadelphia
John Sutton-----	Seaman-----	Do
John Fitzjerrald-----	Ditto-----	Do
Charles Smith-----	Ditto-----	Norfolk
Thomas Budding-----	Ditto-----	Philadelphia
W ^m Grafton-----	Ditto-----	Providence

American Captives released by Algiers, arrived in Philadelphia, Pa.—Continued

Mens Names	Station5	Where belonging
Joseph Delitz.....	Ditto.....	Philadelphia
Thomas Burgess.....	Ditto.....	Norfolk
Jacquín.....	Ditto.....	Philadelphia
James Taylor.....	Master.....	Newport R. I.
Stanton Hazard.....	Seaman.....	Ditto
Gideon Brown.....	Ditto.....	Ditto
Benj ^e Church.....	Sailor.....	Newport. R. I.
Sam ^l Calder.....	Master.....	Gloucester
John Walker.....	Mate.....	Ditto
Thomas Manning.....	Sailor.....	Ditto
Timothy Newman (Ship <i>Thomas</i>).....	Master.....	Newbury port
George Walls d ^e	Mate.....	Norfolk
John Woodmansee d ^e	2 ^d Mate.....	Boston
Rosinus Morton d ^e	Sailor.....	Baltimore
Barney M ^e Glothering d ^e	Sailor.....	Boston
Pedro Laman d ^e	Do.....	Do
W ^m Dunbar.....	Do.....	Philadelphia
Edw ^d Smith (brig. <i>Minerva</i>).....	Mate.....	New York
John Pamplin d ^e	Sailor.....	Ditto
Philip New d ^e	Ditto.....	Ditto
Peter Barny.....	Mate.....	Philadelphia
James Allen.....	2 ^d Mate.....	Do
John Dicks.....	Sailor.....	Baltimore
Henry Pitson.....	Do.....	Philadelphia
Anthony Russell.....	Do.....	Ditto
Benj. Edwards (brig. <i>Polly</i>).....	Mate.....	Newbury port
W ^m Dixon.....	Mate.....	New York
Peter Ingrahm.....	2 ^d Mate.....	Do
James Byrne.....	Seaman.....	Do
James Fox.....	Do.....	Do
Benjamin Lunt.....	Do.....	Newbury port
Harmon Allke.....	Do.....	New York
John P. Peterson.....	Do.....	New York
Cornelus Fanviforum.....	Do.....	Do
Jacob Shoemaker.....	Do.....	Do
Martin Deswart.....	Do.....	Do
Cornelus Westerdunk.....	Do.....	Do
Peter Vandertown.....	Do.....	Do
Jno Fredrick Ackhart.....	Do.....	Do
Peter Brior.....	Do.....	Do
John F. Rickway.....	Do.....	Do

[SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part I, April 1785–July 1795.]

[7 September 1795]

Instructions to Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers, from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers

Copy

(Secret & confidential)

SIR. The French Republic having lately agreed to make use of its influence in favour of the negotiations of the United States for Peace &c with the Barbary Powers, it becomes indispensable on our part to take the most prompt, prudent & effectual measures in our power for availing ourselves of the same. Upon the conference of the Minister Plenipotentiary of the U. S. to the French Republic, with the Commissioner of exterior Relations & the Members of the Committee of public Safety charged with that part of the Department of exterior Relations which respects the Barbary States, it is judged essentially necessary for the interests of the U. S. that a Citizen of the said U States should be appointed to proceed immediately from hence to Algiers. The object of this arrangement, is, that the Person so appointed should be charged with the special Instructions of the Government of the French Republic to the Agents or Consuls of the said Republic in Barbary (particularly in Algiers, Tunis & Tripoli) to employ all the good offices & influence of the Republic with those

Powers, for the purpose of effecting a Pacification between them & United States. For the accomplishment of this object you are appointed: and you are moreover invested with full Powers on the part of the United States (either solely, or in conjunction with Joseph Donaldson Junior, to whom *from particular considerations* provisional Instructions have already been given) to enter into a negotiation with the Dey & Regency of Algiers, and to conclude a Treaty of Peace between them & the U. S., as well as a Treaty for the liberation of the Citizens of the U. S. in captivity at Algiers. In order that you may be fully acquainted with the *particular considerations* before alluded to, as well as with the present position of our affairs in regard to the Barbary Powers beforementioned (so far as facts are known) I conceive, I cannot do better than to furnish you (as I do herewith) with Copies of all the Instructions which have been given to Joseph Donaldson Jun^r on the subject. From those Documents you will perceive the unequivocal dispositions of our own Government, and the firm reliance placed by us on the friendly & efficacious co-operation of the French Republic, together with the frankness & good faith with which our proceedings have been directed. On the general principles contained in those Instructions you will likewise act. As our Government has an unbounded confidence in the sincere desire of the French Republic to yield effectual assistance towards our attainment of the beforementioned objects; it is especially wished to be impressed upon your mind, in the strongest manner, that the whole business, in all its stages, ought to be carried on with the most perfect good faith, intelligence & concert with the Government of the French Republic.

All the particular arrangements with respect to your route, place of embarkation & manner of co-operation are left to your discretion. However, if no obstacles or objections (at present unforeseen) should occur, it is judged that it would be eligible, on several accounts, which have already been verbally communicated to you, for you to proceed by the way of Alicante.

The cordial interposition of the French Republic in our behalf, and the actual provision of funds by our Government to enable us to comply with such necessary stipu[lations] as may be made, place the business on a very different footing from what it has ever hitherto been; and give us far greater reason to expect success than any other circumstances, would have afforded. It seems now to be the moment for deciding, once for all, whether our means & the mediation of our Ally, can offer sufficiently powerful motives to induce the Dey & Regency to treat with us or not. — I have no doubt that yourself & your Colleague, deeply impressed with a conviction of the great utility to France as well as to the U. S. of opening the Navigation of the Mediterranean to our vessels, and animated with the lively hope of being instrumental in delivering our fellow Citizens at Algiers from the miseries of captivity, will exert every nerve for the accomplishment of those most desirable & important objects.

In all possible events, it will doubtless be a great consolation to our unfortunate fellow Citizens who are groaning in chains at Algiers, to be convinced themselves, as well as to have it known to their sympathising Countrymen at home, & to the whole human Race, that nothing within the limit of the abilities of the United States, has been

left undone to rescue them from their deplorable situation, & to restore them to the bosom of their Country and their friends.

Given at Paris this 7th day of Sept^r 1795.

D. HUMPHREYS.

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain, Vol. 3, 1795-1797.]

[about 7 September 1795]

To David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers, from James Leander Cathcart, Algiers

ALGIERS 7th 10th 1795 & 5th Day of our Resurrection

HON^d SIR Nothing can equal the innate satisfaction of y^r unfortunate countrymen in captivity on the happy result of M^r Donaldsons embassy which was determined on Saturday the 5th ins^t when the banners of the United States was display'd in this Regency & saluted by the Marine Fortifications with 21 Guns, the particulars of said Negotiation you will be inform'd of by M^r Donaldson Mons^r Skjoldebrand & Cap^m OBrien? suffice it to say that our affairs has been attended with success even beyond our most sanguine expectations, indeed it has been unparalel'd in the Annals of this Regency.

My Worthy Friend Cap^m OBrien will have the Honour of delivering you M^r Donaldsons dispatches with a small pres^t from his Excellency the Dey. who esteems you as his Friend and Respects you as a worthy & patriotic Citizen of the United States. —

You will please to accept the most sincere thanks of myself & the small remnant of Captives taken in 1785 for the share you have had in our liberation as we are well convinc'd that for the honour of our Country & our own private benefit you have been infatigable ever since you were charged with the Affairs of Barbary — I shall not touch on our affairs at present as you will be inform'd of every particular by Cap^m OBrien but at some future period I hope to have the honour of presenting you a relation of facts for the inspection of yourself & other Distinguish'd Citizens of the United States. —

May that great & Omnipotent being that searches the most Hidden recesses of the Heart reward you according to your Merits is the sincere prayer of him that has no greater ambition than to stile himself. * * *

P S, should you imagine I can be of any service to our Country I beg you will honour me with y^r commands as my Life liberty & property are wholly dedicated to its service —

Hon^{ble} DAVID HUMPHREYS. —

[SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part I, April 1785-July 1795.]

To Captain Thomas Truxtun, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War Office October 10. 1795

SIR. Understanding that you were in town, as well as Captains Barry and Talbot, I wrote a line desiring that you would meet with M^r Humphreys, to consult on the dimensions of the masts and yards for the frigates, but it seems you had departed for Baltimore.

I now inclose you a Statement made by M^r Humphreys of the result of different calculations, as to the total measurement of masts and yards. They all exceed your dimensions

[Enclosure]

A true Statement of the total lengths of the Masts and Yards for the Frigates of 44 Guns, calculated from the proportions laid down by the following Gentlemen.

	According to M ^r Steel's System.	According to Capt. Barry's proportions.	According to M ^r Humphrey's proportions.	According to Capt. Truxton's proportions.
Total length of Main Mast, Top Mast, and Top Gallant ditto, with Royal ditto added together without any deduction for heads	221. 7	214. 3	212. 6	210. 11
ditto — of Main Yard, Topsail ditto, Top Gallant ditto, and Royal ditto	240. 4	237. 6	234. 10	225. 1
ditto — of Fore Mast, Top Mast, and Top Gallant ditto, with Royal ditto	197. 1	199. 8	198. 0	197. 4
ditto — of Fore Yard, Topsail ditto, Top Gallant ditto, and Royal ditto	211. 5	218. 0	220. 0	214. 1
ditto — of Mizzen Mast, Top Mast, Top Gallant ditto, with Royal ditto	177. 11	161. 8	175. 8	156. 0
ditto — of Cross Jack Yard, Topsail ditto, Top Gallant ditto, and Royal ditto	158. 2	172. 6	176. 0	137. 1
	1206. 6	1203. 7	1217. 0	1140. 6

NOTE — In Captain Truxton's proportions, there is no Mizzen — Royal Yard, or Mizzen Royal Mast included.

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790–1798.]

To David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers from Joseph Donaldson, Junior, U. S. Agent, Algiers

ALGIERS October y^e 24th [17]95

SIR This moment M^r Skjoldebrand informs me he is dispatching a person by land towards Gibraltar therefore take advantage to hand you some communications from the Dey receiv'd this morning, thro. Cathcart, in the first Place in consequence of the Arrival of Presents from Tunis on the morning he was sending off[f] a Courier for Tunis would be glad to know If I had any overtures for the Bey. this came in Such a shape as to induce a belief (on his part) that I was disposed & at the Same time instructed to tender terms in some measure Similar to those Adjusted with him accordingly I inform'd him I did not consider myself at Liberty to take up the Business with Tunis untill matters was finally adjusted here this was only to Parry it for the present knowing the Bey of Tunis had an Agent along with the Presents — Some time elapsed when Cathcart return'd to me from the Dey with the Annex'd Memo! handed him from the Lips of the Dey. in answer I only reiterated what I had before offered & thus. it ended with the Accustomed phrase bona bona — from the Tenor of your Instructions I conclude the U. S. entertain not a distant Idea of any thing Annually with Tunis or Tripoli I can not find that any State but Venice maintain their Peace on these terms. the Sweede & Danes only make Presents Occasionally when they have a New King or a New Bey is declared to them. I Shall take an opportunity of Seeing the Agent. of the Bey & Perhaps a Present to him whilst here will have its influence he shall be Sounded on this head as well in relation to what may be the expectation of the Bey, from the U S. in the mean while I am

Memo — from the Dey of Algiers relative to the Bey of Tunis Octo 24/95

For the Bey — Dollars 30,000. Peace Presents of Watches Clothes
&c &c — and Annually —

200C Lead	200 p ^s Canons	50 Bbs Tar
3000. Cannon ball	15 Yards	50 do Pitch
10 Masts	50 Bls Gun Powder	and three thousand
5 Cables		
10 Hausers	Dollars for Hadge Ally. who is the	
100C Cordage	Agent now here —	
300 Pine Planks		
300 Oak do		

NOVEMBER 2/95

SIR the forgoing is copy of my last respects. still I continue with out any thing from you altho I have letters down to y^e 21st Ultimo from Alicant by which conveyance came to hand letters from the Minister Lisbon to a Spaniard here dated the 16 ulto. the Purport of which was to know if a Peace with the regency was Practicable and the Probable terms I find the reply from the Dey was very Short. that whilst things were in the Present Posture. having a reference to the dispute with England he wou'd not make a Peace. but they might redeem their Captives. I do not Learn on What Terms

What consequences M^r Mace's departure may Produce I am not able to divine. the Dey is so wavering a Character. — I now beleive he regrets. Mace's departure and would take his words back again.
* * *

I have requested the Dey as well as Hadge Aly to Propose a truce for twelve month with Tunis & Tripoli as there is now Some Probability of an Accommodation. the Latter (to whome a Present has been made at the recommendation of the Sweede) has promised his influence at the Same time has no doubt. it will be Granted

the Dey has been told as he has got all the money. that he must dictate to the State of Tunis and rec'd us on our own terms this was pleasantly receiv'd and I think Augurs well. the Jew tells me that Hadge Aly is disposed to Serve us he is the Man that commanded on the Service Against Tripoli and reduc'd it therefore an arrangement, with Tunis is preparatory to Tripoli

What Promoted my request of a Truce was the Probability of Some of our Ships in consequence of the Arrangement with Algiers, find the Way into the perlieu of these States & be captured and render it an other Algerine Business I have written to the Different Consul on the Mediterranean to disuade Such Captains as Come within reach of them to use their influence, on them there has Already two found the Way to Cathagena to Embrace a high Freight offering for England & Ireland This being the needfull I am

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain, Vol. 3, 1795-1797.]

[8 November 1795]

Copy of a Truce Concluded between the United States of America and the Regency of Tunis

IN THE NAME OF THE MOST MERCIFUL GOD

In the name of God under our hands we give unto the american Ambassador a truce with our Regency for the United States of America, until he receives intelligence — from America for which we allow

the time of eight months by our special order unto Hamada Bashaw, I Vizer Hassan Bashaw Dey of the City and Regency of Algiers desires that he may command all the raises commanding vessels under his command and jurisdiction not to damage plunder or impede in her voyage any american vessel until the time herein specified shall be completed and they receive our second orders. Given under my hand by order of Hassan Bashaw Dey of Algiers the 26th of the Luna Rahabia thani in the year of the Hegira 1210 which corresponds with the 8th of November 1795.

Signed Hadge Ally Vikel or Charge des affaires and agent for the Regency of Algiers and Tunis —

Translated by James Leander Cathcart

[SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part I, April 1785–July 1795.]

[12 December 1795]

Communicated to the United States Senate, 15 December, 1795

[PHILADELPHIA]

War Office, December 12, 1795.

SIR: By the direction of the President of the United States, I have the honor to present, herewith, a report of the progress made in providing materials for the frigates, and in building them,

And am, most respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

TIMOTHY PICKERING.

The VICE PRESIDENT of the U. S.
and PRESIDENT of the SENATE.

A statement of the progress in providing materials for the frigates, and in building them

If the frigates had been constructed with the timber at hand in the several places where they were destined to be built, they might by this time have been completed. But the design of rendering them permanently useful having determined the Executive to have them constructed with live oak and cedar, the measures deemed necessary and adequate to the procuring of those materials were taken during the last year. The common and easy acquisition of those articles for the ordinary service of the merchants forbade any apprehension of extraordinary difficulty in procuring the same for the frigates. But in the experiment it has been found, that timber of the lengths and sizes necessary for frigates, was greatly dispersed, and grew generally in places difficult of access, and required extraordinary means of transportation to the landing. The natural difficulties of the country have been increased by unusual quantities of rain. Ship carpenters were sent from the Northern States to the islands bearing the live oak, and employed during the last winter in cutting and hewing the timber: but the climate deterred them from staying to prosecute their work; so that three men only, capable of selecting the proper timber and moulding it in the requisite forms, have been prevailed on to remain. These, with negro laborers, have continued the work, and are still employed. With these, however, it was judged practicable to procure the whole of the live oak timber by the month of May, 1796. Such was the report of an intelligent agent employed in Georgia during the last winter, and who has now returned hither to superintend, and, as far possible, to expedite, the operations.

Upon this report, made in June last, it was judged eligible to concentrate the efforts that were making to furnish the yards with live oak timber, and accordingly orders were given to accumulate at two of the yards so much of it as would be necessary to complete two frigates by the ensuing spring. But before these orders could reach the manager, several vessels were despatched to different yards; and one was cast away and her cargo lost. Some difficulty occurred in procuring proper vessels to transport the timber: several of those which had made one voyage having encountered such hardships and sickness as to be deterred from making a second.

Nevertheless, under all these embarrassments, the work is continued, and with the well grounded expectation, before expressed, that all the live oak timber will be cut and transported to the different ship yards at farthest by the next midsummer.

Details of the quantities of timber and other materials already provided, and of the progress in building, will appear in the annexed schedules. The live oak and white oak timber mentioned are generally or wholly moulded and dressed and ready for raising.

Since draughting the foregoing report, a letter has been received from the chief carpenter employed in procuring timber in Georgia, presenting a very favorable account of his progress. Two vessels laden with live oak had recently sailed for the two yards of Philadelphia and Baltimore, and the rest of the timber to complete the frames of the frigates building at those places was cut and ready to be shipped. These were the two frigates which, as before mentioned, it was proposed first to finish. The chief carpenter adds, that if he is furnished with vessels fit for the service, he will have all the timber in the six yards in the month of May next, excepting the knees, all of which he thinks cannot be got of live oak. The agent who engages the vessels for transporting the timber has no doubt of procuring timely all that will be wanted for the service.

Sail cloth has been provided for one suit of sails for each of the frigates. It was contracted for, and manufactured in the United States, in the year 1794. It has been proposed to procure one kind of foreign cloth, of a superior quality, for the second suit: but the purchase has been suspended, to avoid an expenditure of money until it could be ascertained at what time the cloth would actually be wanted to equip the frigates. For the like reason, no more hemp has been purchased than will be required for the cordage of the two frigates the building of which it was intended to advance in preference to the others; and which it was then hoped would be constructed by the close of the ensuing spring. For the same cause, the number of anchors which will eventually be required remains incomplete.

All which is respectfully submitted to the Senate of the United States.

TIMOTHY PICKERING.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR,
December 12, 1795.

Progress in building frigate at Baltimore, Maryland

Statement of progress made in building a Frigate, to carry thirty-six guns, at Baltimore, under the direction of Mr. David Stodder, Naval Constructor, and Captain Thomas Truxtun, Superintendent. [*Constellation*]

The keel is completed and laid on the blocks; the pieces are scarfed and bolted to each other in the best manner. The stern frame is not quite complete. Near two-thirds of the live oak timber for framing the ship is arrived; great part of which is worked to the various moulds, and some part bolted together in frames, and ready to go into the ship. The beams for gun deck and lower deck are received, and are put to season. The plank for some of the decks is in the yard, and ready for laying; most of the plank for outside and ceiling are ready, and are in the yard. The copper for securing the various parts of the ship together, and for sheathing the bottom, is in the public stores. The masts, bowsprit, yards, and all the other spars, are cut, and ready to be delivered. The boats are building; and the bits for the cables, coamings for the hatchways, carlings, ledges, and partners for the masts, are getting out. The principal part of the iron work is done for the hull, and materials and all the necessary contracts are entered into by the agents, and the articles contracted for are daily arriving.

Progress in building frigate at Boston, Massachusetts

Statement of the progress made in building a Frigate, to carry forty-four guns, at Boston, under the direction of Mr. George Claghorne, Naval Constructor, and Captain Samuel Nicholson, Superintendent. [*Constitution*]

The keel is completed and laid on the blocks. The pieces are scarfed and bolted to each other in the best manner. The stern frame is now completing, and will be soon ready to raise. The stern is also putting together, every part being worked to the moulds. About two-thirds of the live oak timbers have been received, and are all worked agreeable to the moulds; great part of those timbers are bolted together in frames, and are ready to put into the ship, but some of the principal pieces for the frame have not yet arrived. All the gun deck and lower deck beams are procured and ready for delivery, and the plank for those decks are received into the yard. The plank for outside and ceiling

are also received, and are now seasoning. The copper is all in the public stores. The masts, bowsprit, yards, and other spars, are all ready for working. The bits for the cables, coamings for the hatchways, partners for the masts, are all ready. The caboose, with a forge, hearth, armorer's tools, spare coppers, boilers, &c. are all complete. Most of the iron work is in great forwardness. All the necessary contracts are entered into by the agent, and the articles contracted for are daily arriving.

Progress in building frigate at New York, N. Y.

Statement of the progress made in building a Frigate, to carry forty-four guns, at New York, under the direction of Mr. Foreman Cheeseman, Naval Constructor, and Captain Silas Talbot, Superintendent. [*President*]

The keel is completed and laid on the blocks. The pieces are scarfed and bolted to each other in the best manner. The stern frame is not yet complete; several transoms are wanting. About one quarter of the live oak timbers for the frame of the ship are arrived; all of which are worked to the molds. Timber for the gun deck and lower deck beams are received, and the plank for those decks is ready. The copper and the treenails are all in the public stores. The plank for the outside of the ship, as well as the ceiling, are nearly all cut; great part are put into the sea water to draw out the sap and to season them. The carlings, ledges, coamings for the hatchways, and bits, are sawing in the yard. The masts, bowsprit, yards, and the other spars, are procured, and ready for finishing. The kentledge for ballast is all cast and delivered; and the iron work for the hull and materials are now in hand; and the articles, when finished, are placed in the public stores. All the necessary contracts are entered into by the agent, and the articles are daily arriving.

N. B. A large schooner with live oak, bound to New York, was unfortunately lost on Cape Hatteras, and every part of the cargo lost. On board of this schooner were many of the principal pieces of timber necessary for the frame.

Progress in building frigate at Norfolk, Va.

Statement of the progress made in building a Frigate, to carry forty-four guns, at Norfolk, under the direction of Mr. Josiah Fox, Naval Constructor, and Captain Richard Dale, Superintendent. [*Chesapeake*]

The keel is completed and laid on the blocks; the pieces are scarfed and bolted to each other in the best manner. The stern frame is complete and ready for raising. More than two-thirds of the live oak for the frame is arrived, which is worked to the various moulds; great part of the timbers are bolted together in frames, and are ready for raising. The gun deck and lower deck are all finished, and are ready to put into the ship. The plank for the decks is not yet arrived. The outside plank, as likewise the ceiling, are preparing, and some part have been delivered. All the copper necessary for securing the various parts of the ship together, and for sheathing the bottom, is in the public stores. The keelson and midship dead woods are complete. The masts, bowsprit, yards, and all the other spars, are cut, and several of them are received at the yard. The carlings, ledges, coamings for the hatchways, and the partners for the mast, are now in hand. The iron work for the hull and materials are getting ready. The caboose, with a hearth, forge, armorer's tools, spare coppers, boilers, &c. are complete. All the necessary contracts are entered into by the agent, and the articles contracted for are daily arriving.

Progress in building frigate at Philadelphia, Pa.

Statement of the progress made in building a Frigate at Philadelphia, to carry forty-four guns, under the direction of Mr. Joshua Humphreys, Naval Constructor, and Captain John Barry, Superintendent. [*United States*]

The keel is completed and laid on the blocks. The pieces are scarfed and bolted to each other in the best manner. The stern frame is complete and ready for raising. About two-thirds of the live oak for the frame is received, nearly all of which is worked agreeable to the moulds; and many of the frames are together and bolted, and ready to put into the ship; two-thirds of the plank for outside and ceiling are received, and about one-third for the wales; the remainder is nearly ready. The beams for the orlop deck are all procured and worked, and many of the upper deck beams are likewise worked, and the remainder are expected to arrive daily. A large quantity of live oak knees are arrived for the security of the

decks, and pieces for coamings for the hatchways, partners for the masts, and several other purposes, are ready. The masts, bowsprit, yards, and the other spars, are procured, several of which are received. The copper necessary for securing the various parts of the ship, and for sheathing the bottom, is in the public stores. The iron work is now preparing and ready for delivery, as fast as it is wanted. The boiler for boiling the white oak plank in salt water, to render it durable in the greatest possible proportion to live oak, is completed. All the anchors are procured, and the hemp for the cables and materials is now spinning and preparing; all the canvass necessary for one suit of sails is in the public stores. The blocks for the rigging are manufacturing, and a great part are ready for delivery. Kentledge for ballast is all cast and delivered; a contract for the treenails has been made, and next month appointed for delivery. Bunting for the colors is on hand, and a great number of smaller articles, for the hull, rigging, and equipping the ship, are stored in the public stores.

Progress in building frigate at Portsmouth, N. H.

Statement of the progress made in building a Frigate, to carry thirty-six guns, at Portsmouth, N. H., under the direction of Mr. James Hacket, Naval Constructor, and Captain James Sever, Superintendent. [Congress]

The keel is completed and laid on the blocks; the pieces are scarfed and bolted to each other in the best manner. The stern frame is nearly ready for raising. The principal framing of the body of the ship is not yet complete. About two-thirds of the live oak timber have been delivered into the yard, which is nearly all worked to the moulds. Great part of the timbers are bolted together in frames, and are ready to go into their proper places. The beams for the gun deck and lower deck are ready, as well as the carlings and ledges, for framing the decks; and the plank for those decks are also procured, and great part are in the yard. The outside plank and the wales are all cut, and will be ready in a few weeks, as is the ceilings; great part of the plank are already received into the yard, and are now seasoning. All the copper necessary for securing the various parts of the ship together, and for sheathing the bottom, is in the public stores. The masts, bowsprit, yards, and the other spars, are delivered by the contractors. The bits for the cables, coamings for the hatchways, partners for the masts, are all received and trimmed. Most of the iron work is in great forwardness, and all the necessary contracts are entered into by the agent, and the articles contracted for are daily arriving.

[Am. State Papers, Nav. Af., Vol. 1.]

[1795]

Passport granted by the Dey of Algiers to an American Vessel

[Translation]

in the yeare. 1210 — the 23^d day of the munt. Saphir in this war like city of Algier^s the American nation. who has made peace with us — for this American Vessel and her Crew — to navigate with this passport for 1 y^r this is to certify that the Bearer or possessor of this Passport is a true American and allso the Crew — and if navigateing on the Seas — he should meet a Corsaire belonging to algiers or this Regency — or Tunis Tripolia or Morrocca — the[y] shall not be permitted to detain or molest, or stop him his Crew — Cargo — and Vessel — and passengers that might be — on board — but immediatly let said Vessel in all Security continue her destined Voyage — and for this purpose the[y] have requested this Passport. which I have given and Signed with my hand — and Sealed with the public Seal of this regency —

So that if in case any algerine Corsaire should in any manner — stop hinder or Molest Said Vessel cargo — & crew — the Comander of said Cruiser — or offender shall by me be severely punished — & restitution made if a corsaire of Tunis or Tripoly — or Morrocco — should in any Manner injure stop. or molest said Vessel — thire government shall be obliged to punish the Said offender and Make restitution. of all damages for this purpose we have given this Passport to be

presented to every corsaire of the above Mentioned nations that — the Said American Vessel may — meet with.

Signed & Sealed by HASSAN BASHAW
Dey — of Algiers —

[SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part I, April 1785–July 1795.]

[4 January 1796]

To David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers from Hassan Bashaw, Dey of Algiers

Copy

Hassan Bashaw Dey of the City & Regency of Algiers, unto the Hon^{ble} David Humphreys, Minister Plenipotentiary from the United States of North America at the Court of Portugal and Chargé des Affaires de Barbaria.

Whereas your Messenger or Envoy, Joseph Donaldson, concluded a Treaty of Peace between the United States of America and this Regency on the 5th of Sept^r 1795. The Copy of which was forwarded for your Inspection on the 11th of said Month by Capt^r Richard O'Brien. From which time four Months, has expired without the least Ratification on the part of the United States of America: which makes me doubt the authenticity of the said Donaldson's Commission, notwithstanding my Christian Clerk has absolutely informed me that he was authorised by the Sign Manual of His Excellency George Washington, President of the United States of North America and confirmed by the Great Seal of the said States: Nevertheless, I cannot help doubting the Veracity of his Credentials untill I hear personally from you either to object to his proceedings or confirm them.

I therefore desire that you may immediately dispatch a Courier on receipt of this to inform me of the cause of such detention, as the Divan in general are, very impatient, and by discontenting them, it is out of my power to remedy the fatal consequences that might ensue — even to risque the ruin of your cause in this Regency during my Reign and for a number of years afterwards. I therefore recommend Dispatch.

HASSAN BASHAW

Dey of the City & Regency
of Algiers —

L. S.

done in the Dey's Palace

Algiers the 4th of Jan^r 1796

By Order of the Dey —

JAMES LEAD^r CATHCART.

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain, Vol. 3, 1795–1797.]

To Chairman of Committee of the House of Representatives from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War Office, January 20, 1796.

SIR: I have the honor to send, herewith, for the information of the committee to whom was committed the report on the frigates, the best returns of materials provided, and yet wanting, that can be formed, together with an account of the moneys expended, and the sum necessary to complete their construction and equipment, exclusively of men and provisions; this sum being estimated at \$453,272.

TIMOTHY PICKERING.

Honorable JOSIAH PARKER, Esq.

No. 1.

Report, &c. agreeably to a request of a committee of the House of Representatives of the United States, appointed to inquire into the state of the Naval Equipment, viz:

To the first inquiry, I am of opinion that, on the most minute calculation that I can possibly make or procure, from a general consultation of the different persons concerned in the building and equipment of the frigates, that their actual cost, when completed, with ordnance and ordnance stores, including powder, &c. (but without being provisioned or manned) will be one hundred and twenty dollars per ton. That the four forty-four gun ships will tonnage, according to the new mode of measurement adopted by the carpenters of this port, six thousand eight hundred and fifty-two tons, and that the two ships of thirty-six guns will tonnage two thousand six hundred and sixty-six tons.

Consequently the six frigates will measure nine thousand five hundred and eighteen tons, which, at the rate of one hundred and twenty dollars, aforesaid, will cost..... \$1, 142, 160

Deduct appropriation made by a former act of Congress for building the said frigates, &c. exclusive of eighty thousand dollars appropriated for galleys, &c..... 688, 888

Further provision necessary to complete the six frigates for sea, according to above calculation, manning and provisions excepted..... 453, 272

In the accompanying paper, No. 2, is an account of all money disbursed, or paid to the different agents and purveyor of supplies, including the sum of dollars, remitted to our minister in England, for the purpose of purchasing copper and sundry other materials, and will be accounted for by them, respectively.

No. 3 will show the materials on hand, and No. 4, such as are still wanting in the yards and stores; many of which are procured and will be speedily received.

No. 5 is an estimate of the further sum supposed to be necessary to completely equip one forty-four and one thirty-six gun frigate, if the others should be discontinued.

From the present arrangements that are made, and apparent prospect, it is expected that the six frigates may be built, launched, and completely equipped, in the course of the present year; and that one forty-four and one thirty-six may be completed with great ease by the month of November next at furthest.

The foregoing is, at the request of the Secretary of War, made out and submitted for his inspection and revision by his very humble servants,

TENCH FRANCIS, *Purveyor*,
THOMAS TRUXTUN,
JOSHUA HUMPHREYS, *Navy Constructor*,
JOSIAH FOX, *Navy Constructor*.

PHILADELPHIA, *January 13, 1796.*

[NOTE.—Papers Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5 are on pages 20 to 25, *American State Papers, Naval Affairs, Vol. I.*]

[*Am. State Papers, Nav. Af., Vol. I.*]

Circular from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War Office January 25th 1796

Circular to the Naval Constructors and the Superintendents

Capt DALE being absent his determination cannot be had —

SIR The Masting the Frigates now building having been submitted to several Gentlemen of considerable abilities and reputed skill in Naval Affairs, for their opinion as to the best proportions for Masting the two Classes of Ships so as to answer all the purposes necessary for Ships of War — but a diversity of opinions having arisen on the length of particular Masts and Yards, I am induced to propose, that the Captain, and Constructor, of each Frigate, shall have liberty to Mast and Spar their own Ship according to the best of their judgements —

You will therefore pay an immediate attention to this Subject, in which the Constructor (or) Capt.ⁿ (——) will assist, and the result of your united opinions you will sign, that it may be transmitted to this Office as soon as convenient specifying very minutely, the exact length and diameter of each Mast, Yard and Bow-sprit.. also the length and size of Mastheads and Yard Arms that they may be recorded in this Office — — — —

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790–1798.]

Communicated to the House of Representatives, 29 January 1796

Mr. Parker, from the committee appointed to inquire into the actual state of the naval equipment ordered by a former law of the United States, and to report whether any, and what, further provision is necessary to be made on this subject, reported:

That, by a law, passed the 27th of March, 1794, it was enacted that six frigates should be built for the protection of the trade of the United States against the Algerines, then at war with the United States; that four of the frigates should carry forty-four guns, each, the two others thirty-six guns, each. By this law it was enacted, that, in case of a peace with Algiers, no further proceeding should be had under the said act.

That, on the 9th of June ensuing, an act passed, appropriating six hundred and eighty-eight thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight dollars and eighty-two cents, for the purpose of carrying on the building and equipping of the six frigates ordered by the preceding law; and the sum of eighty thousand dollars was appropriated, by the said act, for the building of galleys or other vessels, as the President of the United States might direct; the above sum of six hundred and eighty-eight thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight dollars and eighty-two cents, at the time of passing the act, was thought would be sufficient to build and equip the said frigates; and they might have been built and equipped in one year, if common materials had been put together, and the size of the frigates had not been extended.

But it appears to your committee, that, after the law passed, the President of the United States, under whose direction they were to

be built, deemed it most advisable to extend the size of the frigates, and determined that they should be near three hundred tons larger, each, than the committee who reported on the naval armament had estimated; that, instead of making use of common timber for building the frigates, he caused the best live oak and red cedar to be got in Georgia, from whence it was to be exported to the different naval yards, established under his direction, at the following places, viz. one at Portsmouth in Virginia, one at Baltimore, one at Philadelphia, one at New York, one at Boston, and one at Portsmouth in New Hampshire; at which places much of the timber has arrived, more is daily expected, and the whole is probably contracted for, and may be expected in the different yards by May or June next; as may more fully appear by a letter from the Secretary of the Department of War, received the fourteenth of December last, to which the committee beg leave to refer.

Your committee further report, that, from the best information they can obtain, in consequence of the increased size of the frigates, the additional expense of live oak and red cedar timber, and the unexampled rise of labor, provisions, and all other articles necessary to the equipment of ships of war, since March, 1794, when the law was passed for providing a naval armament, that the cost of the six frigates, exclusive of provisions and men's wages, when equipped for sea, will amount to one million one hundred and fifty-two thousand one hundred and sixty dollars; hence, if they are to be completed, they will require the further sum of four hundred and fifty-three thousand two hundred and seventy-two dollars—a sum, in the opinion of the committee, which it would be inexpedient to apply to this object, whilst labor, provisions, &c. &c. remain at the present advanced prices; and as the committee are of opinion that many of the articles on hand may be preserved a long time without injury, and such as are of a perishable nature may be sold without loss, if not to advantage; and as the primary cause for which the six frigates were to be built is probably accomplished, although the committee reluctantly give up the idea of finishing the whole for the present, are of opinion that two of the frigates, one of forty-four guns, and one of thirty-six guns, should be finished as soon as possible; which, in the opinion of the committee, may be effected with the money already appropriated, and completed by November next. Therefore,

Resolved, As the opinion of this committee, that, as there is a peace with the Emperor of Morocco, and good reason to believe that there is one with Algiers, that only two of the six frigates should be completed at present, and that as speedily as possible; and that the President of the United States should be authorized to dispose of such part of the materials procured, as may be of a perishable nature, after reserving a sufficiency to complete one frigate of forty-four guns, and one of thirty-six guns. That the surplus be secured in the best manner the nature of the case will admit, to be ready whenever Congress may deem it advisable to direct the finishing of the other four frigates.

Resolved, As the opinion of this committee, that the surplus moneys appropriated for building of frigates, after completing two of them, should be applied to the sinking fund, for the reduction of the public debt.

[February 1796?]

Remarks and Observations relative to the New Brig, for the Dey of Algiers

Said Brig is building of Cedar and live Oak.
 Copper bolted Spiked. & Copper Sheathed.
 is 75 feet Strait rabbit by the Keel
 27 feet Beam.
 11 feet in the Howl
 4½ feet Solid waist
 10 ports at Each Side, bridle ports included
 to have two Stern Chace ports.
 to have for a Swivel. fitted. between Each gun
 and for 2 forward. and 2 aft. over the Stern
 to have row ports, between Each Gun,
 and 2. or 3 row ports to the Stern.
 to have a flush Gun deck fore and aft.
 with all the requisite ring bolts and Eye bolts,
 requisite for her batteries. with her hatches gratings
 Skylights cabin companion, cable & bowsprit bits & M^r T. S^t S. bits
 a bittacle at Each Side of the Companion, with a light house &
 to finish the fore end, as a hen coop*
 to have 2 Shieves in Each Cat head — 2 Cat blocks, 2 Bumkins.
 A Capstan. 2 good Chambered pumps, pump well Snug — Pump geer,
 The Orlop. or tween deck to run fore and aft. The part that forms
 the Cabin. to have at Each Side Cleare 2 births of Cabins
 to have A Slideing door, to the Cabin bulkhead, to have a Cobuse no house —
 about one for 40 or 50 men with an Oven
 a large Skylight over the Cabin.
 The Orlop deck. to have long grateing hatchway*
 A small sailroom
 A powder Magazine. and filling room on the best plan —
 Carved work the Brig to have a light airy head. a tyger destroying. a wild Cat
 On the Quarters. a very airy nice Badge.
 on the Stern to have 3 half Moons, 2 gun boat locks chains &
 1 Capstan 4 hause holes,
 Said Brig to steere with a tiller & above to have an Iron one to Ship Occasionally
 Masts war dimensions. the main mast 9 or 10. feet longer then the foremast
 the foremast to rake aft about ½ a point. the main mast 1½ point rake aft.
 to be well apart. the topmasts to be Equally alike the yards d^r the top G^h
 masts d^r, so that the lower yards is alike. the topsl yards d^r top G^h d^r
 The Main boom to be 12 feet. Over. the stern. the gaf ½ the length of the boom
 Spritsail yard and topsail yards alike, the Main Sail to peak well
 The Jib boom & flying Jib boom in One. 20 Sweep. 27 feet long
 The bowsprit on a Customary Stive 2, 32 feet. for the Stern
 to have 2 Spare topmasts. GUNS.
 2 d^r top g^h masts. 22 Six pounders
 1 Spare top sail yard — 23 Cariages for d^r
 2 Spare top g^h y^d Cariages to have a brace or sweep
 1 Spare royal yard — forward — for the fore part,
 2 Spare top mast Studing s^t booms 50 rounds. shot — 1100 — 550
 2 d^r Top g^h double head — 550 — 275
 1 Spare gaf. 1 ring tail boom & david — Canister d^r — 550 — 275
 & light yards for Studing Sails — Powder Magazine & filling room on the
 Match rope best plan —
 50 ^{lb} Powder — 220 Catridges filled —
 Catridge boxes 22 1 Iron crow Small to Each gun —
 Each gun to have 24 Gunners Hand spikes —
 Britchen [Breechings] & 3 tackles 12 ladies & worms. on the Same Staff.
 22 powder horns worms bits &
 Water Casks 20 Puncheons Iron bound
 10. 60. Gallon Casks. 8 bucketts. 1 funnel 1 Copper Pump
 To have 3 anchors. that is two bowers & 1 sheet & 1 Kedge
 to. have cables 100 fathom* Each to Correspond with Said Anchors
 6. lower Shrouds. of a Side fore and aft.

4 topmast Shrouds at Each Side
A Standing backstay & breast. d^o
lower Stay^s Spring Stay^s
Top Mast Stay^s & Spring Stay^s
Top G^l Stay^s Iron travellers
Pendants to the foremast & main mast.
& yard tackles. 2 Cat blocks 1 fish hook
2 Main Sheets. Peek & throat haliards
to unhook Occasionally,
Yards. to Sling with rope & Iron Chain
Solid Chains. no brace pendants.

No royal Stay^s
to have a Martingal
1 hour glass.
1 half. hour d^o
1½ Minute glass
1 — of ¼ D^o
Each Vessel to have this number of
Glasses

1 boat. as long boat as described to Mr [Joshua] Humphrey^s
Said boat Cutter rigged to have a well & windless.

to row 2 Oars. on Each Bench—
1 Yawl. to Stow in the long boat
1 Yawl to hang over the Stern
2 Brass Compasses 1 wooden d^o
1 american Ensign Pendant & Jack
1 broad pendent.
1 Algerine Ensign & Pendant entirely
red. 1 large Speaking Trumpet 1 Small.
1 log reel 12 lines 2 leads. 1 dipsie d^o

This Brig to have in all
20 Men —
The large Schooner 15 —
The Small One 13 —

This brig. is Strongly recommended. to Comand. Cap^t John Smith
N^o 17 Wine Street.

SAILS
2 foresails
2 fore topmast Stay sails
1 Jib. 1 Jib. of Jibbs
3 topsails alike Each 3 reefes.
3 top G^l Sails. alike 1 reefe Each.
3 Royals.
2 lower Studing Sails.
2 topmast D^o 1 reefe in Each
2 top G^l d^o — d^o reefes.
1 Main Staysail
1 Main topmast Staysail
1 Midle d^o
1 top G^l d^o
1 Cross Jack Sail Called Square M^s Sⁱ
2 top Mast Studing Sails aft.
2 top G^l d^o
1 Main Sail fore & aft.
1 Tracil
1 Ring tail
1 Water Sail
long boat 3 Sails.
1 Awning tarpolians
Coats to the masts & pumps
& top Cloths Ruther Coat,

All Omisions herein not Mentioned to
be attended to.

24 Lanthorns

*In the Brig the Companion Should Open forward. and the Bittacle. could.
be. aft of it. look. out & plan & contrive to advantage, Every 2^d beam to the Gun
deck to. be. well Stantioned —

[Note: The original of this document was undated, but was bound with other
manuscripts dated February 1796. However, it is believed the date should be
1797.]

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb-Nov. 1796.]

To Secretary of State from Richard O'Brien, London, England

LONDON the 5th February 1796

D^r SIR:

[This letter begins with lengthy comment on money transactions and exchange
rates of different countries.]

* * * I am Very apprehensive of some fatal consequences. in so much time haveing Elapsed. that as the Dey and Ministry. has received. the sum of 60 thous^d Dollars in presents. and that the Dey expected the money — agreed on, to be in Algiers by November. and finding it not likely to come soon, that he will declare the treatie void. and send out his Corsairs — to try and capture the American Vessels that has Very imprudently entered the Meditteranian.

even that we are at peace with Algiers we are at war with Tunis & Tripolie. the Corsairs. of Tunis is 12 Sail. and I am affraid that many Americans will be Captured by the Tunicians if so — depend it will be difficult for the U S. to make apeace with Tunis it. would make the Terms exorbitant. and it is in vain for the U S. to make apeace with Tunis untill all our agreements with Algiers is fulfilled. as Tunis is Tributary to Algiers & biased by its influence

relative to Sending the Maratime & Military Stores to Algiers which was agreed on by Treatie, you will Judge of Course when it can be. done. with prudence. or Safety,

Be convinced. of all possibly in the power of D^r Sir y^r Most Ob^t Serv^t

RICH^d OBRIEN

that was 10 y^r & 40 day^s in Captivity

To the SECRETARY OF STATE of the US. A —

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 1, Part II, Feb-Nov. 1796.]

Presumably to David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers, from James Leander Cathcart^r, Algiers

ALGIERES Feb^y the 6th 1796

HON^d SIR — Give me leave to inform you that on the evening of the 28th of Jan^y the Spanish Packet arived here, which brought y^r of the 14th of Dec^r informing us of your having dispatchd OBrien in the Brig [*Sophia*] to London &^r I immediately conjectured that this transaction would take up more time than the Dey would allow for Compleating our affairs, & consulted Mons^r Skjoldebrand on the subject, when we mutually agreed that the prudentest step to take would be to inform his Excellency of the difficulty's which had arose in raising the money in Lisbon & at the same time to make him a small present in y^r name, informing him that you had given Y^r assent to all M^r Donaldsons transactions? but that the affairs of Europe were so embroil'd at present you found it difficult to raise so large a sum immediately, but that his Excell^y might depend you were doing every thing in y^r power to have the money forwarded as fast as possible, this we immagined was the only way we could adopt to gain time as the Deys patience is nearly exhausted, & the enemies of our Country are continually taking advantage of every delay in order to render the Dey & Divan unfavourable to our cause & favourable to the Portuguese who actually has agreed on Terms with the Dey for a Peace & Redemption of their Captives, as the Dey's Broker has inform'd me in confidence, & that Don Juan Garigo the private Agent for Portugal has forwarded his dispatches with these in order to have a person sent here from the Court of Portugal to Ratify said agreement, whom he expects will be dispatched in a Frigate on the Arival of said Dispatches —

M^r Donaldson said he could not think of making any more presents to the Dey as he had no Orders for so doing & had actually exceeded his Orders all ready, the consequence of which was that on the 29th at 2 P M the Dey sent for me and interrogated me relative to the News, M^r Donaldson had rec^d by the Packet, I inform'd his Excellency of the particulars painting every thing in the most favourable light, but the present was wanting in order to strengthen the Dey's belief and to persuade him we were sincere which he seems much to doubt, he accordingly discredited every thing I inform'd him of & told me the Agents of the U S were trifling with him, & notwithstanding that I tryed every means practicable to persuade him to the contrary, he order'd me to inform M^r Donaldson that he expected our affairs would be entirely compleated in one month from the arival of the Packet, otherwise he should consider every thing we had allready done to be void and would treat us as a set of Imposters, that he would order all the Americans that are now exempt from labour down to the Marine in their former stations & order M^r Donaldson immediately out of the Country & would never admit of another Negociator on the part of the U. States

I informed the Dey that it was impossible our affairs could be settled in one month from this date and beg'd of him to grant a longer space this he denied * * *

Since the 29th of January I have solicited the favour & interference of many of the Grandees of this Regency who has promised to use their influence with the Dey in our favour which I hope will produce a good effect, as his Excellency has since said that if the American Ambassador at Lisbon could not have procured the whole sum at once, that had he sent but one half or even a third of the Sum exacted he would be content as that would persuade him the Americans were sincere & intended to fullfill their agreement, but to his Sirprize five months had elaps'd with out receiving the least assurance of our Treaty being ratified nor even a line from the Ambassador empow'r'd with the management of Barbary affairs at Lisbon —

This Sir is a true Statement of our affairs at pres^t & have no more to add, but submitting all to y^r mature deliberation I beg leave to Subscribe myself with the greatest respect —

[*Attention is invited to a narrative of his experiences in "The Captives" by James Leander Cathcart.]

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain Vol. 3, 1795-1797.]

[7 February 1796]

[NOTE — On 7 February 1796 David Humphreys, Lisbon, wrote to James Leander Cathcart, Algiers, a lengthy account of conditions in the Mediterranean. Many salient features of this fifteen page letter are covered in other letters and resumés included in "Naval Documents". The above-mentioned account may be found in State Department Dispatches, Spain, volume 3, in National Archives, Washington, D. C.]

[10 February 1796]

Appointment of Joel Barlow as U. S. Agent, Algiers

David Humphreys, Commissioner Plenipotentiary from the United States of America to the Dey & Regency of Algiers:

To all to whom these Presents shall come, — Greeting.

Whereas a Provisional Treaty of Peace & Amity hath been concluded between the United States of America and the Dey & Regency of

Algiers, which hath been transmitted to the Executive of the said States; whereas it hath not been possible to have received Instructions from the said States since the beforementioned Instrument was forwarded to the Executive thereof; and whereas, in the mean time, it may be essentially necessary for the interests of the two Nations, that some competent Person should be named, to act (on such indispensable occasions as shall occur) on behalf of the United States within the Regency of Algiers, until a Consul or Agent shall be duly appointed or until the pleasure of the Government of the said United States shall be known:

Now therefore Know ye, that, reposing special trust & confidence in the abilities and integrity of Joel Barlow, I have named him the said Joel Barlow a temporary Agent to take charge of the interests of the United States of America within the Regency of Algiers, hereby committing to him such power necessary for the purpose, as, in virtue of my own Appointment and Instructions from the Executive of the United States, I may have a right to commit to him. Whereupon I recommend to all Captain, Masters and Commanders of Ships or other Vessels armed or unarmed sailing under the Flag of the said States, as well as to all others of their Citizens to acknowledge and consider him the said Joel Barlow accordingly. And I do hereby pray and request the most Illustrious and Most Excellent the Dey and Governors of the City and Kingdom of Algiers to permit the said Joel Barlow fully and peaceably to enjoy and exercise the said Agency, without giving or suffering to be given unto him any molestation or trouble, but on the contrary to afford him all proper countenance & assistance.

Given under my Hand and Seal, at the City of Lisbon, this
L. S. 10th day of February in the year of our Lord 1796:
of the Independence of the United States the twentieth.

DAVID HUMPHREYS.

[See note on letter to Secretary of State from Joel Barlow dated 4 May 1796.]

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain, Vol. 3, 1795-1797.]

To the Captains, Mates and Seamen of the United States, in Algiers, from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers

LISBON Feb^y 16th 1796.

MY DEAR FELLOW-CITIZENS. The object of this letter, is, to assure you, that you are neither forgotten or neglected by your Country. I have written a letter, by this conveyance, to His Excellency the Dey, stating truly the inevitable obstacles which have retarded the completion of our Arrangements with the Regency, until this period; and which may perhaps still protract the delay for some time to come. I have also written explanatory letters, in a copious manner, to Mess^{rs} Barlow (who, I hope, will soon be in Algiers) Donaldson, Cathcart, &c — Impossibilities cannot be effected; but whatsoever is in its nature practicable, will be done in your behalf.

Let me, therefore, my dear Countrymen, once more (and God grant, it may be the last time I may have occasion to do it) exhort you to be of good courage, to exert all your fortitude, to have a little more patience, to hope always for the best, and to be persuaded that every thing is doing, & shall be done, which the nature of the circumstances will admit, for your relief. * * *

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain, Vol 3, 1795-1797.]

To Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers, from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers

LISBON Feb^y 16th 1796

MY DEAR SIR: I wrote to you on the 1st instant, acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 23^d of Dec^r and advising you to remain at Alicant, until you should hear farther from me. I now write to you by M^r Rob: Montgomery, as I at that time intimated I should have an opportunity of doing.

In the present very ill state of M^r Donaldson's health, I have thought it expedient for the promotion of the public Service, to name you to ACT in the Regency of Algiers, in a Consular or other capacity until the pleasure of Government shall be known, delegating by a Commission of AGENCY all the power which I might have a right to delegate for the purpose. I have also made out new Powers of Agency to you & M^r Donaldson, to act jointly or seperately, in the negotiations with Tunis & Tripoli, as the circumstances may require. Those Instruments are enclosed herewith, as also the Letters Patent from the President of the United States, appointing me Commissioner Plenipotentiary to those two States. Enclosed you will also find, a Copy of my original Instructions to M^r Donaldson on the subject of the proposed negotiations with them: to the tenour of which attention is still to be paid accordingly.

I hope the business will now be resumed under happy auspices, & carried on under the favorable influence of the Government of the French Republic. The reason given by M^r Donaldson, Capt^a O'Brien & others, why that could not have been done at Algiers, at the moment when the negotiation was concluded, is, that the French Agent General for Barbary (Hercules) had not arrived at that Place, and that the actual Consul General, being aristocratically inclined, was not very favorable to our interests, Or, at least, that he had done things to raise the demands of the Dey, which were already too high. I have given these circumstances, with their authority, as they came to me, to M^r Monroe, in order, that (if necessary) he might be able to explain our conduct, so as to prevent unfavorable imputations, & to demonstrate there was at least no intentional inconsistency in it. You will find that parties prevail greatly in Algiers. — You will have need of all your penetration — to see every thing — to watch every body — and I am persuaded it will require great prudence to manage our affairs well, & to soothe the impatience of the Dey until a remittance can be made to him.

I am sorry to learn by a Packet which has arrived this day, that the Specie which was expected from England, & for which I had sent Capt^a O'Brien, in a Brig belonging to the United States, cannot be expected from thence. I apprehend the vessel will be obliged to go to Hamburg for it. At all events, a delay of some months must still (in all human probability) intervene, before any of the Money can be lodged at Algiers. I have written a letter to the Dey (in answer to one from him to me) stating facts, & placing the matter as fairly as I was able, on its true grounds. For honesty, I hold, to be the best policy. I have, at the same time, written much more in detail, to M^r Cathcart, Christian Clerk to the Dey. — * * *

M^r Philip Sloan, who came from America with me as Interpreter &° for the Barbary negotiations, being indisposed to continue any longer immediately connected with M^r Donaldson, I have advised

him to attach himself in that capacity to you. I think you will find him useful & intelligent in the performance of that duty. * * *

M^r Cathcart has written to me respecting the Ransom of a Person by the name of Carrol — I have always understood that it is a Custom, in all Treaties with the Regency, to redeem one or more of such additional Slaves, as shall be indicated by the Dey for the purpose. I have only to suggest, that M^r Donaldson & you would enquire into the Customs, & govern yourselves on the occasion by your best discretion.

M^r Cathcart has also written to me, that he has a vessel which might be obtained on reasonable terms to carry our Citizens from Algiers to America: — The same discretion is, however, to be consulted in providing the means of sending the Captives, with the least expence & in the best manner, to the United States.

P. S. The reasons why I have proposed you to the Dey, as Agent; rather than Consul, are; because the appointment appeared to come more naturally from the Powers with which I am myself invested; because it will comprehend the same functions; and because, it seems probable, that the Dey may not expect any present with this Nomination, as he might perhaps with that to a temporary Consulship.

My anxious hope & earnest expectation, is, that M^r Donaldson & you will be able to interest the French Agents or Consuls in Barbary, so far in our behalf, and that the Nation may become in a manner Guarrantee to our Treaties.

I think you will have occasion for almost infinite discernment, to discover pretended friends from real Enemies. — I have every reason to entertain a good opinion of the Mess^{rs} Skjoldebrands. On the contrary Bussara (M^r Montgomery's friend & Correspondent) is represented as a dangerous foe, under the mask of friendship.

Pray endeavour to soothe & comfort our Citizens in Algiers, as much as possible. They may with truth be assured, every thing is doing, that can be done for them.

Adieu

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain, Vol. 3, 1795-1797.]

[16 February 1796]

To Hassan Bashaw, Dey of Algiers, from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers

David Humphreys, Commissioner Plenipotentiary from the United States of America, to the Dey & Regency of Algiers, to the Most Excellent & Most Illustrious Hassan Bashaw, Dey of the City & Regency of Algiers:

In reply to the enquiries made in your letter to me, dated the 4th of Jan^y 1796, May it please your Excellency to be informed, that the Credentials of Agency given to Joseph Donaldson Junior, are of genuine authority; as emanating from the Powers derived from the Executive of the United States of America; that the provisional Treaty of Peace & Amity concluded on the fifth day of September last, between the Dey & Regency of Algiers and the United States [of] America, hath received my recognition (so far as I was able to recognize it) and been forwarded to the Executive of the said States — because it is necessary (according to our Constitution) that it should be ratified by the President, by and with the advice and consent of

the Senate, before it can become the Supreme law of the Land; that the delay which hath occurred originated from inevitable circumstances, beyond the foresight or controul of human precaution — as will be more fully explained in a letter to your Excellency's Christian Clerk; and, finally, that all possible measures are now taking for accomplishing the Arrangements as soon as the circumstances will admit, in a manner which it is hoped will be satisfactory to your Excellency — but still it is impossible to say, whether a considerable time must not elapse before the Money can possibly be collected — as neither gold or Silver, to the amount in question, can be exported from the Place where all has every assurance & reason to expect it would have been in readiness for us.

In the mean time, having heard of the Sickness of M^r Joseph Donaldson Junior, the present Agent at Algiers, I have thought it expedient for the mutual interests of our two Nations to delegate to M^r Joel Barlow all the Power of Agency which I am capable of committing to him, in order that he may (by the Permission of your Excellency) be enabled to perform all the Consular and other Public Acts necessary to be performed for the Service of the United States, in Algiers, until a Consul or Agent shall be duly appointed on the part of the said United States, or until the pleasure of Government shall be known.

I pray God to have your Excellency in his holy keeping; and to crown your life with length of days, felicity & glory.

L. S.

Written at the City of Lisbon
This 16th day of Feb^r 1796

DAVID HUMPHREYS.

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain Vol. 3, 1795-1797.]

To Secretary of State from Richard O'Brien, London, England

LONDON the 16th February 1796,

D^r SIR I have by several Conveyances taken the liberty of informing you that I arrived in this city the 10th ultimo, in the State Brig *Sophia* John Cranson master. I being employed in the Service of the U S by Colonel Humphrey^s in receiving in London, the funds, of the U S which was to be appropriated to the Algerine business.

I am sorrow to inform you that in London Gold or Silver Cannot be procured. I therefore return to Lisbon in the States Brig. with a credit from Sir Francis Baring, for the requisite Sum on Cadiz Our only hopes is that Co^l Humphrey^s by some means will be able to have permission granted by the Spanish Court for said sum to be Shipt, on board the States Brig —

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb.-Nov. 1796.]

To David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers, from Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers

N^o 2.

ALICANTE 26 Feb. 1796.

(Copy)

MY DEAR SIR In consequence of letters just rec^d from Algiers by M^r J. Montgomery & M^r Sloan (probably similar to what you will recieve by this conveyance) I have changed my determination relative

to waiting the arrival of the funds, and shall sail the first fair wind. It is now contrary, & I may be detained here on that account till another post shall come from Lisbon. which I should hope may bring farther advice from you, as we understand from M^r R. Montgomery's letter of the 16th that an English Packet had arrived, tho' the letters were not distributed when he closed his of that date.

The situation of our affair seems critical and alarming, and as I conceive it to be the interest as well as the intention of the U. S. to conclude the business at almost any rate, I shall not hesitate to make use of all the means in my power to keep the treaty in suspense till we are furnished with the funds to fulfill it. The necessity for this becomes more pressing, as it is probable that many American vessels are on their way to these seas in consequence of the news of the peace, which will fall into the hands of the Algerines the moment the negotiations are broken off.

It seems the reason why the Dey wishes to take advantage of our delay is on account of terms proposed or to be proposed by Portugal. Cannot you persuade that court to act in concert with us, or at least not to counteract us again in this troublesome business. If you perceive that the money is not to come on so that the business can be concluded, and especially if you find that peace is to be made with Portugal, I think you should spare no expence to warn the Americans of the Danger, so as to prevent captures as much as possible.

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 1, Part II, Feb.-Nov. 1796.]

To U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Madrid, Spain, from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers

LISBON Feb^y 29th 1796.

(Secret & confidential)

SIR. Although I have not the honour of a personal acquaintance with you, I find myself under the necessity of addressing you on a subject, in which the interests of the U. S., as well as the feelings of humanity, appear to me, to be nearly concerned. The object I have in view, is, to solicit most earnestly, that you will be pleased to combine your advice, influence & exertions with those of Mess^{rs} Patrick Joyes & Sons, in endeavouring to obtain from the Spanish Government permission to export four hundred thousand silver or hard Dollars — which are intended for the ransom of our Citizens in captivity at Algiers, and other objects immediately connected therewith. Not doubting of your cheerful compliance, & praying to be informed of the result as early as may be:

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain, Vol. 3, 1795-1797.]

To Thomas Pinckney, U. S. Minister to London, England, from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers

(Circular)

LISBON March 9th [1796]

DEAR SIR As it appears very doubtful, whether the pecuniary arrangements on the part of the United States of America, can possibly be completed at so early a period as to give satisfaction to the Dey & Regency of Algiers; and thereby prevent the renewal of hostilities; I have thought it expedient for the interest of the public Service, to address this letter to you, for the express purpose of requesting

that you will be pleased to give Notice to all Citizens of the United States concerned (and to whom it shall be in your power to give such Notice) that they may expose themselves to great danger by attempting to proceed up the Mediterranean, before they shall be duly notified on the part of the Government of the United States that there will be no impropriety or hazard of being captured in so doing.

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb.-Nov. 1796.]

To the Congress of the United States from President George Washington

COMMUNICATED TO CONGRESS, MARCH 15, 1796.

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:

By the ninth section of the act, entitled "An act to provide a naval armament," it is enacted "that, if a peace shall take place between the United States and the Regency of Algiers, that no further proceedings be had under this act."

The peace which is here contemplated having taken place, it is incumbent upon the Executive to suspend all orders respecting the building of the frigates, procuring materials for them, or preparing materials already obtained, which may be done without intrinching upon contracts or agreements made and entered into before this event.

But, inasmuch as the loss which the public would incur might be considerable from the dissipation of workmen, from certain works or operations being suddenly dropped or left unfinished, and from the derangement in the whole system, consequent upon an immediate suspension of all proceedings under it, I have, therefore, thought it advisable, before taking such a step, to submit the subject to the Senate and House of Representatives, that such measures may be adopted in the premises as may best comport with the public interest.

G. WASHINGTON.

UNITED STATES, *March 15th, 1796.*

COMMUNICATED TO THE SENATE, MARCH 17, 1796.

Mr. Bingham, from the committee to whom was referred the message of the President of the United States, of the 15th instant, made the following report:

That it is the opinion of the committee it will be expedient to authorize the President of the United States to cause to be completed, with all convenient expedition, two of the said frigates of forty-four, and one of thirty-six guns.

That a discretionary power be committed to the President of the United States to cause the others to be finished, having a due regard to the existing price of labor and materials.

That so much of the sum of six hundred and eighty-eight thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight dollars and thirty-two cents, as, by the act of June, 1794, was appropriated to pay the expenses to be incurred by the act to provide a naval armament, remaining unexpended, as well as so much of the sum of eighty thousand dollars, appropriated for a provisional equipment of galleys, by the before recited act, be appropriated for carrying into effect the provisions of the aforesaid resolution.

[Am. State Papers, Nav. Af., Vol. 1.]

To Secretary of State, Philadelphia, from Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers

Nº 1

duplicate;
original by Paris

ALGIERS 18th March 1796

SIR. * * * The Regency of Algiers, which contains from two to three Millions of Inhabitants, is Governed, & has been for near three centuries, by about 12,000 Turks, this number has never exceeded fifteen Thousand, & is generally above ten. These Turks are natives of some part of the Levant, and are enlisted and brought here as Soldiers. They are generally ignorant & ferocious adventurers, & many of them have been guilty of crimes for which they flee their Country. It is a common saying in the Levant that no honest man goes to Algiers. They all do duty and receive pay as Soldiers, their pay is very small at first, but it rises in proportion to the time they have been in service, & they are all eligible to any Office in the Government, They rarely Marry. The laws of the Regency discourage in several ways the Matrimony of the Turks. A Married Turk receives nothing but his pay, He that is not married, in addition to his pay, is lodged in the Barracks & fed — Besides, if he Marrys a Moorish Woman or a Native of the Country, his Children are not Turks, and consequently can hold no Office civil or Military, He cannot in general Marry a Turkish Woman, for when he leaves his country he is too poor to bring a Wife with him, and a Turkish single Woman rarely comes to Algiers to get a Husband. The Moors have no arms of any kind and they are not suffer'd to learn the use of them. It is a high crime for a Merchant to sell any Arm or Amunition to a Moor, and the excessive rigor of this Military Government has accustomed them to consider the Turks as a superior race of beings, not only as endowed with greater force arising from the use of Arms, but as the favourites of the prophet & the Lords of the Country. These are some, but not all the reasons, why a Country so extensive & fertile, so broken with Mountains & naturally defensible, and peopled by a strong, well made, active race of men, has been govern'd for so many ages by a Handfull of strangers. I mention these circumstances to show that the Algerine Turks are not Patriots, & that they cannot be so from the Constitution of the corps. For it is not to be expected that a Man can have any Affection for a Country where neither he nor his friends can have any Posterity, or if they leave any, they must be sunk among the Miserable Vassals of the Country, who are despised & plundered by thire proud rulers: & it is difficult to conceive with what contempt & injustice the Moors are treated by the Turks. This body then being held together by no other tie than that of self preservation, the proper object of each individual is to enrich himself by Plunder, the poor Soldiers by marauding among the Country People, & the Men in Office by committing Piracies upon all Nations who do not purchase their peace by paying large sums of Money to every Officer in the State for their Private use, and Annual tributes, which go into the Public Treasury. The Government was formally an Aristocracy, at least in theory. The Dey was supposed to be chosen by the whole body of the Turks, & every Soldier had an equal Vote. He was chief Magistrate and President of the Divan, which was a Council composed of 42 of the most ancient Officers in the Army & frequently assembled to deliberate upon Peace & War & other great matters of state. But the Government has now become a Simple Monarchy.

The Divan has not been assembled for some Years, & the Dey is subject to no other check than what arises from the Necessity he is under of distributing foreign presents, & sometimes his own Money, among the principal Officers, to secure himself from Assassination and to prevent Mutinies. * * * It is necessary to observe that, as the peace-presents which every nation makes, & generally to a great amount, go principally into the hands of the Dey and other great Officers, and as the annual tributes only are destined wholly to the public treasury, it is the intrest of these men to break friendship with every nation as often as possible. They are sure to be enriched by every Treaty, let the object of it be what it may. They use no other precaution in this kind Of. Policy than that of Allowing a Nation to enjoy a Peace long enough to feel the advantage of a free Navigation in these seas, so far as to be willing to come forward again with their peace Offering when the rupture happens, These breaches of peace are often made upon the most frivolous & unjust pretences that can be imagined, & generally speaking, every Nation has its turn, The only exceptions are France & England, whose great Naval strength Over Awes them in such a manner that their peace has been less interrupted. But even these powers, though they pretend not to pay tribute, expend a great deal of Money in Ocasional presents.

If peace with America should now take place, it will not probably last without

MAP OF THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

This historical map illustrates the Mediterranean region, showing the Mediterranean Sea, Adriatic Sea, Aegean Sea, and Black Sea. The map includes major landmasses like Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East, with numerous cities, islands, and geographical features labeled. The title "MAP OF THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION" is prominently displayed in the upper right. The map is framed by latitude and longitude lines.

Geographical Features and Labels:

- Seas and Oceans:** ATLANTIC OCEAN, MEDITERRANEAN SEA, ADRIATIC SEA, AEGEAN SEA, BLACK SEA, SEA OF MARMARA, STR. OF GIBRALTAR, STR. OF MESSINA, GULF OF SIDRA.
- Continents and Countries:** FRANCE, SPAIN, PORTUGAL, ITALY (including Papal States, Kingdom of Naples, Kingdom of Sicily), GREECE, TURKEY, ALGERIA, TUNIS, MOROCCO, SYRIA, EGYPT.
- Islands and Archipelagos:** CORSICA, SARDINIA, MAJORCA, MINORCA, BALEARIC IS., SICILY, MALTA, GOZO IS., CYPRUS, DODECANESIAN IS., IONIAN IS., Aegean Islands (including Lesbos, Chios, Andros, Rhodes, Crete).
- Major Cities and Towns:** LYONS, BORDEAUX, NICE, MARSEILLES, TULOUSE, GENOA, FLORENCE, ROME, NAPLES, TARANTO, PALERMO, SYRACUSE, CATANIA, TRIESTE, VIENNA, CONSTANTINOPLE, SMYRNA, ATHENS, CAIRO, ALEXANDRIA, BAGDAD, MOSCOW.
- Other Labels:** C. ST. SABASTIAN, C. ST. MARTIN, C. PALOS, C. DE GATT, C. TENEZ, C. FALCON, C. TRES FORCUS, C. SPARTAL, C. S. VINCENT, C. DA ROCA, OPORTO, LISBON, MADRID, SEVILLE, MALAGA, ALMERIA, CARTAGENA, DENIA, VALENCIA, BARCELONA, CAGLIARI, BONA, PORT FARINA, BIZERTA, C. BON, PANTELLARIA IS., C. PASSARO, C. COLONNA, C. ST. MARIA, CORFU, DURAZZO, RAGUSA, CATTARO, SPALATO, POLA, TRIESTE, FIUME, VENICE, ITALIAN REPUBLIC, DUCHY OF PARMA, LEGHORN, ELBA, CORSICA, SARDINIA, C. FERRO, C. TENEZ, C. FALCON, C. TRES FORCUS, C. SPARTAL, C. S. VINCENT, C. DA ROCA, OPORTO, LISBON, MADRID, SEVILLE, MALAGA, ALMERIA, CARTAGENA, DENIA, VALENCIA, BARCELONA, CAGLIARI, BONA, PORT FARINA, BIZERTA, C. BON, PANTELLARIA IS., C. PASSARO, C. COLONNA, C. ST. MARIA, CORFU, DURAZZO, RAGUSA, CATTARO, SPALATO, POLA, TRIESTE, FIUME, VENICE, ITALIAN REPUBLIC, DUCHY OF PARMA, LEGHORN, ELBA, CORSICA, SARDINIA, C. FERRO, C. TENEZ, C. FALCON, C. TRES FORCUS, C. SPARTAL, C. S. VINCENT, C. 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ATLANTIC

Interruption Seven Years. They are now going to War with Denmark, After that it is probable they will take Venice or Sweeden, or both, they will then try Holland again & perhaps Spain, and our turn will be the next.

But the difficulties in treating with this regency at present arise not only from the Constitutional character of the Government, but likewise in a great measure from the personal character of the Dey, who is a Man Of a most ungovernable temper, passionate, changeable & Unjust, to such a degree that there is no calculating his policy from one moment to another. During the reign of the last Dey, who died in 1791 this man held some of the first Offices in the State, and had made himself vastly rich, particularly by the Spanish peace, which was the richest treaty they had ever made. The Government of Spain did not choose to make known the expence of this Treaty, but I am told that it cost, to make it and Maintain it to this time, about 5 Millions of Dollars, of which this man received about One Million at the time of making it, besides a great proportion of the presents since; especially since he has been Dey, His influence was so great before he arrived at his dignity that nothing could be done without him. This peace which was the first that the Spaniards ever had with this Regency, was concluded in 1786 — By a proper distribution of money among the chiefs of the Turks, this Man procured his Nomination, or rather proclamation to the Deylick, the Moment his predecessor expired. He then caused to be arrested and Banished or put to death, the principal Officers of State, who had served under the old Dey. He created a new set of Favourites, men who are mere cyphers in his councill, not one of whom dares to offer an opinion contrary to his own. He has not only Violated the Constitution by not suffering the Divan to assemble during his reign, but his conduct in other respects has a strong tendency to Vilify the Turks in the eyes of the natives of the Country. His principal favourites at present are Jews. He likewise favours the Moorish Merchants, and treats the Turks with unusual severity. This sort of policy, if continued for a Number of Years cannot fail to break the charm on which the Turkish Authority is founded in this country, and over set the Government altogether. But we can hardly look for such an event, as this man is old and cannot last long. Besides we know the Turks are no strangers to the manner of getting rid of a master when his tyranny becomes insupportable, He is now going to War with the Danes * * * [Here follows a lengthy account of the reasons for said war, and depre-
dations upon British and Dutch subjects by the Dey of Algiers.]

* * * It is computed and believed that there is now in the Treasury about the Value of Thirty Millions of Algerine Sequins (54 Millions Spanish Dolls) Their Naval force has been somewhat augmented, I believe within a few years, but it is vastly inferior to what it has been at some former periods within this century. — The following are the lists for 1724 & 1796. I have seen no accurate accounts for any intervening period.

1724		1796	
1 Vessel of 52 Guns		1 Vessel	44 Guns
1 ----- 50		1 -----	32
3 ----- 44		2 -----	24
1 ----- 40		3 -----	20
2 ----- 38		1 -----	18
4 ----- 32		1 -----	14
2 ----- 26		2 -----	12
2 ----- 22			
2 ----- 16			
3 ----- 14			
1 ----- 12			
2 ----- 10			

They have in addition some gun boats at present, but I believe not more than usual, & they are of very little consequence.

It is not in my power at present to give you any accurate Account of the state of the Fortifications in and about the town. I will only say that they have been considerably augmented, since the two last attempts of the Spaniards to reduce the place. As it is probable that the United States May now conclude a peace with Algiers, I will finish this long letter by some reflections on the means of preserving it, I will begin by observing that our peace at present will place us on a footing very different in many respects from what it might have been, had we concluded it at the time when Mr Lamb was sent here, or even at any time before the captures in 1793 We were then considered as a Nation of very little consequence

in a tributary view in this place. It was thought that we could not afford to pay much, and that our Commerce would be so little in these seas that there would be little chance of making American Prizes, so that a trifle would have satisfied them at first. And as very few American Vessels would have had occasion to visit the ports on this part of the Barbary coast, the same opinion might have been continued for many years. In that case it would have been best not to have entertained a Consul here, but to have put our affairs under the protection of France, to whose Consul we might have paid One or two Thousand Dollars a Year which I believe would have covered all expences of maintaining a peace for some time. * * * It is well known that the Algerine policy is extremely capricious. There is one point only in which it is fixed, which is that the regency must be at War somewhere, and their little perpetual hostilities with Malta, Genoa, & such states as are constantly on their guard, will not satisfy them.

They must break out now and then with a Nation accustomed to peace consequently off their guard. when one of those Nations makes or renews a peace it increases the danger for the rest, for a new blow must be struck somewhere, & it is the duty of a Consul to be perpetually on the watch, * * *

* * * * *

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 1, Part II, Feb.-Nov. 1796.]

To David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers, from Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers

Copy

Nº 5

ALGIERS 3 April 1796

MY DEAR SIR * * * there is no doubt in my mind but that the Treaty will be ratified. I do not know how much information on Barbary affairs there may be lodged in the office of the Secretary of State, or in the minds of those who have to decide this question. But I think they cannot fail to have knowledge enough on the subject to enable them to draw the following conclusions: — That if this treaty is rejected there will still be 100 captives to redeem, which must be done, if done at all, at a much higher price, probably not less than 3000 dollars a head: — that the war breaking out anew at a moment when (under the idea that peace is concluded) many american ships will be in these seas, probably 100 more of our citizens will fall into their hands, to be redeemed at a like price, besides the loss of ships & cargoes: — that the Portuguese will soon be at peace if we are not, & leave these pirates masters of the western ocean: — that attempting to protect our navigation by our frigates, even if they were ready, would cost in one year near half as much as the proposed peace, and that those three items put together would amount to a sum that would pay for the peace, & maintain it, in all probability, for six years: — that as it would be extremely inconvenient on every account to be at war with a people of their character & so distant, we should find it necessary to sue again for a peace as soon as possible, and then the terms will be augmented at least 100 percent, besides the sacrifices above mentioned. For, as the English & Spaniards are known to be hostile to our interests in this quarter, & they both enjoy great influence here,— as the French, however friendly & well disposed towards us, are unable to yield us any assistance till they have established their own affairs at home & reestablished them here, — and as the Dey will be highly exasperated at the failure of the negotiations, which he will ascribe to bad faith & treachery on our part, it will be vastly difficult, if not impracticable, to renew them again during his reign.

* * * * *

The great officers of the regency are all engaged by their interest in our favor, & I doubt not but they have used their influence to keep

up the patience of the Dey. But their influence is very small. He is a man of the most capricious & ungovernable temper imaginable. If every thing that they & we can do will save the treaty, it will be saved, but I can scarcely say I have any hope.

* * * * *

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol I, Part II, Feb-Nov. 1796.]

To David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers, from Joel Barlow and Joseph Donaldson, Junior, U. S. Agents, Algiers

Nº 4
Copy

ALGIERS 3^d April 1796

SIR The Dey has this moment given us to understand that he has come to the following decision relative to our affair: — that in 8 days we shall be sent away from this place, that he will then allow thirty days & no more, before his cruisers shall have orders to bring in American ships, that if within that time the money should come to pay the sums stipulated by M^r Donaldson, he will recieve it, & conclude the peace, otherwise it is war; and as he shall consider the treaty as violated on our part he will be under no obligations to renew it. The port is now shut, and has been for three weeks, so that we hire a courier express to go to Tangier with a letter for our consul at Gibraltar, desiring him to give notice as far as possible to the Americans, & to forward this letter to you.

It is needless for us to add, for the purpose of convincing you, that we have done every thing in our power to ward off this fatal stroke that has been long impending over this affair, and that now seems inevitable. Indeed very little has been in our power to do, considering the ignorance in which we have been kept relative to the state of the funds, & to your intentions as to fulfilling the conditions of the treaty.

When we go from hence we shall endeavour, at least one of us, to get to Alicante. As we know not what may be in your power to do yet to save the business, it may be useful to give you that opportunity to address a letter to us under cover to our consul, which perhaps you had better address to either of us.

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb-Nov. 1796.]

To David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers, from Joel Barlow and Joseph Donaldson, Junior, U. S. Agents, Algiers

Copy
Nº 6

ALGIERS 5 April 1796

SIR After finishing our dispatches on the 3^d inst. to send by a courier to Tangier we found that the port was to be opened immediately. We therefore gave up that mode of conveyance for a more direct & speedy one by way of Alicante. We have now what we hope will be more agreeable news to announce to you. For two days past we have been witnesses to a scene of as complete and poignant distress as can be imagined, arising from the state of total despair in which our captives found themselves involved, and we without the power of administering the least comfort or hope. The threat which we men-

tioned in our last of sending us away had been reiterated with every mark of a fixed & final decision. And the Dey went so far as to declare that after the thirty days, if the money did not come, he never would be at peace with the Americans. Baccary the Jew, who has as much art in this sort of management as any man we ever knew, who has more influence with the Dey than all the regency put together, and who alone has been able to soothe his impatience on this subject for three months past, now seemed unable to make the least impression. And the Dey finally forbade him, under pain of his highest displeasure, to speak to him any more about the Americans. His cruisers are now out, and for some days past he has been occupied with his new war against the Danes. Three days ago the Danish prizes began to come in, and it was thought that this circumstance might put him in good humour, so that the Jew might find a chance to renew our subject in some shape or other. We instructed the Jew, that if he could engage him in conversation on his cruisers & prizes he might offer him a new American built ship of 20 guns, which should sail very fast, to be presented to his daughter, on condition that he would wait six months longer for our money. The Jew observed that we had better say a ship of 24 guns, to which we agreed. After seeing him three or four times yesterday under pretences of other business, without being able to touch upon this, he went this morning and succeeded. The novelty of the proposition gained the Dey's attention for a moment, & he consented to see us on the subject. But he told the Jew to tell us it must be a ship of 36 guns [*Crescent*], or he would not listen to the proposition. We were convinced that we ought not to hesitate a moment. We accordingly went and consented to his demand, & he has agreed to let every thing remain as it is for the term of three months from this day, but desired us to remember that not a single day beyond that will be allowed on any account. We consider the business now as settled on this footing. And it is the best ground we could possibly place it upon. You still have it in your power to say peace or no peace. You have an alternative, in the other case you had none, but war was inevitable, and there could have been no hope of peace during the reign of this Dey.

The guns are to be eight pounders (english nines) 24 on the main deck, 8 on the quarter & four on the fore-castle. the 12 last may be smaller. She ought to be built long in proportion & formed for sailing fast, a circumstance particularly pleasing here. We think such a vessel fitted for sea may be delivered in America for 45,000 dollars. Then, as by the terms of the treaty we have to deliver a quantity of long spars & other timber, this vessel will be a proper one to transport a cargo of them to this place. And in this view a saving may be made of about 10,000 dollars in freight.

In order to save the treaty thus far, which has been a subject of infinite anxiety and vexation, we found it necessary some time ago to make an offer to the Jew of 10,000 sequines (18,000 dollars) to be paid eventually if he succeeded, & to be distributed by him at his discretion among such great officers of State as he thought necessary, and to keep as much for himself as he could keep consistent with success. The whole of this new arrangement will cost the U. S. about 53,000 dollars. We expect to incur blame, because it is impossible to give you a complete view of the circumstances, but we are perfectly confident of having acted right.

With regard to the transfer of the funds to this place we believe it can be done with the least difficulty thro' Leghorn, that is to draw from that place on London, Madrid or Lisbon, as shall be most advantageous, perhaps on all. Unless you can ship a part in specie from Lisbon, which we believe would be the preferable mode for such a sum as you can ship.

M^r Donaldson sails tomorrow for Leghorn, there to wait your orders on this head. There is no time to be lost. You will please to instruct him as soon as possible, and let our measures from this time forward be effectual.

We are obliged to incur a considerable expence to get this letter to Alicante. We hope it will reach you soon.

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb-Nov. 1796.]

[10 April 1796]

Specification of U. S. Consular Present made to the Dey and other Officers of the Regency of Algiers

[A list of many pages indicates the Consular Presents given to the Dey and his relations and officers. They were principally: diamond rings and other jewelry, brocade robes of State, linen, damask, carpets, jeweled snuff boxes, and cloth. These amounted to a total of 12213 2/3 Sequins of Algiers, and 29560 Livre of France or]

12213 2/3 Seq. are equal to.....	Dol..	21984. 60
29560 Liv. — at 5.6. are equal to.....		5577. 36
Dolars.....		27561. 96

The Articles charged in livres are taken from those I brought from Paris. Those charged in Sequins were purchased in Algiers —

It will be noticed that this present has cost about 11,000 Dollars more than an ordinary tribute of the kind. To show the reason of this it is necessary to accompany these details with a few words of explanation. Such cloth as is bought in England for about 18 Shillings a yard is bought here for 3 Sequins a pique, which is about 25 shillings for 25 inches, or 36 shillings a yard. Consuls established here usually order their cloths from England or France, in which case (allowing for all charges) a saving is made of at least 40 per cent. The same may be observed of the other articles that compose this tribute. Watches and Jewelry are generally ordered from Geneva, from persons accustomed to furnish for Barbary, — Brocades & damasks from Lyons, Linnen from Holland, &c.

I have mentioned in another place that no saving was made in the articles I brought from Paris, even those that have been employed. They were ill chosen for the purpose. It was necessary to give a richer object to produce the same effect as might have been produced by the value of that object laid out with the Jews of Algiers.

But these observations are not sufficient to account for the extraordinary expence of the present. It was an extraordinary occasion. It was the first after a new peace, and on that account was expected to be very rich. Besides, the Dey was extremely irritated at the delay of the funds, and while I was preparing the Articles he sent me word that unless it was nearly double the value of an ordinary consular present it should not be recieved.

Since the present war in Europe, which has deranged every thing, an ordinary consular present has cost from 16 to 17 thousand dollars.

In times of peace, with good economy, it may be made for 13 or 14 thousand: that is, provided these people do not rise again in their demands as to the number & value of the articles, as they have done in the proportion of near one half since the Spanish peace.

ALGIERS 1 Nov^r 1796

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb-Nov. 1796.]

To Secretary of State from Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers

N^o 3

ALGIERS 17 April 1796

SIR I take the liberty of inclosing herewith the copies of my dispatches forwarded a few days ago to the care of M^r Monroe. Nothing material has happened in our affair since the date of my last, except that I have been forced to yield to the impatience of the Dey so far as to make the consular present. I was led to this necessity from what past when I first arrived. I thought it highly expedient at that time to have something new to offer which might prove a farther guarantee of our sincerity in the business of the peace, at the same time avoiding if possible any additional expence to the United States. I therefore sent him word that I was ready to make the consular present although I was not consul, and it should be considered as being made for the consul that should be named, as there had not yet been time for any nomination to arrive from America. I knew that an anticipation in this article would not affect the returning period of this biennial tribute, for it must always be dated from the date of the treaty. He was then in too great a rage to listen to any thing, and continued so till the 5th of April, as I have stated in my former letter.

During this interval I recieved from M^r Humphreys a new Commission as a sort of temporary consular agent. In my great anxiety lest the affair should be lost I was glad to seize hold of any thing which might give us a chance of placing it on more solid ground, and I sent him word that I was now Consul, and asked whether he would recieve the present. This he refused, and returned a menacing and insulting answer; and as the messenger was stooping to kiss his hand he struck him in the face. The messenger at the same time delivered him a letter from M^r Humphreys in answer to one he had written to Lisbon. He took it in his hand & threw it out the door with great fury, uttering many execrations and threats. It was picked up & brought back to us, where it still remains unopened.

Thus the matter rested as to the consular present, and as I was told he had a bad memory I was in hopes he had forgot what had been said on that subject. But soon after M^r Donaldson's departure he sent me a very friendly message, though in some points rather humiliating. He said he had never treated any nation with so much lenity and forbearance as he had the Americans, and he meant always to do so as long as they should deserve it by their good conduct. He believed them a good people, though they had many enemies, but he would be their friend, and he was now ready to recieve the consular present. He thought it best to make it now, although the peace was not concluded, as it would tend to stop the mouths of a great many officers among whom it was to be distributed, and who were constantly teasing him to put an end to this business one way or the other. This last assertion I am confident is not true. Those officers who have any influence with him I believe have used it in our favor.

In this situation I could not refuse the present, and I thought it imprudent, considering the extreme irritability of his mind, to attempt a farther explanation with respect to the consul that might arrive; especially as I considered that it might be easily arranged so as to avoid the risk of being obliged to renew the present before the end of the two years.

Among the few ideas that are familiar to his mind (and it is impossible to force a new one into it) are those of Consul, vice Consul & Secretary. Without disturbing the mechanism of his brain he can conceive that the consul may be absent for any length of time, and the business be carried on by his deputy or secretary. And he pays the same respect to them as to the principal. This is often done. The Dutch Consul has now been absent near a year, under the idea that he is to return, and his secretary does the business. Therefore, to save expence, there will be no inconvenience in his considering me as consul, though absent, during the remainder of this term. When I go from hence I can take leave as though I were to return, telling him that I expect a vice consul here as soon as he can be appointed and arrive, and pray him to receive him as myself till my return. Our country being so distant will be a motive for his agreeing to a long absence. He cannot expect me to settle my affairs in America & return here for a fixed residence under a year. And before he would grow uneasy the term of two years from the date of the treaty will expire. It has now but little more than sixteen months to run.

For this purpose it will be necessary that the person arriving as consul should announce himself as my deputy or secretary, and assume no other character till near the close of the above term. If the President and the person appointed should consent to this arrangement there will be no need that I should have any appointment or commission. Indeed, so far as respects the Dey, commission & exequatur I believe are out of the question. I think he never asks for or delivers any papers in such cases. Common report that a man is one thing or the other is enough for him. A consul's commission here is his seal, and his exequatur is a Turk that the Dey gives him, under the name of Drogoman, who attends him on all occasions as his protector, friend, interpreter & messenger.

It is perhaps needless to add that an arrangement like this cannot affect the interest of the person appointed or of the United States, as it cannot be supposed that I have any idea of receiving any part of the emoluments of the place, whatever they may be. I am sorry the affair has got into this train, but it was really out of my power at any one time to prevent it, without neglecting what I thought to be my duty in trying to rescue the whole from ruin.

To avoid any difficulty in case a commission should be asked for (which is not commonly done) it would be well that the person appointed should have a commission as secretary or vice consul, to show in case of need. If he should have been appointed and set out before this letter reaches you, & if he comes by way of Lisbon, he may receive such a commission from M^r Humphreys, to whom I will send a copy of this letter.

Thirteen Danish vessels are already sent in by the cruisers. I ought to have mentioned to you before, to show the temper of this government, that before the cruisers went out, the consul offered to deliver here the 320 Turks without delay, the identical ones that were taken, as far as they could be had, and others to make up the deficiency,

and to deposit ninety thousand dollars in the Treasury as a security for the performance. But the Dey would not consent to any accommodation that would not give activity to his cruisers.

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb.-Nov. 1796.]

[20 April 1796]

To Secretary of State from Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers

Nº 5

Submitted to the Secretary of State.

Estimate of advantages and expences of maintaining a peace with Barbary. — For the United States.

	Dollars
Money to be recieved for freights in and for the Mediterranean per annum 1200,000 Dollars, of which one half clear profit.....	600, 000
Augmentation of our commerce arising from the circumstance of our being our own carriers, per an. 3,000,000 dol. on which 15 per cent. profit.....	450, 000
<p>After peace is concluded with Algiers, Tunis & Tripoli, the expence of making which I do not bring into this account because it is not yet known, it will cost to maintain it, per annum,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">for ALGIERS</p>	
In timber & different stores 12,000 Sequins.....	Dollars 21, 600
The prices at which these stores are estimated here, when delivered as a tribute, is low, — not much higher than they bear in America. We must therefore add nearly the value of the freight — Say.....	5 400
Consular present made every two years, about 16000 dollars, of which per an.....	8 000
Consul's salary and other contingent charges.....	5 000
carried forward.....	40, 000
carried forward.....	1050, 000
for TUNIS	
<p>It is hoped that no annual tribute will be necessary. It will be best to avoid it if possible by paying a larger sum at first, though the contrary policy is best at Algiers. But suppose</p>	
Annual tribute and all charges thereon.....	12, 000
Consul's salary & other contingent charges.....	4 000
for TRIPOLI.	
<p>Perhaps it would be best to commit our affairs here to the care of the French consul, who would conduct them for a trifling gratification. Suppose</p>	
Consul's salary and all expences for maintaining the peace.....	4 000
	60, 000
Clear advantage.....	990, 000

N. B. Morocco is not brought into this calculation because we must be at peace there if we would use the Atlantic, whether we use the Mediterranean or not.

There is another way in which by a fair estimation we might balance the above account of expence for a peace with Barbary. The Algerine cruisers will sometimes go out of the Straits, tho' they are not at peace with Portugal, And American ships will sometimes venture in though we are not at peace here. One ship a year taken by them would amount to a sum equal to maintaining a peace. And they have taken in this way enough to average one ship a year since the American war. Suppose the ship to have ten persons on board to be redeemed,

	Dollars
Captain.....	4000
Mate.....	3000
8 men.....	16000
	23000
15½ per cent Customary duties.....	3505
value of the ship.....	8000
cargo.....	24000
expences of negotiating the redemption.....	1435
	60,000

Another way in which I presume the account is balanced every year that we are at war with Algiers is the advanced price of insurance that the American Commerce pays. Besides, this brings foreign bottoms into competition with ours in our own commerce, and has an effect to stint the growth of our navigation even in the Atlantic.

But an event to be anticipated with certainty, is that the Portuguese will soon be at peace here if we are not. And then we may almost take leave of the Atlantic. These cruisers will go to the Bay of Biscay & to the English Channel, and the price of insurance on our navigation will be so enhanced for all that part of Europe, that the Americans must sell their ships. I believe the English government, if we were at war here, would pay for the Portuguese peace rather than it should not be had. And I am not certain but that they could afford to do it. The effect it would have to lessen our navigation and increase their own would be such as to indemnify them in a few years. I suppose this peace might be had for a million & a half of dollars, and I suppose that the higher price of freight and additional number that would come into their bottoms on this account would make a profit to them of half a million a year. Perhaps the fear that the French should participate in these advantages may prevent the English from doing it, but nothing will prevent the Portuguese.

* * * * *

Louis XIV said if there was no Algiers he would build one; as it would be the cheapest way of depriving the Italian States of their natural right of navigating their own seas; a policy doubtless unworthy of us, and only fit for a king. But as long as the Powers of Europe will persist in this policy, whether we will or not, we must either be its victims or partake of its advantages. There is no doubt but we ought to prefer the latter, — to maintain our peace as cheap as we can, but by all means to be at peace, — and be ready to renounce our portion of this unnatural exclusive privilege the moment the right can

be restored to all, & shared by those who are now injured by the exclusion.

ALGIERS 20 April 1796

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb-Nov. 1796.]

[20 April 1796]

Act pertaining to the Navy

UNITED STATES STATUTES AT LARGE. FOURTH CONGRESS. SESS. I.
An Act supplementary to an act entitled "An act to provide a Naval Armament."

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the President of the United States be authorized to continue the construction and equipment (with all convenient expedition) of two frigates of forty-four [*United States and Constitution*], and one frigate of thirty-six guns [*Constellation*], any thing in the act, entitled "An act to provide a naval armament," to the contrary notwithstanding.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That so much of the sum of six hundred and eighty-eight thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight dollars and eighty-two cents, which, by the act of June the ninth, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four, was appropriated (to defray the expenses to be incurred pursuant to the act to provide a naval armament) as remains unexpended, as well as the sum of eighty thousand dollars which was appropriated for a provisional equipment of galleys, by the before recited act, be appropriated for the said purposes.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized, to cause to be sold, such part of the perishable materials as may not be wanted for completing the three frigates, and to cause the surplus of the other materials to be safely kept for the future use of the United States.

APPROVED, April 20, 1796.

[Statutes, Vol. I, p. 453-454.]

To John Blagge, Navy Agent, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of War
[PHILADELPHIA]

War Office April 20th 1796

SIR A Bill having passed both Houses of Congress to build and equip only three of the Frigates ordered by a former law: And it is probable the Frigate building at New York [*President*] may be one of those that will be laid aside, you are hereby directed to cause every operation to be immediately suspended untill you receive further instructions from this Office — — Should any Vessel at this time be at New York laden with live oak, or deck plank from Georgia, the property of the public; or should any arrive before other orders are received, you are directed to send such Vessels with their Cargoes to Philadelphia without delay — —

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790-1798.]

To Jacob Sheaffe, Navy Agent, Portsmouth, N. H., from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War Office April 22nd 1796 —

SIR A Bill having passed both Houses of Congress to build and equip only three of the Frigates ordered by a former law: And as it is probable the Frigate building at Portsmouth [Congress] may be one of those that will be laid aside: you are hereby directed to cause every operation to be immediately suspended untill you receive further orders from this Office — —

Should any Vessel at this time be at Portsmouth, laden with live Oak from Georgia, the property of the Public, or should any arrive before other orders are received, you are directed to send such Vessels with their Cargoes to Boston without delay — —

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790–1798.]

To George Claghorne, Naval Constructor, Boston, Mass., from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War Office April 23rd, 1796 —

SIR The Congress having determined to build only three of the Frigates, ordered by a former law: and as the Frigate at Boston is to be one of those that are immediately to be built and equipped: It is therefore expected you will exert yourself to get that Ship compleated with all convenient speed: and for that purpose you are directed to make use of the timber received by the Schooner *Rachel* which arrived at Boston last December — —

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790–1798.]

To William Pennock, Navy Agent, Norfolk, Va., from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War Office April 25th 1796 —

SIR The Congress having passed a Bill to build and equip only three of the Frigates ordered by a former law: and it being determined by the President to lay aside the Frigate building at Norfolk — — You will therefore make no more purchases on account of that Frigate — — You are also requested to desire M^r William Herbert to make out a full and particular return of all Articles received by him for the public use (since M^r Shores discharge) and transmit the same to this office with the utmost dispatch, that measures may be speedily taken to dispose of what may be deemed perishable, agreeable to the Act of Congress — — —

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790–1798.]

To Secretary of State from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers

(N^o 39.)

LISBON April 26th 1796

SIR, I had yesterday the honour of addressing a letter to you by Capt^o O'Brien, stating the extremely perilous situation of our affairs with respect to Algiers, and desiring to learn by your answer, as expeditiously as possible, the explicit determination of our Government, on the stipulation made by Mess^{rs} Barlow & Donaldson, for presenting a frigate of 36 Guns to the Dey of Algiers. — Having now an opportunity of forwarding a Duplicate, I would not lose that of

offering one additional remark, on the expediency, policy & necessity of our hastening the equipment of a naval force, arising from the actual state of our affairs in the Empire of Morocco. — The remark is, that, in my opinion, we ought always to have a small naval force in readiness for Sea, to prevent the evils which might otherwise result from any sudden Revolution, and particularly of naval circumstances, in the Empire of Morocco — even if we were to pay no regard to the other Barbary States.

That Empire continues still divided, & it is impossible to decide in what manner that division may result, & whether each of the contending Parties may not ultimately remain in possession of some of the Sea-Ports. In which case, both parties may have their Cruizers at Sea. Muley Solimon at present retains the Provinces of the North, & all the Harbours capable of containing armed vessels. Muley Ishem possesses the Territory in the South, with some Ports which receive merchant vessels; & at which, at present, a most flourishing & lucrative trade is carried on. — Muley Soliman, is reported, to be preparing another expedition against the City of Morocco. But it is very doubtful whether he will succeed. — as Muley Ishem (that of a feeble & unenterprising Character) being strengthened by the Provinces under Ben Assar & other powerful Bashaws, is thought to have a land force much superior to that of Muley Soliman. On the other hand, the Generals attached to the Party of Muley Ishem, are reported, to be meditating on Attack upon Magador. Should this succeed, Cruizers will doubtless be fitted out from thence to the annoyance of our vessels bound to Ports in allegiance to Muley Solimon. — As his Cruizers now make Prizes of all vessels they meet, destined to or from Saffi, or other Ports in possession of his Brother, Muley Ishem. Portuguese, Danish & Swedish vessels have been thus captured. But fortunately for us, none belonging to the United States — notwithstanding reports that some had been captured a few days ago, and notwithstanding our Citizens (lured by the prospect of uncommon gain) will persist in going to Saffi, in despite of every thing that can be said or done to deter them from it.

An Ambassador from Muley Ishem, lately arrived here in an American vessel from Saffi — His object was to obtain from this Court the protection of their fleet at Gibraltar for vessels bound to the Territory of Muley Ishem, to bring wheat from thence to Portugal. At this moment, this Trade is an object of vast magnitude to the several European Nations, which have not a supply of wheat in their own Countries. The quantity of wheat exported (principally from that part of Morocco which is in the power of Muley Ishem) to Spain, Portugal & England, within a year past, is incredible. But for this resource, Portugal (in which wheat is now plentier & cheaper, than in perhaps any other Country of Europe) would have experienced a famine — as it has been deprived, in a great measure, of its former supplies from the upper part of the Mediterranean, from America & from the North of Europe. The beforementioned Ambassador has proceeded from hence to Madrid, to solicit the naval protection of that Government also for that Trade.

I mention these circumstances to shew, by some sudden reverse of affairs in Morocco, how much we may be exposed to have all our

Commerce to the South of Europe ruined at any Moment, unless we shall have some small naval force in readiness to prevent it.

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain, Vol. 3, 1795-1797.]

[2 May 1796]

List of stores for Dey of Algiers

The following is a list of the Stores commissioned for by the Dey for the annual Present of the United States of America delivered to Joel Barlow Consular Agent of said States at Algiers May the 2nd 1796, and forwarded by James Lea^r Cathcart. —

Nails

100	Algerine Quintals of Nails in length	13½	Inches
100	D° — D° — D°	12.	D°
100	D° — D° — D°	10.	D°
100	D° — D° — D°	9.	D°
100	D° — D° — D°	7½	D°
100	D° — D° — D°	6.	D°
100	D° — D° — D°	5.	D°

700. Algerine Quintals of Nails

Bomb Shells

500	Bomb Shells	5½ ₁₀	Inches Caliber	16
500	D°	5½ ₁₀	D°	24
500	D°	6½	D°	34
500	D°	6½ ₁₀	D°	42

2000 Bomb Shells

Cables

4	Cables of 18 Inches	120	fathom long
6	D° " 15. D°		D°
6.	D° " 14. D°		D°
6.	D° " 13. D°		D°
6.	D° " 12. D°		D°
6	D° " 11. D°		D°

34 Cables

Rope

4	Coils of 10 Inch Rope
4	D° of 9 D°
4	D° of 8 D°

12 Coils of Rope

Oars

1, 000	Oars for large Cruisers or Frigates
500	D° smaller

1, 500 Oars.

Gunpowder

1, 000 Algerine Quintals of Gunpowder

Planks.

1, 000	Pine planks from 22 to 24 picks long. and 6 inches thick
1, 000	Oak Planks D° — D° — D°
3, 000	Pine boards of common length and 3 Inches thick
2, 000	Pipe Staves

Canvas.

100	Bales of Canvas
50	Quintal of Sheet lead
100	dozen long tar brushes
100	Quintals of white rope yarns

NB. — I really think that for 2000 pipe staves was meant 20,000. The overplus of the value of these stores above the annual present are to be counted from one year to another or paid for in Cash as p^t Treaty. —

JAS. LEA^r CATHCART

NB. One pick is 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches — so that 22 picks make near 46 English feet in length.

[SDA. Dip. Cor., Inst. to Min., Bk 5, 1798–1800.]

To Secretary of State from Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent,* Algiers

N^o 6

ALGIERS 4 May 1796

SIR The Dey, who is the most restless and impatient man in the world, has ordered M^r Cathcart to go to Philadelphia, to give such information as may be useful to our Government in expediting the collection & transportation of those articles which were promised as a part of the peace present. M^r Cathcart is one of our captives, and has been employed as head Christian clerk to the regency. I told him I could not think of subjecting the United States to any part of the expence of this journey; and he, to obtain his liberty sooner than he otherwise would, undertakes it at his own expence. I believe however that the experience he has had in this place will enable him to render you great service, from the variety of details he will be able to give you in a business so new; as likewise (if you should think proper to employ him) in collecting & transporting the articles required.

* * * * *

The Dey has often expressed a desire that the American Government would be particularly punctual in bringing forward this tribute, and in fulfilling all its engagements here. And so far as the reason he gives for it is founded in truth I give him credit for his sensibility on the subject. He says that, as the peace was made in opposition to so many enemies, and (in regard to its terms) against the opinion of his officers, he considers it as a favorite child of his own, and as such he means to cherish it as long as he lives. But to assist him in supporting it against the attacks that may await it hereafter from those quarters, he shall have need of this argument, that the Americans are more punctual and honest than other nations. His proposing to send a person to America on this errand is a sort of proof of his sincerity. But whether the reason he gives is altogether founded in truth or not, I am confident the desire he expresses is perfectly conformable to our policy. You will find it very difficult to maintain peace here at any rate; but without a prompt and scrupulous compliance with engagements, it is impossible. * * *

The Dey has handed me a note of the articles he expects for the annual tribute. And as his expectations are law in this case, I enclose it to you with such remarks as occurred to me at the time. To hurry this part of our business is one of his objects in M^r Cathcart's mission. Indeed it is time that this operation was begun, as the first year will be nearly elapsed by the time he will arrive. I am sorry it is not in my power to give you a just idea of the value that will be set on these articles when delivered. After taking much pains I am able to fix an estimate to a few articles only, and this not to be strictly relied on. It is enclosed. I think the price will be rather above than below what is there stated. * * * The French

consul is about to be changed. The one who is to come will certainly be instructed, & probably disposed, to render us every service in his power. But that nation does not deal in this kind of tribute.

* * * * *

I am told that M^r Cathcart has hopes of obtaining the consulate to this place. He has neither the talents nor the dignity of character necessary for the purpose; though I sincerely wish that he might be employed in the business of the peace present & tribute, in which I think his intelligence & industry would enable him to render essential service.

[*The headings throughout this volume identify Joel Barlow as a U. S. Agent, even though he acted in a consular capacity. His status is fully explained in letters dated 16 February and 17 April, 1796.]

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb-Nov. 1796.]

[5 May 1796]

To President George Washington from the Dey of Algiers

VIZIR HASSAN BASHAW DEY OF THE CITY AND REGENCY OF ALGIER
UNTO GEORGE WASHINGTON PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

HEALTH PEACE AND PROSPERITY

Whereas Peace and Harmony has been settled between our two Nations, through the Medium of the two Agents of the United States Joseph Donaldson, and Joel Barlow, and as eight Months has elaps'd without one article of their agreement being complied with we have thought it expedient to dispatch James Lea[n]der Cathcart formerly our Christian Secretary with a note of such articles as is required in this Regency, likewise with a form of a Mediterranean Passport in order that you may furnish your Consul here with such as fast as possible. for further intelligence I refer you to your Consul resident here and to the said James Lea[n]der Cathcart, and I pray whatever they may inform you of to forward our Negotiations may be fully credited and that said Cathcart may be dispatched with such part of the Articles specefied in our Negotiation as are ready with all possible expedition for which purpose we have granted said Cathcart a Mediterranean Passport for one Year commencing the Date thereof from the first of May in the Year of Your Lord one thousand seven Hundred and ninety six

Done in the Deys Pallace by our Order and Seal'd with
the great Seal of this Regency the 26th day of the Luna
LS of Carib in the Year of the Hegira 1210 which corre- LS
sponds with the 5th of May 1796

VIZIR HASSAN BASHAW *Dey of the City & Regency of Alger*

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb-Nov. 1796.]

[8 May 1796]

To James Leander Cathcart, Algiers, from Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers

SIR As the Dey has given you liberty to leave this place with your vessel, that you may go, (at least yourself in person) to Philadelphia, to give such details of facts as may be useful to our Government in expediting the collection and transportation of the peace presents &

annual tribute, I understand that, in consideration of obtaining your liberty & putting your vessel in activity sooner than you otherwise could do, you undertake to make the best of your way to Philadelphia at your own expence. And I desire that you would proceed by way of Lisbon, deliver a packet that I send by you to our minister there, & recieve his farther instructions for America.

I understand likewise that you will touch at Alicante, and I desire you to deliver a packet that I send by you to our consul there. And in case you proceed through Spain by land he will procure you the necessary passport &c —

On arriving at Philadelphia, I rely on your intelligence & zeal in giving to the proper officers of Government an ample statement of facts relative to our interests in this place; and to show, from your knowledge of the character of this government the expediency of as prompt a compliance with our engagements here as the nature of the case will admit.

ALGIERS

8 May 1796 —

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb-Nov. 1796.]

To Captain Thomas Truxtun, U. S. Navy, Baltimore, Md., from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

W. O. May 10th 1796 —

SIR — Several of the Cannon destined for the Frigates, cast at Cecil Furnace having been proved, and M^r Hughes wish^d to have them examined and received by the United States: it may be proper that you should see them and examine whether they are suitable or fit for service — — —

I have to request therefore that you will as soon as possible visit Cecil Furnace, where you will find M^r DaCosta and in conjunction with him examine and pass receipts to M^r Hughes for such Cannon as have stood proof, and are suitable for service — — — The Contract (which no doubt M^r Hughes will show you) stipulates for the delivery of suitable Cannon, of certain descriptions: that is as I construe it, such as are efficient, and in every respect fit for service — —

I inclose you, my instructions to M^r DaCosta for your information — —

While on the spot you may take measures to have the Cannon which may pass examination transported to Baltimore, which will enable you to give directions for the Constructing of their carriages —

I am &c —

[Similar letter sent to Captain John Barry on 16 May 1796.]

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790-1798.]

[About 8 June 1796]

Estimate of cost of building frigate for the Dey of Algiers, by Naval Constructor Joshua Humphreys, U. S. Navy

A Ship of War, to mount 24 nine pounders
and 12 six pounders

36 guns

completely built & rigged, fit for sea, the materials of the hull, live-oak and cedar, will cost.....	Dollars	64,000.
36 guns, nines & sixes, estimated at.....		3,000.
gun-carriages.....		,450.
100 barrels of powder.....		2,000
15 tons of cannon ball.....		,700
rammers, sponges &c.....		,200
	Dollars	70,350
Provisions — for men enough to navigate her only — say 30, for 4 months.....		1000.
Wages 30 men, 4 months } officers included — }		4000.
		5,000

NOTE — The estimate of the cost of the hull rigging &c. complete for sailing, is given by Mr Humphreys, the Ship-Builder. He says the difference between white oak & live oak & cedar, will be but about 2000 dollars — and the white oak, if the ship be well built, may be rotten in 3 years.

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb.-Nov. 1796.]

[14 June 1796]

To Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers from Edward Rand, owner of the Schooner
Eliza

Copy

TUNIS 23^d June 1796

It is very disagreeable to me to be under the necessity of acquainting you with my unhappy situation. I sailed from Cette in the Schooner *Eliza*, Capt. Sam^l Graves, belonging to me. Two days after leaving that place, which was the 14th Instant, I was captured by a Tunisian Row Galley and brought into this place. By the advice of M^r Famin I have presumed to write you craving your assistance. Unfortunately I was taken one day previous to the negotiation you had authorised him to make in behalf of the United States. The Bey considers my vessel as a prize & all the people as slaves. But by the interference of M^r Famin we are all exempted from any laborious work, untill advice is rec^d from you.

I need not pretend to describe to you my situation, as I think you can form an idea of it by what the prisoners have suffered in Algiers. M^r Famin this day informed me that the Bey has agreed to release my vessel & liberate the people, provided the govern^t will consent to pay an additional sum of Ten thousand dollars, and will wait untill an answer is rec^d from you. M^r Famin has written to you by express, by which conveyance you will receive this. Knowing you have full power vested in you to make a treaty with the Bey of Tunis, I can't but think you will feel for me in my present situation, and use your utmost endeavours to alleviate my sufferings. And it is but a small sum for the government to pay for the redemption of so many men as were on board the vessel. I have now lost all I possessed, and without your consent to this sum being paid we shall undergo the greatest hardships.

I sailed from Gibraltar last January. I was there informed that peace was made with all the Mahometan powers. I arrived at Barcelona and disposed of my cargo. I took my cash and proceeded for Cette. A violent gale of wind obliged me to put into Agde where I was detained a few days. A number of men entered my vessel in the night & robbed me of all my money amounting to 8 thousand

dollars. I tarried at Cette near three months expecting to have rec^d some indemnity from the French Gov^t — but M^r Monroe at length informed me that it was not possible for the government to pay for any depredations of that nature. With what money I rec^d there I purchased 19 pipes of Brandy, & sailed the 12th inst — for Malaga.

Thus I have given you a detail of my misfortunes. I hope you will take this into consideration & extricate me from this great difficulty.

[See document dated 9 December 1797.]

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. II, Jan.—Dec. 1797.]

[15 June 1796]

Truce with Tunis, for six months, concluded by Joseph Etienne Famin, for Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers

[Translation]

The motive of the writing of this document is as follows: On the 11th of the month of Zu'lhijjah of this year 1210, answering to the 15th of June [June 17, 1796, according to the chronological tables] according to the Greek calendar. The glory of the princes of the Christian nation, the selected chief among the community of Jesus, Washington, the present ruler of America—may his days end with blessings—being desirous and wishing to negotiate a treaty of peace in order to lay the foundations of friendship and to strengthen the sincere amity with the frontier post of the Holy War, the victorious garrison of Tunis the well-preserved, just as our friends the other christian governments have done the same with our victorious garrison, has confided the negociations of the said treaty to his consul Barlow, residing in Algiers, and the said consul again has confided the negociations of the treaty to the French merchant Joseph Famin, residing in Tunis the well-preserved. The said merchant has appeared in my presence and has stated and declared in general his wish and desire for a treaty between the American ruler and the Government of Tunis the well-preserved. After it has been immediately communicated and confirmed to the said merchant on what terms a treaty could be agreed to, the said merchant has communicated the stipulations of the treaty to the said consul, and the said consul has communicated it to his government. Now until the answer comes and within a limit of six months after the date of this document, security has been given. Therefore if during the said period war vessels of our well preserved garrison place meet at sea with ships of the said Americans they shall not hinder them or molest them in any way, but they shall be treated as friends, and immediately order has been given to our officers to let them go their way. If American ships meet with ships belonging to our well-preserved garrison place, it has been agreed between the two Governments, that they shall treat each other in a friendly way. This convention has been written and sealed and given into the hands of the said merchant, so that he may send it to its proper place. Until the arrival of the answer this convention shall be observed between the two governments; according to it both parties shall act and it shall be opposed in no way.

Salutations.

Written on the 11th of Zu'lhijjah and the 15th June of the year 1210.

TUGHRA (name sign) OF HAMUDA,
commander (mir miran) of the
frontier post of the Holy War,
Tunis the well preserved.

[Mention is made in American State Papers, Foreign Relations, I, 554, that on 15 June 1796, a truce for six months with Tunis was concluded by Joseph Etienne Famin.

The foregoing translation of the document from the Turkish is by Dr. J. H. Kramers of Leiden, and was sent to Hunter Miller, Office of the Historical Adviser, Department of State, 30 January 1931, by Dr. C. Snouck Hurgronje.]

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. II, Jan-Dec. 1797.]

To David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers from Secretary of State

[PHILADELPHIA]

Department of State June 17. 1796.

SIR I expect Captain O'Brien will sail tomorrow for Lisbon. He is appointed to the command of the Brig^e *Sophia* belonging to the United States. He will take with him more provisions than will be wanted for the Brig's crew: the surplus will serve towards a supply to our captive citizens, if fortunately their redemption be effected. The Brig^e is deemed incompetent to bring the whole number to America: but she may perhaps suffice to cross the Mediterranean, to some port or ports in Spain where they may find American vessels in which they may take their passages home; and the Brig^e may bring the remainder.

In return for the sword and sash which the Dey presented to you, the Articles mentioned in the inclosed invoice have been provided here. The golden tea-spoons you will be so good as to get at Lisbon. The golden coffee pot and salver are omitted for no such things exist in the United States; which I hope may be admitted as an apology for not furnishing them; and the rich and highly gilt china pots and salvers which have been provided, are a handsome substitute. If however the golden coffee pot and salver are by you deemed indispensable, you will get them, if practicable, in Lisbon, or elsewhere in Europe.

I am with great respect Sir, your ob. serv.

TIMOTHY PICKERING.

Invoice of Articles provided at Philadelphia as a present to the Dey of Algiers, in return for the sword and sash which he presented to Col^o Humphreys.

	doll ^{rs}
1 piece of Muslin embroidered with gold—10 ^{yd} s @ 6. doll ^{rs}	60.
1 piece do do do & silk 10 ^{yd} s 4 doll ^{rs}	40.
1 Set of Superb Cups & Saucers &c. consisting of six Cups six Saucers, } one tea or Coffee pot, one cream pot one sugar dish, and a salver. }	150.
1 Set of Ditto, consisting of two Cups, two Saucers, one tea or coffee pot, } one cream pot, one Sugar dish and a salver----- }	50.

Dollars 300.

[NA. SDA. Dip. Cor., Inst. to Min., Bk. 3, June 1795-Jan. 1796.]

To Thomas Pinckney, U. S. Minister to London, England, from Joseph Donaldson, Junior, U. S. Agent, Algiers

LEGHORN June 20th 1796

SIR having at length received Col. Humphreys's instructions also a letter of Credit for four Hundred thousand Dollars on this place for the purpose of carrying into effect the stipulations on the Part of y^e United States with Algiers, nevertheless he is silent as to Effecting Insurance against Sea risk. the circumstance and my incapacity to decide whether it is the Practice of the Executive to take these matters on itself or not, promotes the present epistle together the more direct communication with London — which place I presume it will be accomplished on the more Eligible terms provided it is deemed necessary, you will therefore be pleased to take Measures Accordingly as I shall go into the Shipment of the Mony immedately but as I, at this moment can not tell you what Vessels or what Masters, the insurance must be effected, for the more security, at & from Leghorn to Algiers on Mony in the Sum of three Hundred Sixty thousand Mexican Dollars as interest may appear on any Vessel or Vessels. Master or Masters as it is not purposed to Embark it in one bottom but several as Circumstance may Concur to serve the interest of y^e United States. I purpose making a beginning p^r the Venitian (Pollacca) Brig *Divina Provvidenza* Capt^a Anthonio Callinich a good Vessel The Captain a Man of Experience & the one which brought me here. I shall for the Satisfaction of all concerned communicate to you the Names of Such Vessels & Masters the Shipments may be made it being highly necessary that every material circumstance be made known as it not only facilitates such matters but tends to reduce the rate of Premium you may not[e] my order for insurance is for a sum short of credit lodged that results from a disposition of M^r Bacri to receive his advances for Peace presents here rather than at Algiers. The Measure Saves freight and insurance

P. S Since the foregoing I have made an arrangement with Bacri to receive his Bills for One Hundred thousand Dollars on Algiers, therefore insurance for two Hundred and Sixty thousand Dollars only will be Necessary and the Shipment p^r the *Divina Provvidenza* will be will be from 80 M to One Hundred thousand & will depart in Eight a ten days winds favoring

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb–Nov. 1796.]

To Secretary of War from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, July 8. 1796.

D^r SIR, In answer to your enquiries relative to the dimensions of the frigate for the Mediterranean Service, I have to inform you, that she is to carry 36 guns, of which 24 are to be nine pounders, and the other twelve six pounders. On these grounds I desired M^r Humphreys to calculate the proper dimensions of the hulk, and to make a draught of the same. The draught I presume M^r Fox has completed, in which the dimensions must be accurately stated. Independently of which however, M^r Humphreys made the inclosed statement: but if it varies from the draught (for it was written you will see on the 29th of June, when the draught was only begun) the latter must be the guide. Her masts, spars, sails and cordage may be calculated after M^r Fox's return, as well as the anchors and all her other equipments. The

guns, powder & shot you will perceive by the inclosed letter & estimate of M^r Hodgdon, are on hand. The guns, however, ought to be critically examined, and proved: they ought also, I think, to be uniform; and if those we have are not so, it may be best to cast a new set at Cecil furnace, and to have them turned (to take off the most considerable roughnesses at least) while they are boring.

[LC. J. M^cH. P., Vol. 3, 1794-1797.]

[8 July 1796]

Certificate of Identification given Joseph Rogers on board the *Fortune*, by Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers

(Copy)

Certificate.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

Know ye that Joseph Rogers, citizen of the United States of America and late mariner of the ship *Minerva* of Philadelphia commanded by John M^cShane, was captured with the said ship & her crew on the 17th of October 1793 and brought to Algiers in Barbary, where he has remained in captivity till this day, and is now redeemed by the said United States.

In testimony whereof I Joel Barlow, Consul general of the United States for the City & Kingdom of Algier, have granted this certificate.

Given under my hand & the seal of the consulate of the United

⑤ States at Algiers this 8th day of July 1796

JOEL BARLOW

(A like certificate was given to each of the other citizens liberated on the same day.)

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb.-Nov. 1796.]

To M. Felichi, U. S. Consul, Leghorn, from Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers

Copy

ALGIER 12 July 1796

SIR This letter will be handed you by our people liberated from their captivity in this place. I beg leave to recommend them to your particular care for the best manner of getting them thro' as short a quaranteen as possible, & sending them to their country.

If M^r Donaldson is still with you I will thank you to give him the enclosed letter. If not, be pleased to open it & notice its contents as far as possible, & give me early advice what sums of money he may have shipped to this place, & what other measures are taken relative to our affairs here —

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb.-Nov. 1796.]

[Enclosure]

To Joseph Donaldson, Junior, U. S. Agent, Algiers, from Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers

Copy

ALGIER 12 July 1796

To M^r DONALDSON

Leghorn

Dear SIR Notwithstanding I have had no letter from you since the 3^d of May, and the time for our payment is expired, I have been able

not only to keep the peace, but to liberate our people. I have done this by drawing bills on you for the amount of the redemption, of which I give you the particulars in my letter of advice of this day. I draw at 34 mazoons for the Dollar of Leghorn, which is considered as the par of exchange.

Lest you should have shipped the money for this place before the arrival of this, I take from the Jews a guarantee against damages. That is, if the bills are not accepted & paid in Leghorn, and if the money is here to pay them on their return, they are to be returned & discharged here without Damages. But you will observe that this cannot be done unless the whole of the money is here for the price of the peace as well as redemption.

I have arranged the business in this way for the following reasons. 1st it is the only way in which I can get the people free & save the rest of them from dying with the plague. 2^{dly} M^r Humphreys has informed me that you have a credit lodged in Leghorn for 400,000 dol: & in Lisbon for 200,000 more for which you can draw. And these sums I believe are more than the whole amount. 3^{dly} the opportunity of drawing at par is a great advantage, as it saves the risk of transportation, &c. —

The people go to Leghorn in a ship of Baccry's. It is the only way in which I could get them from this place. There are 49 Neapolitans on board, to be landed at Leghorn. I have settled the freight for ours as far as that place for 1500 Spanish dollars. The provisions remaining after the Neapolitans are discharged belong to the United States. At that place you & M^r Felichi our Consul will take such measures for the transportation of our people to America as shall be most convenient. You can retain this ship by making a new bargain with Soloman Baccry of Leghorn, part owner, if you cannot do better.

If the Americans leave the ship at Leghorn, Capt. Smith is to take the command of her for the Baccrys for a farther destination. John Foss is to be mate. I would thank you, in this case, to assist them in making their arrangement with Soloman.

I rely on you & our consul & Soloman to agree with the gov^t of the place with respect to the quarantine. The ship has nothing but the passengers & their baggage. It is supposed that if we retain the ship you can put the Neapolitans in the Lazeret & let ours proceed immediately. If they take their passage in another ship, there will be no need of their being detained for a long quarantine in that place.

I have advanced the people a month's pay extraordinary, that is for August, as many of them were entirely destitute of money, and almost naked. It will be farther necessary to give them some clothes at Leghorn. their arrival on our coast Must be in cold weather. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb-Nov. 1796.]

To Captain Samuel Calder, of the ship *Fortune*, from Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent,
Algiers

Copy
Instructions.

ALGIER 12 July 1796

SIR You being hereby appointed master of the ship *Fortune* for the present voyage from this place to Leghorn in Italy, and, in case it shall be so ordered at that place, from thence to Philadelphia, and there to land our fellow citizens redeemed with yourself from captivity in

Algiers, you will make sail the first fair wind and proceed as soon as possible to the port of Leghorn, deliver my letters to M^r Felichi our consul in that place, in which are enclosed other letters for M^r Donaldson one of our Agents for Barbary affairs, and follow their directions, or those of either of them, in proceeding to Philadelphia, in this or any other ship that they may procure.

Your humanity as well as your duty will lead you to take all possible care for the health & comfort of the passengers & crew as well as for the navigation of the ship.

The subjects of the King of Naples who are on board are to be landed at Leghorn & delivered to the care of Solomon Baccry, merchant of that place. You will treat these persons during their stay in the ship, with that friendship & respect which are due to your fellow creatures entrusted to your care. And both the Americans & Neapolitans, & all all other persons on board, are hereby strictly enjoined to obey your orders in all things.

If, notwithstanding your care and attention, the plague should break out on board the ship during the passage, unless you should then be nearer to Leghorn than to Algiers, I recommend your returning to this place, to discharge the infected persons and to take farther arrangements. This article is however left to your sole discretion.

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb-Nov. 1796.]

[12 July 1796]

Passport given by Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers, to ship *Fortune*

PASSPORT

Copy

JOEL BARLOW, CONSUL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN ALGIERS, TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME.

Know ye that the Ship *Fortune*, in the service of the United States of America, commanded by Samuel Calder citizen of said States, departs this day from the port of Algiers in Barbary bound to Leghorn, having 137 persons on board, all in good health: though we are bound to Acknowledge that the plague has manifested itself in this place for about six weeks past, & that it still continues.

The whole population of the town is estimated at about sixty thousand souls, and the mortality at present amounts to between thirty & forty persons each day.

I pray all governors and other officers and all persons whatever, who may visit the said ship, to treat her & her passengers & equipage with friendship & respect, and to give them assistance in case of need, as those of my nation would do in like cases.

Given under my hand, & the seal of the Consulate of the United States of America in Algiers this 12 day of July 1796

JOEL BARLOW

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb-Nov. 1796.]

To Secretary of State from Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers

N^o. 7

ALGIER 12 July 1796

SIR I have the pleasure at last to announce to you the liberation of our people from Slavery in this place. To keep the peace after the expiration of the time limited for the payment, and finally to redeem our citizens, without any money, has been a subject of more

difficulty & vexation than will be imagined by those who are unacquainted with the extremely capricious and savage character of the Dey.

* * * * *

My being able to procure the liberation of the people at this time has been owing to an accident. From some circumstances in the commercial speculations in this place it has so happened that money has been extremely scarce here for several months past. The Jew house who serve as our Brokers, and who do the greater part of the business of the place, have had their funds for some time in the hands of the French Government to the amount of half a million of dollars. The operations of some other houses for a year past have centred nearly in the same point, so that there was no money left except in the public Treasury. Though I had so far gained the confidence of the Jews that they declared to me that they would advance the money to the amount of the Redemption if it could be raised, yet I had little faith in these professions, because I believed they said so under the idea that the money could not be had in the town. The plague broke out in the latter end of May, and very much increased my anxiety for the fate of our people. Some time in June a new French Consul arrived, and by some brilliant presents revived the influence of the Republic with the Dey so far as to borrow from the public treasury about 200,000 dollars, which he paid into this Jew House. I immediately insisted that they should prove the sincerity of their friendship by lending me that sum and as much more as the redemption would come to, for which I would give them my bills on M^r Donaldson at Leghorn. They at first agreed to it, but afterwards raised difficulties on account of the risque of transportation at a time when the English stop and examin all neutral ships. And as they wanted the money here they said they must have the bills at about 3 per cent below the usual exchange (that is, at 33 mazoons of Algiers for the piece of eight rials of Leghorn. The usual exchange is 34: there being really no such thing in this place as what we call a *course* of exchange.) I absolutely refused to give the bills at a farthing below the usual exchange, as I would not set such an example for American transactions here, though I knew that the Dutch, the Danes & the Venitians had gone to 32 & even to 31 in some of their late public payments with these same Jews.

It is finally settled at 34, and I take a guarantee against damages in case the bills come back under protest. I do this because I dont know that M^r Donaldson has yet recieved the credit that M^r Humphreys informs me he has sent him; and if he has, he may have shipped the specie here before these bills will arrive.

This house has likewise become answerable to the Dey and Regency for the remainder of the money we owe here as the price of the peace. Without this the Dey would not agree to the Redemption.

I embark the people for Leghorn, because there is no vessel to be had at this moment except one absolutely bound to that place; and I cannot keep them here without the risque of losing many more of them by the plague. Five have already died within a few weeks, and another will probably die to day.

I beg leave to confirm what I mentioned in my letter by M^r Cathcart with respect to the other advantages of his mission. His intelligence & zeal in the cause will enable him to render great service in preparing

& expediting the presents. And it is really time they were on their way.

July 13. the people have sailed this morning. Joseph Rogers, the person left behind with the plague, is dead.

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb-Nov. 1796.]

To Secretary of State from Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers

ALGIERS 12 July 1796

SIR This will be presented to you by the remnant of our captive citizens who have survived the pains and humiliation of slavery in this place. After effecting their deliverance in the manner which I state to you in my letter of this day, without funds or even any direct intelligence that they are soon to be expected, I have another task to perform in which it is impossible to promise myself success; it is to embark them without the infection of the plague.

Five of their fellow sufferers have died with that contagion within a few weeks, and another who is attacked must be left behind. It rages with such violence in the town, that although they cannot embark without risk, yet it is much more dangerous for them to stay longer here in any situation where it is possible for me to place them in this most incommodious of all conceivable abodes.

If they escape infection we shall be much indebted to the attention of Captain Calder who commands the ship, and to the careful assistance of the other captains who inspect the embarkation, as well as to the harmony & good understanding which prevail among all the crews.

When we reflect on the extravagant sums of money that this redemption will cost the United States, it affords at least some consolation to know that it is not expended on worthless & disorderly persons, as is the case with some other nations who are driven, like us, to this humiliation to the Barbary States. Our people have conducted themselves in general with a degree of patience and decorum which would become a better condition than that of Slaves. And though after they are landed in their country it would be useless to recommend them to any additional favours from the government, yet I hope they will receive from merchants that encouragement in their professional industry which will enable them in some measure to repair their losses, and from their fellow citizens in general that respect which is due to the sufferings of honest men.

Several of them are probably rendered incapable of gaining their living. One is in a state of total blindness; another is reduced nearly to the same condition; two or three carry the marks of unmerciful treatment, in ruptures produced by hard labour; and others have had their constitutions injured by the plague. Some of these are doubtless objects of the charity of their countrymen; but whether this charity should flow to them through the channel of the federal government, is a question on which it would be impertinent for me to offer an opinion.

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb-Nov. 1796.]

To Secretary of War from President George Washington

Private

MOUNT VERNON 13th July 1796

DEAR SIR The purport of your private letter, of the 7th instant (that part of it I mean, which relates to the Frigate for the Regency of Algiers) has surprised me exceedingly. —

That no step yet, should have been taken to carry this measure into vigorous execution; — and that it should be asked, near six weeks after it had been resolved to comply with the Deys request, and an actual stipulation of our Agent, or Agents there; by what Department it is to be carried into effect & is, on account of the delay which has been occasioned (if contrary to the Ideas which have been communicated to the Dey, & Col^l Humphreys) extremely unpleas^t

Disagreeable as this requisition was found in its reception, and more so in the compliance with it; yet, as there appeared no other alternative but to comply, or submit to the depredations of the Barbary Corsairs on our Citizens, and Commerce, the former was preferred: & I had no doubt (after pressing as often, and as earnestly as I did before I left Philadelphia, that all Matters requiring my opinions, or Acts, might be laid before me) that every thing relative to this Frigate was in a perfect train of Execution, agreeably to whatever assurances had been given, by Captain OBrian. —

If the Laws establishing the different Departments (I have them not by me) does not expressly, or by analogy, designate the one to which the care of such business is entrusted, I must, no doubt, assign it; — but where these speak, it is best for me to be silent. —

If the building of this Vessel could have been suspended until the meeting of Congress, for the Agency of the Senate, — the answer to the Dey might have been suspended also. — But to avert, if possible, the disagreeable consequences of delay, a prompt decision was come to; and Capt^l OBrian hurried off with the result. — This decision, and the letters which he carried, ought to be resorted to; and the measures accorded thereto, strictly. — Whether it will be best to purchase a ship ready built, if one fit for the purpose can be had (and such an one on the Stock, at Philadelphia was talked of); — Whether to contract for the building & Equipping of one (some of the Materials being found) if entire confidence can be placed in the Undertaker; — or whether to furnish the Materials (in which case all that can be spared from our own Frigates ought, unquestionably, to be applied) and pay for the building; depends upon enquiries not within my power at this time, and place to make; & must therefore, be a matter of investigation, & consultation among yourselves; — especially with the Secretary of the Treasury, on the Means.

Before I conclude, let me, in a friendly way, impress the following Maxims upon the Executive Officers. — In all important matters, to deliberate materialy, but to execute promptly & vigorously, — and not to put things off until the morrow which can be done, and require to be done, to day. — Without an adherence to these rules, business never will be *well* done, or done in an easy manner; but will always be in arrears with one thing treading upon the heels of another — With very great esteem and regard

I am, Dear Sir Your Affect^d friend &c

G. WASHINGTON

JAMES M^cHENRY Esq^r

[LC. J. M^cH. P., Vol. 3, 1794-1797.]

To Thomas Pinckney, U. S. Minister to London, England, from Joseph Donaldson, Junior, U. S. Agent, Algiers

LEGHORN July y^e 15th 1796

SIR I wrote you under the 8th Inst to which beg leave to refer you the present to make known to you I have this day drawn on Mess^{rs}

John & Francis Baring & Co^r for the Sum of ten thousand Pounds Sterling in Various Sums, Bills No 1 a 11 in favor of Solomon Coen Bacri which be pleased to take proper care be not disgraced Things here remain in the Same state the Ships that form the Blockade observe the rule made note of in my letter of y^e 8th Inst: One of our Vessels distined here has arrived at Genoa that had been sent into Corsica by one of their Commissioned Pirates and I have reason to believe a very proper Account (Otherwise improper) would be given of her had she not been Addressed to an English house & one of the Concern on the Spot thus you see a Change of Measures in consequence of the late Treaty and Effective as to a fulfillment Commodore Nelson has signified by letter to the Venitian Consul that he will not suffer any Vessel to Enter or leave the port untill it is in possession of its former Master

A Tunizeen Privateer Contrary to the Truce made last November has sent in one of our Vessels the Schooner *Eliza* — Sam: Graves of Boston

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb–Nov. 1796.]

To Secretary of State from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers

(N^o 55.)

LISBON July 18th 1796.

SIR,

* * * * *

I have likewise this day seen a letter from the Swedish Consul at Tangier (a good Man, & much our friend) informing the Consul of the same Nation in this Place of the captures before announced to you, of one vessel with English & another with American Colours, by the Cruizers of Muley Soliman; and advising to dissuade all Swedish vessels from taking freights to any port of Morocco. Six Portuguese have, in all, been taken. All the Captains pretend that they are bound to Magadore, & produce papers accordingly — but the Commanders of Muley Soliman's Cruizers are not to be duped by them. The English Captain, lately taken, presented false papers, but the Moors beat him until he brought forth the true. This fact comes from the English Consul at Tangier. The Moors now consider themselves as having a right to mistrust all Ship-papers, believing many of them to be false. On board of the American vessel (captured by them) was intercepted a letter of advice purporting, that three other Americans & one or two Swedes, were to sail for Saffi. Of course, all vessels under those Colours which may be encountered, by Muley Soliman's Cruizers, on or near that Coast, will be detained, searched & probably carried into his ports, whether they may have the most authentic papers, or not. Nor does the evil end here, *Retaliation*, or rather *similar Conduct* towards neutral Powers has begun to take place on the other part. A Corsair has been fitted out from Saffi (one of the ports of Muley Ishem) expressly to cruise against & capture all vessels bound to ports in allegiance to Muley Soliman — One English vessel has been carried into Saffi — but it is said to have been released, on the fact being made apparent, that it was not bound to any port in Africa. You will perceive, Sir, to what vexation & hazard the vessels concerned in the commerce of the U. S., passing before the ports of Morocco, even if not destined for any of them, will be exposed in conse-

quence of the civil war in that Country, & the inordinate desire of gain in our own Countrymen, — & that what I foretold in my N^o 37, has in part come to pass even sooner than I expected. There seems to be no circumstance that indicates a speedy termination of the dispute for Empire in Morocco. It remains for the Government of the U. S. to decide whether it will not be necessary to have some naval force as speedily as may be in readiness for Sea, unless we mean to relinquish our Commerce to the South of Europe; or at least, to submit to have it greatly harassed & interrupted.

By the Courier of to-day we have only the confirmation of News of the passing the Rhine by the Army under the Orders of Gen^l Moreau. Gen^l Jourdan had returned to the left bank of the Rhine. Gen^l Kleber was near the lines of Dusseldorf. Strong reinforcements were marching from Holland & France to strengthen the Army at that Place.

Buonaparte had removed his Head-Quarters from Tortona to Bologna, in the Pope's territories — which he had taken with its Garrison, Staff, Cardinal Legate, four Standards, & a great quantity of Artillery

[NDA. SDA. Disp. Spain, Vol. 3, 1795–1797.]

To Secretary of War from President George Washington

(Copy of letter given to D^r Cohen of Baltimore February 1855.)

Private

MOUNT VERNON 22nd July 1796

DEAR SIR Your private letter of the 16th came to my hands at the same time that your official one of the 18th did

From what is there said, and appears by the enclosures, I am satisfied no unnecessary delay respecting the Algerine frigate has taken place. From a former one and perhaps from a solicitude to execute promptly whatever is entrusted to me, I had conceived Otherwise.

As I have M^r Liston here & the house full of other Company, I shall only add that I am, what you will always find

Your sincere fr^d and affect^e Servant

(Signed) G WASHINGTON

JAMES M^CHENRY Esq

Copied by Js Howard M^CHenry

[LC. J. M^CH. P., Vol. 3, 1794–1797.]

[27 July 1796]

[NOTE.—The Secretary of State submitted to the President of the United States under date of 27 July 1796 a brief resume of conditions as communicated by David Humphreys in various documents, most of which are included in "Naval Documents".]

[NA. SDA. Dom. L, Vol. 9, Oct. 1795–Feb. 1797.]

To Forman Cheeseman, Naval Constructor, from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War Office July 30, 1796.

SIR I have received your letter of the 29th inst — informing me of M^r Fox's departure for Boston.

I had written M^r Fox on the 25th, not expecting that he would have left New York so suddenly; either to engage the yard at Corlaer's hook, or to request you to secure it at a rent not exceeding two hundred and seventy pounds New York currency per annum.

You will be pleased therefore to engage it for the United States, at the said rent; and to proceed to execute the orders you have received, or may receive from M^r Fox, relative to assorting, piling, and securing the timber.

I shall request Capt. Talbot to deliver the Navy-yard books into your keeping.

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790-1798.]

To Edward Rand, Tunis, owner of the Schooner *Eliza*, from Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers

Copy

ALGIER 2 Aug. 1796

SIR I recieved but a few days ago your letter of the 24 June, that of the 12 July came about the same time. Your capture is a most disastrous circumstance to the United States as well as to you. It will make a difference of at least 30,000 — Dollars in the price of the peace that I was concluding with that Regency.

I have consented to the Agreement made by M^r Famin for the Redemption, including the Schooner & the Brandy on board. I should not have included these, were it not for the sake of facilitating the negotiation with the Bey and to favour your return & that of the crew to America.

I have likewise in view the probability of her being useful at Leghorn to carry home our citizens lately redeemed from Slavery at Algiers. The Schooner, with the Brandy &c, is now the property of the United States.

By my Instructions to Capt. Graves, which accompany this, you will see the destination of the Schooner on her leaving Tunis. I have therein consulted your convenience as far as is consistent with the interest of the United States. And I congratulate you on the speedy & easy redemption you have experienced.

I beg you would sign your name with the Captain & the crew at the bottom of the two copies of that paper of instructions. Indeed I make it a condition of your and their Redemption that you all sign that paper as it is to serve me as a voucher for the Transaction, as well as to ensure the destination I have pointed out to the Schooner, and the engagement of the men to do the service of the voyage.

I rely on your zeal & intelligence in assisting Capt Graves with your best advice on all occasions, whether the schooner shall convey our other people from Leghorn to Philadelphia, whether she shall take a freight from Leghorn or from Malaga, or return to America as she is.

* * *

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. II, Jan-Dec. 1797.]

[3 August 1796]

To the Dey of Algiers from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers

(Copy)

DAVID HUMPHREYS Comm^r Plenipo: from the United States of America, to the Most Excellent & Most Illustrious Hassan Bashaw, Dey of the City & Regency of Algiers.

In my letter to your Excellency, written at Lisbon on the 23^d day of July 1796, I had the honour to ratify & confirm the engagement entered into by the Agents of the United States to present a frigate

to your Excellency, on the part of the said United States. I have now that of dispatching Captⁿ OBrien to Algiers, with such farther proofs of the sincerity of the friendship & good will of the United States towards your Excellency, as the circumstances would allow. We feel a confidence that these repeated demonstrations of the faithfulness of the Government & Citizens of the United States to their engagements will baffle all the falsehood & malice of their enemies, and, when the truth comes to be known, tend to produce a stronger affection on the side of your Excellency, your Divan & Subjects in favour of the said Government & Citizens, than if such falsehood & malice had never existed.

Will your Excellency deign to receive such a respectful token of my sensibility, of the honour conferred upon me by your having presented a Sword & Sash to me, as it has been within the limits of my humble abilities to procure? The only reason why this token of gratitude has been delayed until this time, was, because it is not permitted for Citizens of the United States to accept Presents from foreign Princes, without the permission of their own Government. — Having now obtained that permission, I hasten to offer (by the hand of the American Consul) that grateful Tribute of respect to your Excellency . . . which will be accompanied also by a letter from the President of the United States, under his own Signature, and the Great Seal of the said States.

May the All-Powerful Disposer of human Events render these things acceptable to your Excellency! And may the Peace & Friendship established between the Dey & Regency of Algiers, and the United States of America continue as long as the Sun & Moon shall endure!

I pray God to have the life of your Excellency in his holy keeping; & to crown your days to the latest period with felicity & glory.

Written at the City of Lisbon this 3^d day of Aug^r 1796

[GAO. No. 21, 637.]

To Secretary of State from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers

(N^o 58.)

LISBON Aug^r 5th 1796

SIR In my last dispatch to you, I mentioned a letter of the 21st of June just then received from M^r Donaldson; I now enclose that letter, as well as a subsequent one from him of the 28th of June (both marked N^o 1.) from the latter, notwithstanding the information contained in the former, you will find the verification of the apprehension expressed in my N^o 36 that the arrival of the French Troops at Leghorn would interrupt the completion of our pecuniary operations at that place. I have received a letter from M^r Harry Fonnereau, dated at Valencia July 13th on the same subject, in which he says "You will in such circumstances see the impossibility of my finishing this operation, tho' I have the satisfaction of saying that M^r Bacri of Leghorn, to whom I shewed your letter & Mess^{rs} Barings' in your favour, seeing the confidence I had in said Gentlemen, has promised himself to finish the business, either by taking M^r Donaldson's Bills on them, or in some other manner that may answer the purpose, so that without the French should conduct themselves in such a manner as to hinder all commercial operations at Leghorn, I flatter myself it will finish

well. — M^r Bacri has also promised to represent this unlucky delay, if it should prove any, as also the former delays, in such a manner to his brother at Algiers, that he assures me no bad consequences can happen on that account."

In order to facilitate the farther operation at Leghorn, I have instantly written to M^r Donaldson, approving of his intentions . . . and to the Mess^{rs} Barings & C^o, praying them to honour M^r Donaldson's Bills, or to establish such Credit in his favour on M^r Parish of Hamburg as might be convenient . . . they taking the precaution to inform M^r Donaldson of the same. I request you will be pleased to notice what M^r Donaldson mentions on the subject of appointing a Consul for Trieste: I suppose, of course, this will become expedient when affairs in Italy shall become a little more settled.

Captⁿ O'Brien sailed yesterday for Algiers . . . carrying with him the property of the U. S. alluded to in the enclosed Documents. A reference to these (including the Copies of Letters, Instructions &^s from N^o 2 to N^o 8 inclusive) will give you the most ample & correct account in my power, of my proceedings since his arrival from America. After determining to send on the Money from hence, I lost no time in making enquiries at what premium an insurance might be made on this property for the U. S. On learning it could not be done much under Six p^r Cent (& perhaps the whole amount could not be covered at that rate by the Underwriters here) and on taking into consideration the favorableness of the season, the goodness of the vessel, the ability of the Master, the protection of the Dey's Passport, the President's Certificate of the vessel being in the Service of Government, & other circumstances in favour of the security of the voyage, I have been dissuaded from having an insurance made at so extravagant a price. I hope my arrangements hereupon (which will now be before you) will meet the approbation of Government . . . As I have endeavoured to act for the best good of the public interest, and could certainly have had no object in view but a desire to perform the business in the best, cheapest & most expeditious manner possible. In addition to the Provisions brought out in the *Sophia*, Water Casks have been put on board at this place. — I forgot to mention that Captⁿ O'Brien was delayed from sailing so soon by one day, as he would otherwise have done, on account of a sad accident which happened to his Chief Mate . . . who lost his hand by discharging an overloaded blunderbuss.

I have received several letters from our Consuls at different ports, relating instances of the usurpation of our flag by the Commanders of English Merchant vessels. I have advised them in former instances to detain the false Papers & send them to your Office. I have applauded their zeal and attempted to stimulate their vigilance. I have even had occasion to complain to the Secretary of State for foreign Affairs at this Court, against the conduct of the Governor of Madeira for having improperly interposed his authority on the subject; and I have the pleasure to inform you that his conduct is disapproved of by his Court. I have lately given the same private advice of detaining & forwarding the Papers, on the application of M^r Montgomery of Alicante . . . who requested to know whether he should not put the vessels so assuming our flag in arrestation for trial: referring him, however, to you for your ultimate decision.

P. S. The rich Brazil Convoy has arrived. — it is said to consist of about £6,000,000, Sterling in value. — Of which about £1,500,000, for Government in gold. — Admiral Vandeput came in with the Convoy.

* * * * *

[GAO. No. 21, 637.]

To Josiah Fox from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War Office September 1. 1796.

SIR. It being thought adviseable that the frigate, agreeably to sketch A, in your instructions, should be built by contract, you will inform M^r Hacket thereof, and that the terms which he has offered to build her on, have been communicated to the Secretary of the Treasury, and approved of; M^r Hacket may therefore proceed to make all preparatory arrangements for commencing the work without a moments delay

M^r Hacket is to be informed at the same time, that it will be acquired as indispensable conditions in the Contract 1st. That the Frigate be delivered complete, agreeable to Contract in ten months from the date of the reception of this letter. — 2 — That the public may furnish the timber, plank, &c which it has in store, proper for the said Frigate at a valuation. 3. — That the timber be valued by two disinterested, reputable, and well informed persons, who shall be on oath, one to be chosen by M^r Sheafe, and the other by M^r Hacket. If these should disagree, a third to be chosen by mutual consent, who is also to act on oath. 4 — That the United States shall have a right to appoint an Inspector of the work.

As soon as you obtain M^r Hackets consent to these conditions, you will ascertain from the most respectable Blacksmiths, on what terms they will engage to furnish the Iron-work necessary for the Frigate, which you will inform me of as soon as possible.

You will also proceed to separate agreeably to your instructions, such Timber as may be suitable for the said Frigate.

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790–1798.]

To Secretary of the Treasury from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War Office September 13. 1796.

SIR. There will be wanted for the Frigate destined for the Mediterranean, twenty four nine pounders, and twelve six pounders, and for the three Frigates now under construction forty twelve pounders; it is requested therefore that a Contract may be entered into for the delivery of this number of Cannon, on or before the 1st of April ensuing.

To obviate as much as possible disputes with the person who may engage to furnish them, it may be proper that the Contract should comprize the following conditions:

1. That the Guns be cast in the solid and bored.
2. That the twenty four nine pounders and twelve six pounders conform exactly in weight, bore, caliber, and length, to British Ship Guns of the same dimensions now in use.
3. That the forty twelve pounders be formed agreeably to the dimensions laid down, in the annexed draught.

4. That the Guns after having been bored, and before undergoing any proof, shall be examined by one or two persons to be appointed by the President of the United States, in the presence of such other person as shall be named by the owner of the works. That this examination shall commence by a verification of the diameters of the different parts and ascertainment, whether there are more internal and external cavities or defects than are specified in the annexed Table, exhibiting the defects which are to be tolerated. That in all cases where the bore or caliber is found to be less than the diameter prescribed; and the defects not greater than those tolerated; the Cannon shall be returned to the boring machine to be enlarged; before being proved; and in all cases where the defects are greater than those tolerated, the examination shall cease, and the Cannon be rejected.

5. That the instruments commonly employed to ascertain dimensions, and discover cavities or holes in the external and internal parts of Guns shall be used on such occasions.

6. That the Touch-hole must end in the cannon, at the middle of the rounding of the Angle at the bottom of the bore. That should any holes be found in the Touch-hole, deeper than the twentieth of an inch, the Cannon cannot be admitted to proof, till the same shall have been filled up with beaten iron.

7. That the Trunnions must be perpendicular to the vertical plane, which is supposed to pass through the Touch-hole, and to cut the bore into two equal parts. That the upper part of the Trunnion shall be level with the center of the caliber, or bore, and that the usual relative weight be preserved between the Breech, and Chace.

8. That the proof by powder shall be as follows. viz^t Each Cannon shall be proved by two successive discharges. The weight of the powder for the first discharge, shall be equal to two thirds of the weight of the ball and for the second equal to half the weight of the ball. The Cartridge shall be well rammed down with a wad over it; two balls shall be placed over that with a wad of hay between them, and a wad over, which shall be well rammed down; the balls to be measured so as to allow a sufficient windage, and approved of by the Officers who shall make the experiments, and the owner of the works, or any person whom he may appoint for that purpose.

9. That to ascertain the strength of the Trunnions the Cannon must be placed on two pieces of wood having indentations large enough to receive two thirds of the Trunnions, and with the hinder part at a sufficient distance from where the Trunnions lodge, so that the breech may be inclined in any direction, but never so as to rest on the ground. The proof by powder must be made on these pieces of wood.

10. That the Cannon which shall have stood the proof by powder, shall be raised from off the temporary carriage, and placed upon a supporter, so that they may be filled with water. That should the water on being compressed filter through any part of the Cannon, it cannot be received tho' it has stood proof.

11. That the Cannon which shall have stood the aforesaid examination and proofs, shall be subject nevertheless to be re-examined, and should new holes be detected, or the ones tolerated found to have been enlarged by the firing; all such Cannon must undergo a second proof, but of one discharge only; when if the holes exhibit no further enlargement, they shall be admitted, and receipted for, after being weighed.

12. That the weight of each Cannon received, shall be marked on the left Trunnion.

As Cannon which have not undergone the above examination and proofs, cannot be used by the United States without putting the success of those military undertakings in which they may be engaged, at risk; and as the principles and regulations here laid down, have been the result of much experience, and long adopted for the verification of Cannon by the principal Nations in Europe; they may be considered as guides that ought not to be departed from. It is requested therefore, that the Contract shall be so formed, as to ensure a strict and punctual compliance with each, and all of the above mentioned conditions.

P.S. The draught for the 12 pounders, which is in hand, will be furnished in a few days.

Defects to be tolerated in Cannon for the use of the Marine of the United States.

		<i>Tenths of an Inch</i>
Bore-----	{ more than the prescribed diameter-----	1
	{ less than idem-----	"½
Interior holes-----	{ Depth of the interior holes-----	2¼
	{ a succession of little holes, one of which will be-----	1½
	{ Upon the Reinforce-- { In a direction towards the muzzle-----	2¼
	{ In a direction parallel with the surface-----	4
	{ A succession of little holes, one of which will be-----	2
Exterior holes-----	{ Upon the Volée, or { Directed towards the muzzle-----	2½
	{ Chace----- { In a direction parallel with the surface-----	4½
	{ A Continuation of little holes, one of which will be-----	2
	{ Upon the hind and under part of the Trunnions-----	4
	{ A tenth of an Inch more will be tolerated upon the front and upper part of the Trunnions-----	
Holes at the edge of the muzzle-----	{ If they are in a direction towards the muzzle, and if they are 8/10, of an inch deep, the Cannon cannot be received.-----	
	{ It shall also be refused if the holes are 6/10, of an inch deep, and are directed towards the muzzle.-----	
	{ Upon the diameter-- { more than-----	"½
	{ less than-----	"¼
	{ Upon the exterior position of the Orifice-----	1½
Touch-hole-----	{ Upon that of the interior Orifice----- { In front of the point where it ought to be-----	2½
	{ Behind the same-----	1½
	{ The holes in the interior part of the Touch hole — those ½ tenth of an inch deep.-----	

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790-1798.]

To Secretary of the Treasury from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War Office September 20. 1796

SIR, M^r John Skillen of Boston has been mentioned to me by M^r Rush, as a qualified Artist to undertake the carving of the head or figure for the Frigate [*Constitution*] building at that Town. As it is proper that this work should be immediately commenced, you will be pleased to give such orders as may be necessary on the occasion. There is a drawing of the figure (a Hercules) now preparing which I shall send forward to M^r Skillen, as soon as finished.

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790-1798.]

To Secretary of the Treasury from Secretary of War

[PHILADELPHIA]

War Office September 27. 1796.

SIR. I believe the best explanation relative to the proof by water, will be, to give M^r Hughes a more detailed view of the mode in which the experiment will be directed to be made.

The object of the water proof is, to discover whether there are any holes which penetrate through the sides of the Cannon: For this purpose, the Examiners will be instructed, after the Cannon have undergone the proof by powder, to place them upon a thick piece of Timber, so as they may be easily made to turn upon it. The Touch-hole will be stopped with a wooden peg covered with tallow. The Cannon will then be raised, and the chace surrounded with linnen, so that any water which may fall down the sides, on filling the bore, shall not be confounded with the drops that may filter through the metal; and with the same view the water will be poured into the cavity by means of the spout of a watering pot. The water will be then pressed upon by a rammer covered with thick cloth, so as to fill exactly the muzzle of the Cannon. During this operation, the exterior will be attentively watched to see whether any water passes through the metal. If the least filtration appears, the cannon will be refused.

As to the dimensions of the twelve pounders & the draughts are in hand, and I expect will be finished in a few days.

[NDA. Correspondence, when Navy was under War Department, 1790-1798.]

To Secretary of State from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal,
and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers

(N^o 70.)

LISBON Oct^r 6th 1796.

This morning, M^r Clark, the Messenger announced in my last as being expected from Alicante, put into my hand the Dispatches from M^r Barlow. Among them were two for you, which you will be pleased to find enclosed. — Determined not to lose the earliest occasion of transmitting them, I can only notice some of the most interesting articles contained in those addressed to me. Among which articles, is M^r Barlow's correspondence with M^r Famin. — in consequence whereof a Truce for six months has been concluded with Tunis (the Original & Translation [see 15 June 1796] are herewith enclosed) and the Prisoners lately taken by a Tunisian Corsair in the Schooner *Eliza* (previous to that Truce) redeemed. For it should seem that the Bey had never heard of the Truce, which was pretended to have been made by his Agent (apparently at the instance and under the sanction of the Dey) at Algiers. — This Schooner before mentioned, M^r Barlow has put into the Service of the U. S. by having sent her to Leghorn for the purpose of carrying our ransomed People to America, if necessary. — The Instructions & Documents, relative to this transaction, as well as to that of forwarding the said People from Algiers, I hope to enclose to you by the next conveyance.

From M^r Barlow's not having heard anything of Capt^a O'Brien at the date of his last letter to me; and from the account he had received of one American vessel of three Masts [*Betsy* of Boston] and another of two, having been captured by a Corsair of Tripoli, I can not avoid entertaining apprehensions that the Brig *Sophia* may have been one of

them [*]: although I was induced fully to believe, by Capt^r O'Brien's representation as well as from the nature of the circumstance, that there could not possibly be any (not even the least) danger of such an accident happening to a vessel, under the special Passport of the Dey, covering property destined for himself & the Regency. The Dey's Passport was looked upon as being absolutely sacred with all the Barbary Powers. I hope therefore my apprehensions may be groundless. But I shall communicate them as soon as possible (before the return of the Messenger) to M^r Barlow — and at the same time, shall urge him (if the fact should unfortunately prove so) to impress upon the Dey the necessity of reclaiming his own property (I imagine he will find no reluctance in doing it, or in resenting so gross an insult to himself) and the impossibility of our attempting to send any Presents, naval Stores &c destined for him, into the Mediterranean, unless we can know with certainty that they will be protected by virtue of his Passport, from every invasion or detention by any other of the Barbary Powers.

I have just received letters from M^r Donaldson, the communication of which must be postponed to another occasion.

P. S. From the good Character which M^r Barlow has formerly received & given of M^r Joseph Famin; from the Zeal which he (Famin) entered upon the business committed to him; from his apparent intimacy with the chief Officer of the Bey, & his consequent influence with the Bey himself, in obtaining a Truce without Present or promise of gratuity; from the intelligence manifested in Famin's letter which I propose transmitting to you in my next; and from the decided preponderance which the French Republic must have in the Councils of all the Barbary Powers; I take the liberty to suggest, whether this French Citizen might not be as proper a person as could be found for Consul; in case a Consul should be appointed for Tunis — by limiting M^r Donaldson's Consulate to Tripoli, as I heretofore intimated I thought it would be indispensably necessary for us to have a Consul in each of the four separate Barbary States. —

[*One was the brig *Sophia* with \$200,000 on board for Algiers in charge of Richard O'Brien. After being detained in Tripoli Captain O'Brien arrived in Algiers 1 October 1796.]

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain, Vol. 3, 1795-1797.]

Abstract of cannon delivered by Samuel Hughes in behalf of the Cecil Company for the Military Department, in pursuance of his contracts with the Treasury Department, 28 June 1794 & 25 October 1796

date of delivery	To Whom delivered	N ^o of Vouchers	Kind of Guns				Weight				"
			32 Pounds	24 Pounds	18 Pounds	9 Pounds	Tons	C*	Q**	lb*	
1801											
Novr 3 ^d	Lewis Tousard	1	6	13	---	---	50	17	0	12	{ fat 121- $\frac{3}{4}$ doll ^r pr Ton pr Contract of the 28 th June 1794 fat 133 $\frac{1}{4}$ doll ^r pr Contract of the 25 th Octr 1796.
" "	ditto	2	"	"	17	---	28	18	"	"	
" "	ditto	3	"	"	"	1	1	2	"	"	
		---	6	13	17	1.	80.	17.	0.	12.	

RECAPITULATION

Tons	C	Q	lb		
60.	17.	0.	12	at 121-¾ dollars pr Ton.....	is.. 6,187. 40
30.	0.	0.	0.	at 133¼ dollars pr ditto.....	".. 3,997. 50
Voucher No 4. Shot used for proving omitted in last Settlement.....					255. 40
					Dollars. 10,450. 30

[GAO. No. 12,862.]

Abstract of cannon delivered by Samuel Hughes in behalf of the Cecil Company in pursuance of his contract with the Treasury Department 25 October 1796

date of delivery	To whom delivered	No Vouchers	Kinds Guns			Weight			
			12 Pounders	9 Pounders	6 Pounders	Tons	C. Weight	Quarters	lbs
1797									
Octr 28 th	Franc Da Costa...	9	"	17	12	29	3.	2.	4
1798									
Mar. 30	----- ditto -----	10	3.	"	"	5.	3.	3.	2
Octr 16 th	Joseph Elliott-----	6	-----	5	"	5.	16.	1.	6.
		-----	3	22	12	40	*2	2	12
at 133-1/4 dollrs Pr Ton..... 5354.05									

11. Expense of enlarging the bore of 17 Nine and 10 Six pounders also shot for proving.....	276. 60
	Dollars. 5,630. 65

*should be 3.C^{ts}

[GAO. No. 12,531.]

[4 November 1796 and 10 June 1797]

Tripoli—Treaty

[NOTE.—In "Treaties and other International Acts of the United States of America", by Hunter Miller, Volume 2, is printed the Treaty between Tripoli and the United States. The following is copied from the above publication:

"Treaty of Peace and Friendship, signed at Tripoli November 4, 1796 (3 Jumada I, A. H. 1211), and at Algiers January 3, 1797 (4 Rajab, A. H. 1211). Original in Arabic.

"Submitted to the Senate May 29, 1797. (Message of May 26, 1797.) Resolution of advice and consent June 7, 1797. Ratified by the United States June 10, 1797. As to the ratification generally, see the notes. Proclaimed June 10, 1797."

[Translation]

TREATY OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE BEY AND SUBJECTS OF TRIPOLI OF BARBARY.

ARTICLE 1.

There is a firm and perpetual Peace and friendship between the United States of America and the Bey and subjects of Tripoli of Barbary, made by the free consent of both parties, and guaranteed by the most potent Dey & regency of Algiers.

ARTICLE 2.

If any goods belonging to any nation with which either of the parties is at war shall be loaded on board of vessels belonging to the other party they shall pass free, and no attempt shall be made to take or detain them.

ARTICLE 3.

If any citizens, subjects or effects belonging to either party shall be found on board a prize vessel taken from an enemy by the other party, such citizens or subjects shall be set at liberty, and the effects restored to the owners.

ARTICLE 4.

Proper passports are to be given to all vessels of both parties, by which they are to be known. And, considering the distance between the two countries, eighteen months from the date of this treaty shall be allowed for procuring such passports. During this interval the other papers belonging to such vessels shall be sufficient for their protection.

ARTICLE 5.

A citizen or subject of either party having bought a prize vessel condemned by the other party or by any other nation, the certificate of condemnation and bill of sale shall be a sufficient passport for such vessel for one year; this being a reasonable time for her to procure a proper passport.

ARTICLE 6.

Vessels of either party putting into the ports of the other and having need of provisions or other supplies, they shall be furnished at the market price. And if any such vessel shall so put in from a disaster at sea and have occasion to repair, she shall be at liberty to land and reembark her cargo without paying any duties. But in no case shall she be compelled to land her cargo.

ARTICLE 7.

Should a vessel of either party be cast on the shore of the other, all proper assistance shall be given to her and her people; no pillage shall be allowed; the property shall remain at the disposition of the owners, and the crew protected and succoured till they can be sent to their country.

ARTICLE 8.

If a vessel of either party should be attacked by an enemy within gun-shot of the forts of the other she shall be defended as much as possible. If she be in port she shall not be seized or attacked when it is in the power of the other party to protect her. And when she proceeds to sea no enemy shall be allowed to pursue her from the same port within twenty four hours after her departure.

ARTICLE 9.

The commerce between the United States and Tripoli,—the protection to be given to merchants, masters of vessels and seamen,—the reciprocal right of establishing consuls in each country, and the privileges, immunities and jurisdictions to be enjoyed by such consuls, are declared to be on the same footing with those of the most favoured nations respectively.

ARTICLE 10.

The money and presents demanded by the Bey of Tripoli as a full and satisfactory consideration on his part and on the part of his subjects for this treaty of perpetual peace and friendship are acknowledged to have been recieved by him previous to his signing the same, according to a receipt which is hereto annexed, except such part as is promised on the part of the United States to be delivered and paid by them on the arrival of their Consul in Tripoly, of which part a note is likewise hereto annexed. And no pretence of any periodical tribute or farther payment is ever to be made by either party.

ARTICLE 11.

As the government of the United States of America is not in any sense founded on the Christian Religion,—as it has in itself no character of enmity against the laws, religion or tranquility of Musselmen,—and as the said States never have entered into any war or act of hostility against any Mehomitan nation, it is declared by the parties that no pretext arising from religious opinions shall ever produce an interruption of the harmony existing between the two countries.

ARTICLE 12.

In case of any dispute arising from a violation of any of the articles of this treaty no appeal shall be made to arms, nor shall war be declared on any pretext

whatever. But if the Consul residing at the place where the dispute shall happen shall not be able to settle the same, an amicable reference shall be made to the mutual friend of the parties, the Dey of Algiers, the parties hereby engaging to abide by his decision. And he by virtue of his signature to this treaty engages for himself and successors to declare the justice of the case according to the true interpretation of the treaty, and to use all the means in his power to enforce the observance of the same.

Signed and sealed at Tripoli of Barbary the 3^d day of Jumad in the year of the Higra 1211—corresponding with the 4th day of Novr 1796 by

JUSSUF BASHAW MAHOMET Bey	SOLIMAN Kaya
MAMET—Treasurer	GALIL—Gen ^l of the Troops
AMET—Minister of Marine	MAHOMET—Com ^t of the city
AMET—Chamberlain	MAMET—Secretary
ALLY—Chief of the Divan	

Signed and sealed at Algiers the 4th day of Argib 1211—corresponding with the 3^d day of January 1797 by

HASSAN BASHAW Dey

and by the Agent plenipotentiary of the United States of America

[Seal] JOEL BARLOW

[The "Receipt"]

Praise be to God &c—

The present writing done by our hand and delivered to the American Captain OBrien makes known that he has delivered to us forty thousand Spanish dollars,—thirteen watches of gold, silver & pinsbach,—five rings, of which three of diamonds, one of saphire and one with a watch in it,—one hundred & forty piques of cloth, and four caftans of brocade,—and these on account of the peace concluded with the Americans.

Given at Tripoli in Barbary the 20th day of Jumad 1211, corresponding with the 21st day of Novr 1796—

(Signed) JUSSUF BASHAW—Bey
whom God Exalt

The foregoing is a true copy of the receipt given by Jussuf Bashaw—Bey of Tripoli—

(Signed) HASSAN BASHAW—Dey of Algiers.

The foregoing is a literal translation of the writing in Arabic on the opposite page

JOEL BARLOW

[The "Note"]

On the arrival of a consul of the United States in Tripoli he is to deliver to Jussuf Bashaw Bey—

twelve thousand Spanish dollars
five hawsers—8 Inch
three cables—10 Inch
twenty five barrels tar
twenty five d^o pitch
ten d^o rosin
five hundred pine boards
five hundred oak d^o
ten masts (without any measure mentioned, suppose for vessels from 2 to 300 ton)
twelve yards
fifty bolts canvas
four anchors

And these when delivered are to be in full of all demands on his part or on that of his successors from the United States according as it is expressed in the tenth article of the following treaty. And no farther demand of tributes, presents or payments shall ever be made.

Translated from the Arabic on the opposite page, which is signed & sealed by Hassan Bashaw Dey of Algiers—the 4th day of Argib 1211—or the 3^d day of Janr 1797—by—

JOEL BARLOW

[Approval of Humphreys]

To all to whom these Presents shall come or be made known.

Whereas the Underwritten David Humphreys hath been duly appointed Commissioner Plenipotentiary by Letters Patent, under the Signature of the President and Seal of the United States of America, dated the 30th of March 1795, for negotiating and concluding a Treaty of Peace with the Most Illustrious the Bashaw, Lords and Governors of the City & Kingdom of Tripoli; whereas by a Writing under his Hand and Seal dated the 10th of February 1796, he did (in conformity to the authority committed to me therefor) constitute and appoint Joel Barlow and Joseph Donaldson Junior Agents jointly and separately in the business aforesaid; whereas the annexed Treaty of Peace and Friendship was agreed upon, signed and sealed at Tripoli of Barbary on the 4th of November 1796, in virtue of the Powers aforesaid and guaranteed by the Most potent Dey and Regency of Algiers; and whereas the same was certified at Algiers on the 3^d of January 1797, with the Signature and Seal of Hassan Bashaw Dey, and of Joel Barlow one of the Agents aforesaid, in the absence of the other.

Now Know ye, that I David Humphreys Commissioner Plenipotentiary aforesaid, do approve and conclude the said Treaty, and every article and clause therein contained, reserving the same nevertheless for the final Ratification of the President of the United States of America, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate of the said United States.

In testimony whereof I have signed the same with my Name and Seal, at the City of Lisbon this 10th of February 1797.

[Seal] DAVID HUMPHREYS.

["Treaties, * * *", by Hunter Miller.]

Presents sent on concluding Peace with Tripoli

Presents sent by Capt- OBrien to Tripoli and delivered by him on concluding the peace

Nov. 4 — 1796 —

PURCHASED IN ALGIERS.		Seq.	M
1 Watch rich in diamonds.....		360	
2 gold watches — repeaters — with chains.....62		124	
1 Silver d ^e.....double case.....		16	
1 large diamond ring.....solitaire.....		360	
1 d ^e.....in four stones.....		94	
1 d ^e.....many stones.....		72	
1 Caffian.....		80	54
1 d ^e		55	18
2 d ^e@ 46.54.....		93	36
140 piques cloth.....2¼.....		315	
		1570	36
PURCHASED IN PARIS.		Livres	
1 ring — Topaz.....		432	
1 d ^e — gold — with a watch.....		480	
1 Silver watch.....		104	
1 Pinsback — double casse — chain &c.....		120	
2 gold watches.....		672	
1 d ^e		360	
2 d ^e — repeaters — double cases.....		1200	
1 d ^e — d ^e		744	
1 d ^e — d ^e.....very elegant.....		1248	
		5360	

JOEL BARLOW

[24 November 1796]

David Humphrey's Warning against Citizens of the United States visiting Ports not in allegiance to Emperor Muley Soliman

NOTIFICATION

The Underwritten Minister from the United States of America Resident at the Court of Lisbon, having lately received intimations (on good authority) that His Majesty Muley Soliman, Emperor of Morocco, has threatened to declare war against the United States of America if their vessels shall continue to proceed to Saffi or other ports of Morrocco not in allegiance to him, takes occasion again to caution in the most earnest manner all Citizens of the said United States against a proceeding so replete with danger to themselves & their Country. The Consul of the United States for Morocco has announced that he cannot in future reclaim any Persons or Property, that may be captured, under a destination to or from Saffi or other Ports of Morocco not in allegiance to the Emperor Muley Soliman.

Given at LISBON, *this 24th day of November 1796.*

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain, Vol. 3, 1795-1797.]

[29 November 1796]

Estimate by Naval Constructor Joshua Humphreys, U. S. Navy, and Josiah Fox, Naval Constructor, of cost of building and equipping a frigate of 36 guns, and navigating same to Algiers

Carpenters bill for building the Hull, launching & compleating the same together with a Compleat set of Masts & Yards.....	45. 00
Joiners, Smiths, Plumbers, Boatbuilders, Carvers, Coopers, Block-makers, Sailmakers, Riggers & Rigging, with Ship Chandlers bills....	55. 00
P ^r Ton.....	\$100. 00
Ship compleat of 538 Tons at \$100 p ^r Ton.....	53, 800. 00
Copper Sheathing.....	4, 118. 40
Cannon.....	7, 428. 69
Copper Pintles and braces.....	1, 200. 00
Powder, Shot, and other Military Stores.....	13, 551. 00
40 Men including officers, for 5 Months together with their provisions..	8, 589. 00
	\$88, 687. 09
Contingencies.....	9, 690. 00
	\$98, 377. 09

PHILADELPHIA *Novem^r 29th 1796* —

[See Estimate of 8 June 1796.]

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. I, Part II, Feb.-Nov. 1796.]

[30 November 1796]

To Muley Soliman, Emperor of Morocco, from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers

(Copy)

David Humphreys Minister from the United States of America at the Court of Lisbon, named Minister Plenipotentiary to His Catholic Majesty, and charged with the interests of the said States in relation to the several Barbary Powers — to His Imperial Majesty Muley Soliman Emperor of Morocco, Fez, Mequinez, & all the Garbe, &° &° &°.

May it please your Imperial Majesty to be informed, that, upon my receiving the very first information that some vessels, under the flag of the U. S. of America, had been at Saffi or other Ports of Morocco not under your allegiance, I immediately wrote circular letters to the Consuls of the U. S. in the neighbouring Countries & Islands to warn all Captains of vessels belonging to the said U. S. against such a proceeding. That warning has likewise on several occasions since that period been repeated in the most solemn & urgent manner. And I have no doubt that the Government of the U. S. will, as soon as it may be in their power, take effectual measures to prevent their Citizens from prosecuting a commercial intercourse with the said Places. I therefore address this letter to your Imperial Majesty, for the purpose of entreating that the conduct of any Individuals who may presume, in despite of the beforementioned warning, to offend against your Royal regulations, should not be considered in any degree as affecting the Government or Citizens at large of the aforesaid U. S. of America.

In full confidence that your well known justice will not permit the innocent to be involved in the punishment which can only be due to the guilty; and in offering the strongest assurances that the Government of the U. S. will do every thing in their power to maintain & perpetuate inviolably the peace & friendship so beneficially established with your Royal Father (of glorious memory) & so happily confirmed by your Imperial Majesty; I pray Almighty God to have your precious life in his holy keeping, and to crown it with length of days, felicity & glory.

Written at the City of Lisbon, this 30th day of November,
L. S. 1796; and in the twenty first year of the Independence of
the United States.

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain, Vol. 3, 1795-1797.]

To Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers, from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHILADELPHIA

December 3. 1796

SIR Captain Cathcart's Barque, in which he came from Algiers, is now loaded and ready to sail, with naval stores for that place. It would have been very difficult at this time to do more: but we expect to load several vessels in the ensuing spring: and with all practicable diligence and expedition the stores necessary to fulfil our engagements to the Dey will be procured and forwarded. Captain Cathcart will remain here, and it is proposed to employ him in this business; by which means we hope the articles selected for the Dey will give him satisfaction.

* * * * *

Your N^o 2 dated April 8th with its inclosures exhibits satisfactory reasons for the agreement made by you and M^r Donaldson on the 5th to furnish the Dey with a 36 gun frigate. The President, under the circumstances of the case, did not hesitate to confirm your agreement. The frigate [*Crescent*] is building at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, under the direction of an excellent naval architect; and I trust she will be ready to sail for Algiers (with masts and naval stores agreeable to your suggestion) early in the next summer. But instead of forty

five thousand dollars, she will cost the United States, about ninety thousand, by a late estimate; and probably this will eventually rise to one hundred thousand.

This matter being in so good a train, and contracts made and making for all the masts, spars, timber and naval stores, we have to lament the multiplied disappointments in the pecuniary negotiations. * * *

Your assuming the character of Consul, and making the Consular presents was certainly well timed. In a Country where principles are unknown, or what is equal, have not the smallest influence, it has been fortunate for the United States that their interests were at so critical a period in the hands of a citizen who had intelligence to discern and confidence to seize the fittest moments to secure them. As the periods of renewing the consular presents are computed from the date of the treaty, there cannot as you observe, be any difference in the expense, by your making the first under the circumstances you have mentioned. A suitable person for Consul at a place so important as Algiers will hardly be found until the emolument shall be increased; and this it is hoped may be done at the Session of Congress which is next week to commence. The cautions you suggest as to the character he should at first assume, that of Vice-Consul, or your Secretary, will be attended to. These observations refer to your letter of April 17th

In your letter of April 18th and estimate of the 20th of advantages and expenses of maintaining peace with Barbary, you have presented an interesting and important view of the commerce of the Mediterranean, and the share we may reasonably hope to attain in it, if we effect a peace with all the Barbary powers, and form commercial relations with the Countries bordering on that sea. * * *

It is some time since I received a copy of your instructions to Mons^r Famin to negotiate a treaty of peace with Tunis; and a letter from M^r Monroe dated in September, which I received the 23^d ult. covered a communication from M. de la Croix, the French Minister for foreign affairs, by which it appeared that a truce, or provisional treaty, had been concluded with that Regency; the Citizen Herculeais adding to his information, that a complete peace would soon follow. This peace will be the more valuable if obtained for the moderate terms designated in your instructions to M. Famin: although you will have seen, by letters you must since have received from Col^o Humphreys, that if indispensably necessary the terms might be extended. It will be fortunate indeed, if this important object is accomplished agreeably to the first instructions: for the extraordinary expenses of the Algerine negotiations, and the vast losses in various exchanges to convert our funds into Cash, may absorb all the savings in the sums ultimately appropriated for the treaties with Tunis and Tripoli.

Captain Cathcart has given me an open letter to the Dey of Algiers, in which I observe nothing improper: if any parts of it, however, should appear otherwise to you, they may be erased, or suppressed in the interpretation, at your discretion. He brought a letter from the Dey addressed to the President of the United States, to which an answer is now inclosed, which the President desires you to present to the Dey in the time and manner which you shall deem necessary and most acceptable. A copy of it for your information is inclosed.

To Joel Barlow, U. S. Agent, Algiers, from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE PHILADELPHIA

December 5th 1796

SIR An Act of Congress passed in the last Session required that Mediterranean passports should be issued from the Custom Houses on and after the first of September last. The Collectors were accordingly supplied. Our treaty with the Dey and Regency of Algiers requires that the vessels of the United States be furnished with passports within eighteen months from the date of the treaty; the indented margins of our passports will therefore arrive timely, I trust, to supply the Algerine Cruisers. I now transmit herewith one hundred of those margins, with six entire passports, as specimens of their form. The plate for striking them had been finished, and great numbers struck and issued prior to Captain Cathcart's arrival with the forms you were so kind as to send me. I also send herewith three quires of printed certificates substantially agreeing with the forms used by the British Consul at Algiers which you forwarded, and to which the margins are annexed, for the use of the Cruisers; five quires of certificates for Algerine prize vessels, and two quires relative to the health of the Country. The one hundred margins of the passports will enable you to supply the cruisers of Tunis and Tripoli as well as those of Algiers, should peace be accomplished with those powers.

Captain Cathcart thought it would be pleasing to the Dey to see a drawing of the frigate building for him in the United States: I have had one made, which you will find herewith.

* * * * *

P. S. You will of course give your receipt on the delivery of the cargo at Algiers, to enable Captⁿ Cathcart to receive here the stipulated freight.

[NA. SDA. Dip. Cor., Inst. to Min., Bk 3, June 1795-Jan. 1796.]

Observations of Richard O'Brien on negotiations for peace with Tunis*

9th of December 1796 in the CITY OF TUNIS

This day the Algerine Vickel sent for me and informed me he received letters and 50 passports from Algiers. I said I hoped he would act with dignity moderation and precaution on a business of so delicate a nature in which the honor of Algiers was so deeply interested. He said he would — that he would in the morning go to the Rabatta to where the Bey of Tunis resides — would see the Bey — communicate the purport of the Deys letter and prepare the way for me to have a conference.

On the morning of the 10th — The algerine Vickel went to the Palace and the Vickel shortly sent for me. I requested M^r Famin to go with me as he seemed much dissatisfied that the Vickel did not also desire him to go on this business with me — He acquiesced We went to the Bey's residence after walking there ½ an hour I at last saw the algerine Vickel — He said he had been speaking to some of his friends — that the Bashaw was busy in the Justice Hall, & that he would embrace a favorable opp^t of speaking to him — I observed he being the representative of so potent a prince as the Dey of Algiers he should not hesitate in doing his duty — He on this went to the Bashaw, met him going into another room & shewed

him the Bashaw of Algiers' orders and requests & determination relative to the Am. business. He returned to me & said that the Bey seemed much affected as a person very angry but choaked with inward grief on the affairs of the Dey of Algiers giving the Americans his passports & threats — I observed that the Vickel interpreted to me that the Dey of Algiers' letter intimated that Tunis had demanded a greater Regala from the Americans than algiers did. that it was in consequence of the Deys interference the Bashaw of Tunis had deviated from his fixed demand of 50,000 dollars and demanded the maritime & military stores — and says the Vickel you had better agree to give a small regala than keep the affairs in this manner unsettled — I said I had no such orders, That I should have an answer & return to algiers and there report to Patroon Grandi That he knew the orders were positive and could not be deviated from without the Dey's approbation — The Vickel went to where the Bey was & shortly after returned & said the Bashaw does not consider you or M^r Famin sufficiently instructed to conclude this business without a reference to algiers — I said on this that I or M^r Famin was empowered to conclude on the original terms of 50,000 dollars but not on the note of maritime & military stores — The Vickel said that in his Opinion I had better return to algiers and state these particulars to the Dey — I said if nothing better could be done that I certainly would — The Bashaw called for M^r Famin — had some conversation with him — Famin told me that the Vickel was no service on the business — says I he must obey his masters orders — Will the Bey conclude on the terms which he first proposed & settled with you? No says he, he will not. M^r Famin had a long conference with the Sachatapa to see if 8 or 10,000 dollars could not be substituted in the room of the Regala. The result was that it was impracticable — The Vickel took his leave of me for the present as he said he could not be of any more service to me — that he would go to his home, and commence his letters for Algiers, assuring me he had & would do all in his power on this business and hoped it would soon be accommodated. M^r Famin said it was no use for to stay there any longer as the Bey said what signifies my talking on this business — neither the Rice or Famin has powers to conclude with me without a reference to Algiers — I said I would conclude on the original terms but not with them and the note of the Maritime and military stores. I was determined to have a conference or audience with the Bey I accordingly entered the Justice Chamber where he was — went and kissed his hand, and asked him if he would conclude the peace He said on what terms? I said for 50,000 dollars — He looked at me & remained silent — I said, will your Excellency admit of something to be substituted in the room of the Regala — He said you cannot conclude without a reference to algiers. I asked then if he had any commands for algiers? He said he wished me well. I took my leave of him and returned & began to prepare for Algiers. M^r Famin and I had a long reasoning conversation — He was the Tunician — I was the Algerine. I went this evening to the Algerine Vickel — gave him a letter to forward to Algiers for M^r Barlow — desired if he had any commands for algiers to prepare that I should sail Suddenly & said he might either give me the 50 passports or return them by the Courier for Algiers

N.B. Arrived this day a regussee vessel from Livorn, the Master of said vessel informed me there were 5 sail of American Vessels in Livorn — This news became public in Tunis 10. Dec. 1796

[*On 10 October Captain O'Brien left Algiers for Tunis, with letters and gifts from the Dey to the Bey of Tunis.]

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. II, Jan.-Dec. 1797.]

To Secretary of State from David Humphreys, U. S. Minister to Lisbon, Portugal, and in charge of negotiations with Barbary Powers

(N^o 79.)

LISBON Dec^r 16th 1796.

SIR I no sooner received authentic information that the Emperor Muley Soliman had seriously threatened to declare war against the United States, in case vessels under their flag should continue to frequent the Ports of Saffi & Mazagan, &^e than I caused the enclosed notification, N^o 1. to be affixed in a public place at the Exchange; I hastened likewise to address a letter to the Emperor Muley Soliman, of which the enclosed N^o 2. is a copy; which I forwarded a few days ago under cover to M^r Simpson at Gibraltar, with a letter to him of which the enclosure N^o 3. is a copy — and I cannot but flatter myself that the precautions I have thus taken to avoid, if possible, the disastrous consequences of a rupture with the Emperor, will meet the approbation of Government

In the mean time, I am much distressed to learn that the Cruizers of the Emperor have began to carry his threats into execution by capturing & sending into Mogadore a vessel belonging to the United States bound from Cadiz to Boston, as you will perceive by the enclosures N^{os} 4 & 5, which came to hand by this day's post. — I do not expect however that the Captains of our vessels will be deterred from going to Saffi & Mazagan; as I am informed that several of them upon seeing the before mentioned Notification, expressed their contempt of the advice contained in it, and determination to prosecute the trade. Insomuch that I am persuaded that no measure which may be taken on this side of the Atlantic at present can put a stop to it: or indeed any other measure except some positive act of Government, & perhaps some armed vessels stationed in these seas for carrying that act into effect, as well as for other purposes. Government will of course decide how far it is right or expedient that the conduct of Individual Citizens, tending to involve their Nation in a war, should be tolerated or prevented. But apart from this consideration you are already in possession of my opinion of the importance of our having a few frigates in these Seas on all occasions, and which opinion I cannot excuse myself from repeating the more particularly under the present circumstances. — * * *

[NA. SDA. Disp. Spain, Vol. 3, 1795-1797.]