

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

**Volume IV
Part 1 of 3**

**Naval Operations
including diplomatic background
from April to September 6, 1804**

**United States
Government Printing Office
Washington, 1942**

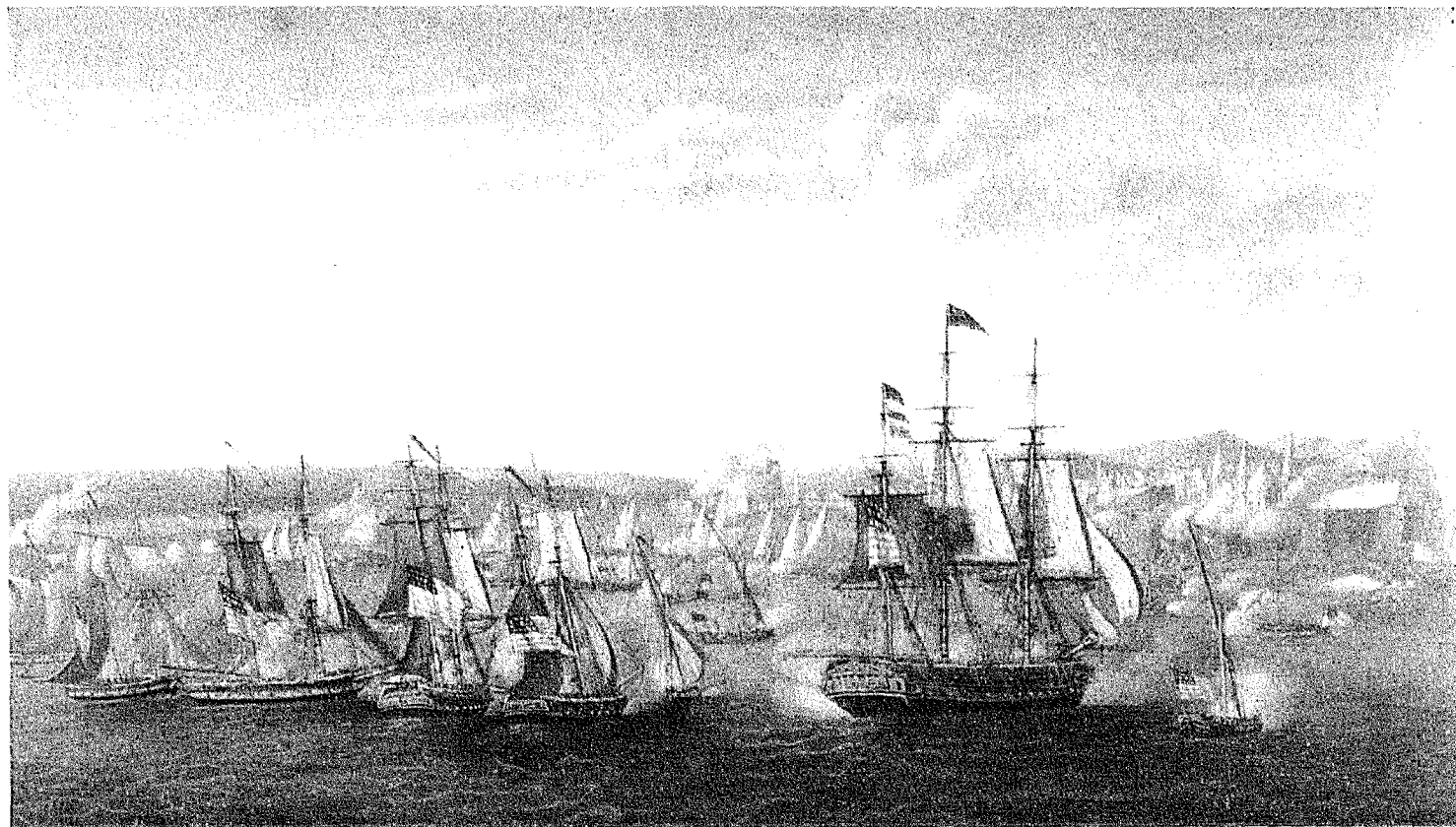
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NAVAL OPERATIONS

FROM APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 6, 1804

WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS



ATTACK ON TRIPOLI, 3 AUGUST 1804.

NAVAL DOCUMENTS

RELATED TO THE
UNITED STATES WARS
WITH THE BARBARY POWERS

VOLUME IV

NAVAL OPERATIONS

INCLUDING DIPLOMATIC BACKGROUND
FROM APRIL TO
SEPTEMBER 6, 1804

PUBLISHED UNDER DIRECTION OF
The Honorable FRANK KNOX
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 Act of Congress
Approved March 15, 1934



UNITED STATES
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WASHINGTON : 1942

PREFACE

This fourth volume of documentary source material related to our wars with the Barbary States early in the nineteenth century covers naval operations from April 1804 to September 6, 1804. Sufficient diplomatic correspondence is also included to indicate the political background and its close connection with the naval operations.

Outstanding among the events dealt with herein are the series of vigorous attacks on Tripoli made by the squadron under the redoubtable Commodore Edward Preble. These operations were notable in several aspects. They were conducted far from home in times when supply and communications were exceedingly difficult, not only from the then normal handicaps imposed by sail, but also because of the political turmoil in Europe incident to the great Napoleonic Wars. Preble had to depend largely upon the good will of the Neopolitan and British governments for the use of bases at Syracuse, Malta and Gibraltar, and for other essential aid in the matter of supplies and equipment. Furthermore his communications were flanked by these semi-hostile states of Morocco, Algiers and Tunis, which were constantly threatening predatory action and upon which Preble had to keep up steady diplomatic pressure backed by the influence of naval force.

In the face of these and other complicated obstacles, after repeated peace negotiations failed, Commodore Preble made several attacks in force. For the first time since the creation of our new navy under the Constitution, relatively large forces were employed together in battle. Aside from the success attained against Tripoli, the effect was far reaching in creating a high morale and a spirit of the offensive among a large proportion of the officers and men of the navy. These benefits survived the Barbary Wars, were largely responsible for the subsequent naval efficiency and success in the War of 1812, and became traditional.

Other noteworthy matters covered in the present volume are the negotiations for the ransom of Captain Bainbridge and the crew of the *Philadelphia* held as prisoners in Tripoli; the continuation of the blockade of Tripoli and of tribute payments to Algiers; the destruction of a large Tripolitan galliot by the Schooner *Vixen* supported by boats from the *Argus*, *Scourge* and *Siren*; the succession to the command of the squadron by Commodore Samuel Barron.

The first volume of the Barbary Wars series, already published, dealt with 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 under Commodore Richard Dale to the Mediterranean; the capture of the Tripolitan cruiser *Tripoli* by the U. S. schooner *Enterprise* and the blockade of Tripoli.

In the second volume of this series war continued with Tripoli and its blockade was kept up. In the Spring of 1802 Commodore Richard Dale was relieved by Commodore Richard V. Morris in command of the Squadron. The Emperor of Morocco displayed a determination to declare war against the United States, while peace with Algiers was preserved only through payment of tribute, and relations with Tunis remained very precarious.

The third volume covered naval operations from September 1803 through March 1804. Among the events dealt with therein were the declaration of war against the United States by Morocco, and a naval demonstration at Tangier by the squadrons under Commodores Rodgers and Preble, which, together with diplomatic pressure, was notably successful in persuading the Emperor of Morocco to confirm and ratify the Peace Treaty of 1786. Other events in this volume were the blockading of Tripoli; the grounding of the U. S. frigate *Philadelphia* and her capture by Tripoli; the captivity of Captain Bainbridge and his crew; the capture of the Tripolitan ketch *Mastico*, which was taken into the United States service and renamed the *Intrepid*; and finally the epic boarding and burning of the *Philadelphia* by Lieutenant Stephen Decatur, Jr.

Throughout the work it has been the endeavor to make the text of the printed document identical with the original source. Spelling, punctuation and abbreviations are reproduced as found in the originals or in the copies on file. It should be noted that the spelling of proper names is sometimes inconsistent and that capitalization and punctuation as found in the copies on file may not always be identical with the originals.

In addition to the individuals, private organizations and government activities, mentioned in previous volumes as aiding in this work, special acknowledgment is made to Mrs. James N. Booth, Miss Camilla S. McConnell, Mr. John W. Townsend, Jr. and Mr. Joseph Carson.

The detailed preparation of this volume is largely the work of Miss Loretta I. MacCrindle. Others who have given valuable assistance are Mr. Henry F. Lunenburg, Miss Catherine M. MacDonnell and Mrs. Clara R. Collins.

The publication of these documents was made possible by the Acts of Congress approved March 15, 1934 and June 30, 1941, quoted below:

"*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)."

"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 ("A" item), together with the unexpended balance for this purpose for the fiscal year 1940: *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.

ILLUSTRATIONS

	Page
Attack on Tripoli by U. S. squadron under Commodore Edward Preble, 3 August 1804.	Frontispiece
From a painting by M. F. Corn� in the Maine Historical Society. Reproduced through its kind cooperation.	
Map of the port of Saragosa (Syracuse) in Sicily	40
Reproduced from "The Mediterranean Pilot" published by W. Heather, London, 1802, now in the possession of the Library of Congress.	
Map of Valetta Harbor, Malta	114
Reproduced from "The Naval Chronicle" for 1811.	
Commodore Edward Preble	159
Reproduced from the portrait by Rembrandt Peale by courtesy of Lieutenant Commander Dundas Preble Tucker, U. S. Navy, Great-grandson of Commodore Preble.	
Commodore Preble's Squadron attacking Tripoli on 3 August 1804.	204
Reproduced through the kindness of the Naval Academy Museum from the painting in its collection by M. F. Corn�.	
The Gunboat action during the attack on Tripoli 3 August 1804.	248
A sectional view from the painting by Corn� at the Naval Academy Museum. The stern and mizzen-mast of the <i>Constitution</i> appears at the right. The Brig <i>Siren</i> and the Schooner <i>Vixen</i> (left to right) are shown in the foreground.	
Lieutenant Stephen Decatur and Midshipman Thomas McDonough boarding a Tripolitan Gunboat during the attack on Tripoli by the squadron of Commodore Preble on 3 August 1804.	290
Reproduced by courtesy of the Naval Historical Foundation from the painting in its collection copied in 1858 by D. M. Carter from an original by Chappel.	
Map of the port of Tripoli, indicating maneuvers of squadron during the battle of 3 August 1804	336
Reproduced through the courtesy of the United States Naval Academy Museum, from an original drawing in its collection, made by Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, United States Navy, in 1804.	
Attack on Tripoli, 3 August 1804	354
From a water color attributed to Charles Warren. Reproduced by courtesy of the Mariners' Museum, Newport News, Virginia.	

	Page
Commodore Preble's Squadron engaging the Gunboats and Forts of Tripoli on 3 August 1804 (identification sketch facing) . .	434
Reproduced by courtesy of President Franklin D. Roosevelt from a print in his collection by Charles Denoon.	
An attack on Tripoli by U. S. Squadron under Commodore Preble	474
From a painting on wood by an unknown artist in the Maine Historical Society, through whose kindness this reproduction is made.	
U. S. Ketch <i>Intrepid</i>	499
From a sketch in a letter from Midshipman William Henry Allen to General William Allen, 14 November 1804. Reproduced by courtesy of the Henry Huntington Library and Art Gallery, San Marino, California.	
The Ketch <i>Intrepid</i>	508
From a sketch by Midshipman William Lewis (lost in the <i>Epervier</i> in 1815). Reproduced from the original in the collection of Captain C. W. Cook, O. R. C., U. S. Army, by his courtesy.	
Map of the Mediterranean Region	524

ABBREVIATIONS INDEX TO SOURCES

A-4.....	Archivist's symbol, Navy Department Archives.
Ac 3647.....	Accession number, Library of Congress, Manuscripts Division.
Acct.....	Accountant.
Aff.....	Affairs.
Am.....	American.
Appts.....	Appointments.
Bk.....	Book.
Bn ¹ B 162 H.....	"The Life and Services of Commodore William Bainbridge" by Thomas Harris.
Boston PL.....	Boston Public Library, Boston, Mass.
CL.....	Consular Letters, State Department Records.
CMR.....	Court Martial Record.
Col.....	Collection.
Cong.....	Congress.
Cong. LB.....	Letter Book of letters to Congress from Secretary of the Navy, Navy Department Archives.
Cor.....	Correspondence.
Dana, H. W. L., Col.....	Collection made available by Mr. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow Dana.
Decatur, Stephen, Col.....	Collection of Mr. Stephen Decatur.
Dip. Cor.....	Diplomatic Correspondence, State Department Records.
Disp.....	Dispatches, State Department Records.
Disp. to Con.....	Dispatches to Consuls, State Department Records.
Doc.....	Document, or Documents.
Dom. L.....	Domestic Letters, State Department Records.
EPP.....	Edward Preble Papers, Manuscripts Division, Library of Congress.
Fox, J., Papers.....	Josiah Fox Papers, Peabody Museum.
GLB.....	General Letter Book, Navy Department Archives.
Hepburn, Earle, Col.....	Collection of Mr. Earle Hepburn, Philadelphia, Pa.
HS of Pa.....	Historical Society of Pennsylvania.
H. E. Huntington L&AG.....	Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery, San Marino, California.
Inst. to Min.....	Instructions to Ministers, State Department Records.
Inv.....	Invalid.
Journal 1803.....	Journal of U. S. Frigate <i>John Adams</i> , written in French and translated by the Office of Naval Intelligence, July, 1939.
L&AG.....	Library and Art Gallery.
LB.....	Letter Book.
LC.....	Library of Congress.
Let.....	Letters.
LR.....	Letters Received, U. S. Marine Corps.
JRP.....	John Rodgers Papers, Manuscripts Division, Library of Congress.
LS.....	Letters Sent, U. S. Marine Corps.
Maine HS.....	Maine Historical Society, Portland, Me.
MCA.....	U. S. Marine Corps Archives.
MC LB.....	Letters received from Master Commandants, Navy Department Archives.
Misc. LB.....	Miscellaneous Letter Book, Navy Department Archives.
Misc. L.....	Miscellaneous Letters, State Department Records.
NA.....	The National Archives, Washington, D. C.

NA. ND.....	Navy Department Records in the National Archives.
NA. SDA.....	State Department Records in the National Archives.
Nav.....	Naval.
Naval Chronicle.....	"United States Naval Chronicle," by Charles Washington Goldsborough, 1824.
ND.....	Navy Department.
NDA.....	Navy Department Archives.
NHF.....	Naval Historical Foundation, Washington, D. C.
No. 9217 Bm ¹ E 14.....	Rare Book, "Life of the late William Eaton", Brookfield, 1813.
No. 9516 Bn ¹ D 291M.....	"Life of Stephen Decatur" by Alexander Slidell MacKenzie.
Nom.....	Nominations.
NR&L.....	Office of Naval Records & Library, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.
NYHS.....	Courtesy of The New York Historical Society, New York, N. Y.
Off. Comg. Gunboats.....	Letters to Officers Commanding Gunboats, Navy Department Archives.
Officers LB.....	Officers Letter Book, Navy Department Archives.
OSW.....	Letters to Officers of Ships of War, Navy Department Archives.
PL.....	Public Library.
Picking, S.....	Commander Sherwood Picking, U. S. Navy.
Roosevelt, F. D., Col.....	Private Collection of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.
SDA.....	State Department Archives.
Sec.....	Secretary.
USMC.....	United States Marine Corps.
USNA.....	United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.
VA.....	Veterans Administration, Pensions, Washington, D. C.
Wa ⁴ D 451, 14347.....	NR&L symbol; "Capture & Destruction of the Frigate <i>Philadelphia</i> at Tripoli."

NAVAL OPERATIONS

FROM APRIL TO SEPTEMBER 6, 1804

WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS

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Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 1 April 1804

at 5 Cape Poirchee bearing N $\frac{1}{2}$ W in a range with mount Etna at 6 the town of Syracuse bore N W by N at 7 the town N W at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 Spoke the U. S. Schooner *Vixen* Cap^t Smith came on board us, at 9 Cap^t Sommers of the U. S. Schooner *Nautilus* came on board us at daylight employed beating in to the harbour of Syracuse at 8 Spoke the Ship *Vinilla* of boston from Malta to Messina the town bearing N N W, set the larboard Studding sails and bore away for Malta in Comp^y with the *Vixen* the convoy having got in

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Sunday, 1 April 1804

Strong Gales from the N N W & Cloudy Weather; Standing to the W S W under close reefed topsails and Courses. At 2 P. M. more moderate. Made more Sail; At 6 Swayed up top gall^t Masts At 8 A. M. up top gall^t Yards. At 10 A. M. Made Signal for Cap^t Stewart; he came on board: I gave him orders to proceed to Tunis Bay, in company with this Ship, as I think it necessary to display some forces before Tunis, in order to check their intention of hostilities towards us — Supplied the *Siren* with a quantity of Wood & Coal. At Noon laying to, Supplied the *Syren* with a topmast studding sail boom to make her a Jibb boom. Latitude observed 34°00' North — Tripoly bore South dis^t 60 Miles. Lampedosa N N W $\frac{1}{2}$ W. dis^t 98 Miles

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 1 April 1804

At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 the Commodore made signal, prepare to send up top gall^t yards. At 8 sent up top gall^t yards At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 TK^d to the N N W. At 11 the Commodore made signal for all Commanders to repair on board him, back'd the main topsail, lowr'd down the cutter, L^t Stewart went on board the Commodore with the first Officer of the Prize ship *Madona de Catapoliagne*. $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11 brail'd up after main sail haul'd down fore top mast stay s^t — the boat return'd with the 1st Officer of the prize went on b^d the Comm^d again Meridian moderate breezes & pleas^t boarded fore tack musterd the crew

Latt: Obs: 34°1' N.

[NDA.]

2 NAVAL OPERATIONS, APRIL-SEPTEMBER 6, 1804

To Midshipman John M. Gardner, U. S. Navy, Philadelphia, Pa., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t
April 2, 1804 —

You will consider yourself hereby authorized and directed to stop any Midshipmen passing through Philadelphia (and not ordered upon special similar service) and order them to your assistance. They will be useful in bringing the Men round here. Continue to write to me daily. —

N: B: You may enter 8 or 10 quarter gunners @ \$18. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

To Lieutenant Charles Ludlow, U. S. Navy, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t
April 2, 1804 —

I have received your Letter of the 28th ultimo. —

You may ship 6 or 8 Boatswain's Mates @ \$19 per month, and 3 quarter gunners at \$18 — 2 Yeomen of the Gun Room @ \$18. 2 Coxswains @ \$18, and 1 or 2 good Coopers, Stewards, Armourers, and Masters at Arms @ \$18 — You may also enter 30 Boys at not exceeding 6\$ per month. —

You will consider yourself hereby empowered and directed to stop any of the Midshipmen passing through New York. I mean any that may not be ordered upon similar special duty, and order them to join you and assist you in the execution of your instructions. —

You may so alter the shipping papers, that the responsibility of the Landlords may extend no farther than that the Men shall enter on board of the Vessels in which they are to be brought to this place and that they shall sail in such vessels. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

To Walter Jones*, Alexandria, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP
Ap. 3^d 1804

I send you the log Book of the Frigate *Chesapeak* & *New York* and a Journal Kept by Capⁿ John Rodgers on board the *John Adams* —

[* The Secretary of the Navy on 27 March 1804 requested his services as Judge Advocate of a Court of Enquiry into the conduct of Captain Richard V. Morris, U. S. Navy.]

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803-1805.]

To William Smith, Sr., Navy Agent, Charleston, S. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP
Ap^l 3^d 1804

M^r Gadsden goes to Charleston for the purpose of entering 100 able Seamen to serve on board the frigate *United States* He is instructed to allow 10\$ p^r m^o and to give 2 months advance upon responsible security being given — but I fear that he will not be able to procure the men upon these terms — Finding that you cannot succeed on these terms you may instruct M^r Gadsden to offer three months advance — failing to procure them for three months advance, you

may instruct him to offer four — if he should fail on these terms he may offer 12\$ p^r m^o & 2 months advance failing for 2 months advance 3 or 4 may be offered and finally if it should be found impracticable to procure the men on these terms you may instruct M^r Gadsden to allow to the Landlords 2 dollars for each person entered — they can certainly procure them and failing in all other means we must make it their interest to exert themselves —

I Send you by the mail 2000 dollars should you want more money I presume you may negotiate a bill on me for the am^t you may want and you may draw at sight

Let me request you to give M^r Gadsden every assistance in your power — it is very important that the men should be brought here as soon as possible — You must procure a vessel in season to bring them here —

Let me hear from you frequently —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803-1805.]

To Midshipman Christopher Gadsden, Jr., U. S. Navy, Washington, D. C., from
Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT —

April 3. 1804 —

You will repair immediately to Charleston S C. and there open Rendezvous and use your utmost efforts to enter immediately 100 Able Seamen or if you can procure them 120. Blank Shipping papers are enclosed. The Men may be allowed \$10 per month and 2 months advance upon their giving responsible security. Failing to procure them on these terms you will apply to the Agent and take instructions from him on the subject. The responsibility of the Sureties for the Seamen will cease upon their appearing on board of the Vessel or Vessels bringing them here, and upon the Vessels sailing for this place. You will judge of the Expediency of sending off a detachment of the Men before the whole number shall proceed on, and should a detachment be sent, M^r Marshall must accompany it. Confer with the Agent upon this point. —

The Agent will furnish you with the necessary monies and render you every other assistance in his power. —

Write to me by every Mail informing me of the progress you may be making. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

To Midshipman Winlock Clarke, U. S. Navy, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., from
Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT —

April 3. 1804 —

You will immediately repair to Alexandria and open a rendezvous and endeavour to enter 50 Able Seamen, 50 Ordinary Seamen and 10 Boys. You will report daily your progress and use every exertion to ensure success. Able Seamen to be allowed \$10 p^r month; Ordinary Seamen \$8, and Boys \$6, to be entered to serve 2 years; to receive 2 months advance upon giving responsible security. —

If on trial you find that Men cannot be entered on these Terms, you may offer 3 months advance or 4 if it should be an inducement. Failing on these Terms you may offer \$12 p^r month and 2 mo^s advance. —

You will receive an advance of \$600 and will make your requisitions for any sum as it may be wanted. Blank Shipping Papers are enclosed. The responsibility of the Sureties will cease on the Men being delivered to Cap^t Cassin at the Navy Yard here. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Captain William Bainbridge,
U. S. Navy

TRIPOLI BARBARY 3^d April 1804
(rec^d July 11th 1804 from
the Consul of France)

DEAR SIR, Your friendly letter of the 16th Decem^r, reached me on the 8th of February, and was immediately answered. On the 17th of that month, the day the Frigate was burnt in this harbour, our prison was surrounded with guards, and were cut off from every communication with all persons here. On the first of March we were taken from the house which we had occupied since that unfortunate day, the 31st Octob^r last, and were moved to apartments within the Castle, where the Bashaw lives, and have been kept closely confined there until yesterday, when myself and four Officers were furnished with mules and liberty to take a ride in the Country, under Guard. This indulgence of exercise was embraced after so long a confinement; the Minister of foreign Affairs for this Regency, a very polite man, has assured me that the liberty of breathing the fresh air shall be continued, but we have not permission to have access to the Consuls, nor they to us: — this we should estimate more than the liberty of walking out, but am doubtful of obtaining it.

On the 26th ult^o Commodore Preble was off here, and sent a Boat on shore, requesting permission to land some cloathing for our seamen, who are much in want, which was refused; but gave permission for his sending them in some Neutral Vessel, and I am in hopes of soon receiving them from Malta. M^r Beaussier, Commissary General and Charge Affairs for the French Republic to this Regency, went on board the *Constitution* when off here, but I am ignorant of every thing that took place.

Since our being here five of the Crew have turned Renegadoes, and two died — the compliment at present is 300. We are all in tolerable health, but extremely anxious to hear from you.

Commodore Preble sent us in February last one thousand dollars; M^r Davis has remitted eight hundred; I have drawn the following Bills, viz. On Tunis — one thousand dollars, on Leghorn — five hundred, on Malta six hundred, — all which funds have answered our necessities, and left about five hundred dolls. on hand: I expect soon another remittance from Tunis.

I sincerely hope that you are comfortably settled, and that M^{rs} Lear enjoys health and pleasure in the climate of Algiers: Please to tender her my best respect and grateful remembrance. I enclose this to my friend Thainville, and send it to the Minister of Foreign Affairs to be delivered M^r Beaussier to forward.

I omit writing to O'Brien on the uncertainty of his being with you.

Believe me my dear friend to be with sincere wishes for the happiness of yourself and family,

P. S. The great and constant attention which M^r Davis, charge of Affairs at Tunis, has paid to relieve our situation all in his power,

claims my duty in making it known to the Government — I have therefore to request you will be pleased to mention it in your letters to the Secretary of State, that we have received from him every assistance which his situation could possibly give.

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

To Purser Benjamin Alline, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t

April 4, 1804 —

You will proceed from this place by the most convenient Route to Chilicothe, where you will receive the sum of \$20,000 for the use of the Marines now at New Orleans or proceeding there, or that may hereafter be stationed at that place or in its Vicinity.

From Chilicothe you will proceed by the most convenient route to New Orleans which you are to consider as your Station. —

To the Marines that are or may be stationed at New Orleans or in it's Vicinity, you are to act as Pay-Master & Quarter-Master. —

Your general duties will be, to keep all the accounts in relation to pay and Clothing. The provisions are to be furnished by the Contractor for the Army, to whom the Secretary of War has given the requisite Instructions on the subject. —

The Commanding Officer of the Marines at New Orleans will make his requisitions upon you for all Articles in the Quarter-Master's & Barrack-Master's Departments — that are not to be supplied by the Commanding Officer of the Marine Corps, which Articles you are to furnish accordingly. —

For your services you will receive the Pay and Rations to which your Warrant as Purser in the Navy entitles you, and a Commission (to be hereafter fixed by me) upon all purchases made by you upon the requisitions of the Commanding Officer of the Marines at or near New Orleans. —

You will receive from the Accountant of the Navy detailed Instructions in relation to the Forms in which your accounts are to be kept and returned to this Office. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

To Midshipman Edward Bennett, U. S. Navy, Washington, D. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPMT —

April 4, 1804 —

You will repair immediately to Norfolk and there open Rendezvous and use your exertions to enter 150 Able Seamen, 50 Ordinary Seamen, and 20 Boys. To Able Seamen you will allow \$10 per month. To Ordinary Seamen \$8 — and to Boys \$6. The whole to be entered to serve two years. Two months advance may be given on the customary security being given. Should You not be able to procure the Men on these Terms, you will apply to the Agent for his Instructions. The responsibility of the Sureties for the Seamen will cease upon the delivery of the Men on board of the Vessels which will bring them to this place and on such Vessels sailing from Norfolk. You will judge of the expediency of sending off detachments of Men as you may enter them. The Agent will fix upon the Conveyance and you will consult with him on this subject. In case you send off Detachments a Midshipman must accompany them.

M^r Bedinger will furnish You with the necessary monies and render you every other assistance. —

Mids^o Mitchell is ordered to place himself under your Command. Other assistance shall be sent to you in time. —

Blank Shipping Papers you will herewith Receive. —

You will give me daily information of the progress you may be making in the execution of these orders. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar

GIBRALTAR 4 April 1804.

DEAR SIR, I have not heard from you since my last respects to you under date 22nd Ultio. p^r the victualing ship *Woodrop Sims* Captain Reddick, who proceeded for Syracuse under convoy of the *Argus* captain Hull to whom I advanced supplies to the Amount of \$1069-10 — Your last Dispatch for the Navy Department have been for some days on board the Ship *Shepherdess* Captain OBrien bound to New York, and detained by contrary winds. We have had late arrivals from the U S in 32 days — at the time of their departure the loss of the *Philadelphia* had not reached there — nor do they know of any Frigates getting ready for these seas — I herewith hand you a letter from Consul Kirkpatrick, and another from Consul Yznardi — By the latter you will see the friendly interposition of the Emperor of Russia with the Ottoman Porte on behalf of the crew of the *Philadelphia*, which may have a good effect. At any rate it is a proof of his friendship towards our Government

We lately had a cutter from England with dispatches for the Navy Com^r here and Lord Neilson — She did not anchor but proceeded immediately to the fleet — All that transpired was that the King had got better, and now it is reported a great expedition was going on in England — An embargo was laid in all the Ports on shipping of every denomination

[LC. EPP, LB, April-Nov. 1804.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*

Tunis Bay 4th April 1804

DEAR SIR, I anchored here last evening, and am in hopes to see you on board in the course of this day. If you can send me a quantity of fresh Stock, Vegetables, and Fruit, it will be acceptable, as we have some Invalids. I am not so well myself as to be able personally to pay my respects to His Highness the Bey of Tunis, but have some communications to make to him through you, and wish to see you as soon as possible —

PS. As I intend leaving this place tomorrow you will oblige me by permitting your Drogerman to purchase me the follow^g supply of Fresh Provisions Viz — 5 Bullocks — 30 Dozen Fowls 4 Dozen Pidgeons — 30 Sheep — 1000 Eggs — Plenty of Cabbages — Oranges & Lemons &c^a and some corn for the Stock —

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 4 April 1804

Anchd. at Tunis Bay. *Syren* in company.

[LC original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 4 April 1804

Moderate breezes from the W S W — Employed working ship to windward between Zembra Island & Cape Farina — At 2 P. M. the wind shifted from W S W to N b E which is fair for Tunis — Hauled over for Cape Farina till it bore by compass N W b W $\frac{1}{2}$ W We then bore up for Cape Carthage which bore S W 5 leagues — This Cape forms the North entrance to the Anchorage at Tunis As you haul in with cape farina you will observe some broken sand patches resembling snow, and a Watch Tower to the West of them, and some buildings to the West of them, and some buildings near the shore on the south side — Cape Carthage is of a moderate height with an old watch tower on it and is higher than any projecting point between it and cape farina — Ten miles to the N E of Cape Carthage we had 24 fathoms soft bottom, at 6 pm anchor'd with the small Bower in 10 fathoms water — Veered to one third of a cable — We are now at Anchor in the outer road stead leading to Tunis which bears West 9 miles, Cape Carthage N N W nearly 3 Miles — Goletta Castle which guards the Entrance to Tunis bears W b S $\frac{1}{2}$ S 5 Miles — It shews near about 50 Guns, and a fort nearly on a level with the Sea shews 17 large guns A little to the S. W. of the Castle near Cape Carthage is a small Castle shewing 8 Guns We are secure in this situation from the winds excepting between N E b E & N b E. The S E wind has a reach of 10 Miles — Cleared ship & slept at Quarters during night with springs in readiness — Moderate thro' the Night — *Syren* in company. — At 6 A. M. hoisted a Jack & fired a gun as a signal for a shore boat — Made signal for the *Syren* to weigh and for her Captain. At 10 she weighed & stood up the harbor — This forenoon stayed the Topmasts & set up the rigging

Surgeons report 7 sick, 8 conv^{sc} & 2 discharged

Noon moderate breezes from the E N E —

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns. Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 4 April 1804

At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 took in top gall^t sails, down jib took in all sail & came too in 10 fathoms water abreast of the City of Carthage in Tunis bay, prepar'd the boarding pikes, battle axes, the marines of the watch under arms —

Midnight clear & pleas^t all the watch under arms. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 L^t Stewart went on board the Commodore P^r signal $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 got under way p^r signal of the Comm^o L^t Stewart return'd with the Pilot of the Frigate, Hove up made sail & stood farther up the bay of Tunis At 9 mann'd the cutter, the Pilot went to the town in her —

Meridian back'd the main topsail —

[NDA.]

To Lieutenant Charles Ludlow, U. S. Navy, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t

April 5, 1804 —

I have received your letter of the 21st ultimo.— If it will benefit the Recruiting service, you may enter all the Men (which you have been directed to procure) for the Frigate *President*. You may also mention that you are to be one of the Officers of that Frigate. —

You have acted correctly in detaining the Midshipmen to assist you. You have anticipated my orders to you on the subjects which You will perceive expressly invests you with authority and directions to detain any that might be useful. —

N.B. I enclose the rates of Wages allowed to Petty Officers. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

TRIPOLI BARBARY 5th April 1804

rec^d 2^d June 1804

DEAR SIR, I this moment received your much esteemed favor of the 12th February, and yours of the 16th December came to hand on the 8th of February. I have written to you at the several following dates, Viz. — 12th January, 9th February, and 3^d of April, and hope that they will safely reach you, as I have been particular in detailing our unfortunate situation. In mine of the 3^d inst^t I informed you that on the 1st of March we were moved from the house that we had occupied, to apartments within the Castle; they are not so good as those we left, but are comfortable ones, and were we only permitted to have communication with any of the Consuls here, our situation would be rendered as comfortable as could be expected for prisoners. Our people are obliged to work, and at *present* are in want of cloathing, which I expect every hour from Malta: I am sorry to observe that there are some unthinking wretches amongst them who will sell their only shirt for a drink of grog.

After having received a letter from M^r Cathcart, and seen the one he wrote to M^r Nessen, Danish Consul at this place, I am not astonished to hear of his arrogance, and assuming self-consequence in addressing you; — the man certainly must be deranged in his intellectuals, or lost to all reflection; for my own part I consider M^r C. — as a private citizen, and have informed him in my answer to his letter, that by the early attention you had paid to our misfortune we were provided for the present, and for the future should make my call for supplies on the Commodore and yourself: I hope my dear Col^l that you will not let the absurd vanity of a weak man disturb your passions. It may appear like great ingratitude in me (which heaven forbid that any instance of my life should show) to treat that Gentleman's officious kindness in this manner; but I consider it in the light that you do.

On the 26th ult^o Commodore Preble was off here and sent a Boat on shore with letters; the day following M^r Beaussier, Commissary General for the French Republic at this Regency, went on board the *Constitution*, and had an interview with the Commodore, — my not having access to M^r Beaussier prevents my being informed of particulars.

Respecting the English mentioned in your letter, I suppose something will be done. The British Consul at this place *left* here about the 25th of last month.

In my last I gave a statement of the Bills I have drawn, and the monies which had been received by me, and the sum at present on hand; I annex a duplicate of that part of my letter to the bottom of this, from which you will perceive that the early provision you made for us has been more than sufficient for our immediate wants. Myself and Officers feel fully sensible of the interest you have taken to alleviate the misfortune of us and the Crew, and permit me again to repeat my assurances to you that your kind attention will ever be gratefully remembered by me. By letters from M^r Davis (who has been extremely attentive to our unfortunate situation) this day received I am advised of a Bill he has sent in my favor, for one thousand dollars, which I expect will come to hand in a day or two.

If my friend O'Brien and family are still with you please to present my best respects to them, and tell O'Brien I think he has been a little negligent in not writing me — I wish him and his much happiness; I was in hopes of *seeing* him before he sailed for America; in my former letters I have express myself thereon. Remember me to M^r Thainville & family; I wrote to him on the 9th February and 3^d instant. I will also thank you to give my compliments to Consul Bheil, who was very polite and attentive to me when at Algiers.

My Officers and self are much obliged to M^{rs} Lear for her kind remembrance and good wishes; please to tender her my best wishes for her happiness. After my leaving Barbary, no inducement could make me wish to set foot in it again, except to visit Algiers, and under your roof to have the pleasure of expressing the feelings of my soul for your attention in the hour of misfortune

Believe me, my friend, that it requires more than the fortitude of man to bear my daily reflections: Injurious reports, loss of services to my Country, wife and child in America, are painful subjects for contemplation in a close prison in Tripoli. I send this open to the Minister of Foreign Affairs to be sent to the French Commissary here, to forward to you

Extract from last letter.

Commodore Preble sent us in February last, One thousand dolls.; M^r Davis has remitted eight hundred; I have drawn the following Bills — On Tunis for One thousand dolls., on Leghorn for five hundred, on Malta for six hundred, — all which funds have answered our necessities, and left five hundred dolls. on hand.

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part 1, Jan. 1804–Nov. 1805.]

To Stephen Cathalan, Jr., U. S. Commercial Agent, Marseilles, France, from Robert R. Livingston, U. S. Minister to Paris, France

Copy

PARIS 5th April 1804

SIR I have receiv^d your favor of the 26th March — I believe that Bombardes might be obtained here with the convience tho' not with the Direct approbation of Government but as neither Commodore Preble nor M^r Cathcart have writen alone to me on the subject I cannot undertake to do any thing in it & the rather as I have procured

the interposition of this government with the Dey to effect a peace & I am not without hopes New negotiations are on foot for that purpose in consequence of the instructions I have forwarded to Commodore Preble

[NA. SDA. CL, Marseilles, Vol. 2, March 1803-Nov. 1827.]

To the Bey of Tunis from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

(Copy)

U: S. SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay 5th April 1804

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY. Not long since a letter came into my hands, written by Your Excellency to Commodore Morris, relative to the conduct of M^r Cathcart when he last presented himself at Tunis; and also respecting some Prize-Goods alledged to be Tunisian property, captured and detained by one of the American Squadron. I immediately forwarded Your Excellency's letter to the President of the United States, and am confident that he will disapprove in the most pointed manner, any hasty and improper conduct of M^r Cathcart's towards Your Excellency; and that he will promptly cause strict justice to be rendered to the Party claiming the goods captured and detained as aforesaid. Not being particularly acquainted with the circumstances relative to that capture and detention, I could not take upon myself to regulate the business, and considered it much more proper, to refer the whole to my Government, as Commodore Morris would be there present to answer for his conduct.

I have sent a Vessel to Algiers for Col: Lear Consul General of the United States, who is soon expected, and will have the honor (with Your Excellency's permission) to visit Tunis. He is fully empowered by the President of the United States, to regulate all our affairs with Your Excellency, and I hope it will be done to your satisfaction. I regret that the present state of my health, and the hurry I am in to execute an important business, which requires my immediate attention, will deprive me of the honor of personally paying my respects to Your Excellency at your Castle; and beg Your Excellency to be assured, that nothing short of the most urgent necessity to leave this Bay immediately, could have prevented me from landing at Tunis.

I have every reason to believe, that the President of the United States, will confirm M^r Davis (our present Charge des Affairs near Your Excellency) as our Consul for the Regency of Tunis; and in the mean time, it will be pleasing to our Government, that Your Excellency considers him as their proper representative.

I expect very soon the arrival of several Ships of War from the United States, and it is probable by some of them, such instructions relative to the conduct of M^r Cathcart, and the business of the Prize-Goods will be received, as to give Your Excellency every satisfaction.

His Excellency

HAMOUDA BASHAW BEY
of Tunis

[NA. SDA. CL, Tunis, Vol. 2, Part 2, 1803-1806.]

Presumably to Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from the Seamen of U. S. Schooner *Enterprise*

MESSINA April 5th 1804

HONORED SIR, We the Crew of this Schooner actuated by a consciousness of having discharged our duty to the utmost as far as we engaged in support of the rights and independence of America, against the Enemies of that happy Nation, beg leave to solicit the favor of your attention to our rights as freemen. We, Sir, have served America six months over our time. Some of us have been two years and three Months and some more from our dearest ties; while our Wives & families left in an unprotected state, perhaps labouring under the most distressed circumstances for want of that supp^y which they have a just claim on us, but our long absence has rendered impracticable. Can we then call ourselves Men if we do not cast our thoughts on our families, most of whom exist in that Country that we have risked our lives to defend and protect —? Or may we expect to be impressed in a service, whose liberty and independence our fathers fought and bled to establish and defend — against tyranny & oppression?

The time has again expired that we expected would arrive and with it our discharge, but which at present we are without knowing — resting however on your goodness — we trust you will appeal to our worthy Captain for his testimony of our conduct as a means of establishing ourselves in your opinion in so much so, as to procure the favour of your compliance with the request of Your Ob^d H^{ble} Servants.

Seamen of the UNITED STATES SCHOONER *Enterprise*

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 5 April 1804

At Anchor in Syracuse harb^r These 24 hours Commence with light breezes hoisted in the launch the *Vixen* sailed in the night —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Thursday, 5 April 1804

Wind S E. Moderate & pleasant. At 5 P. M. the *Syren* brought the Consul down & he came on board with his drogerman. Saluted him with 5 Guns He informed me the Tunisians were quiet at present: and that Cap^t Decatur had left, this place about two weeks since, after having Blockaded a Tripoline Polacre of 16 Guns for 16 Days, and obliging her to dismantle & haul up, and the crew to go home from Tripoly for the fear of going to sea, and falling in with our cruisers. At 10 A. M. M^r Davis our Consul left us, in the Pinnace for Tunis. I wrote to the Bashaw by him

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 5 April 1804

Commences fresh breezes clear & pleas^t weather. $\frac{1}{2}$ past Meridian the Cutter return'd. At 1 the Comm^d made signal to speak us, run up the Cutter made sail & beat out of the harbour At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 came

too with the starb^d anchor in 10 fathoms, Cape Carthage bearing N W. Point Soliman E $\frac{1}{2}$ S L^t Stewart went on b^d the Comm^e At 4 a signal from the Comm^e to get under way, brought too. $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 L^t Stewart return'd run up the cutter, made sail & stood up the bay. At 5 M^r Davis our Consul came on b^d in a shore boat. Wore round & stood for the Comm^e $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 came too again. At 6 L^t Stewart & the consul went on b^d the Comm^e who fired a salute of five guns — Midnight all the watch under arms L^t Stewart return'd run up the cutter. Light airs & pleas^t At 8 L^t Stewart went on board the Comm^e At 10 L^t Stewart return'd, the Consul left the Commodore, who fired a salute of 5 guns. $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 the Consul went to Tunis —

Meridian light airs from the West & warm weather. $\frac{1}{2}$ past Meridian L^t Stewart went on b^d the Comm^e At 10 he return'd — Midnight light airs & variable. —

(NB those remarks include 36 hours.)

[NDA.]

To General William Allan from Midshipman William Henry Allen, U. S. Navy
NEWYORK 6th April 1804

DEAR FATHER We arrived here to day at Meridian 30 hours from Newport where we arrived at 5 P M of the 4th Inst and did not leave it untill the next morning —

Immediately after my landing here I had the luck (I cannot yet yet determine whether it is good or bad) to fall in with Captn [Isaac] Chauncy direct from Washington who being empowered by Secy of the Navy to Stop *any* officer, has detained me here to take charge of a schooner bound round to the city with naval stores and seaman: he Informs me that there are now fitting out the frigate *President* of 44 guns the *U. S.* of 44 the the *Constellation* & *Congress* of 36 & *J. Adams* of 32 guns Captn Jam. [Samuel] Barron my Commander in the *Philadelphia* goes out in the *President* he being older than Preble will supercede him in the command of the Squadron the *Congress*, Captn Rodgers chose in preference to the *U. S.* which James Barron is to command & Captains Campbell & Chauncy the *Constellation* & *John Adams* — This looks a little like doing something this summer the *U. S.* & *President* mount 30 — 24 pounders on the gun deck the *Congress* & *Constellation* 28—18 pounders and the *J. Adams* 24—12 pounders * * *

[Huntington Library Quarterly.]

[6 April 1804]

Soundings off Cape Carthage and vicinity

The old castle on cape Carthage bearing N, W $\frac{1}{2}$ N, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, you have 7 fathoms. Steering W S W p^r Compass $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the shore you have 4 fathoms from Carthage up to a rocky point on which there is a low battery of four Guns.

Goletta W b N 1 & $\frac{1}{2}$ Mile }
Cape Carthage N E $\frac{1}{2}$ E & } You have 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ fath^t
Cimario E N E — }

The round white fort W N W, Cape Carthage and Cape Farina shut in, you have 5 fathoms

TUNIS BAY April 6th 1804.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 10, Feb.-April 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires,
Tunis

AMERICAN HOUSE,
Tunis April 6th 1804.

SIR, I have this moment returned from Bardo, after a warm and menacing conversation with His Excellency, which I have not time to give you in detail; suffice it to say, that the subject is the immediate return, or payment for the Tunisian property capt^d and sold as already stated you. He refused to open the letter you addressed him, and directed me to say, that he will receive no excuse of any kind for a further delay. I informed His Excellency that Consul Lear was daily expected, who would settle all difficulties and that you had not the authority to answer his claims; he observed "I have the power to capture your Vessels, and pay myself," adding "let us not discuss this subject any longer it will only lead to warm remarks. Apprise the Admiral that this affair must be settled before he leaves the harbour, his answer will guide my conduct.

I state you thus briefly the situation of affairs, and send you express my Drogerman for your reply, whom I beg you not to detain longer than you possibly can avoid: he will return this evening, in order that I may go to the Palace in the morning.

I would come on board myself but should be too much fatigued to return this evening. There are other reasons which induce me to remain, and which shall be stated you, when I have the pleasure of seeing you.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Captain Edward Preble,
U. S. Navy

(Copy)

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Tunis Bay April 6th 1804.

DEAR SIR, I have this moment rec^d Your letter of this date, in answer to which I have only to observe that if His Excellency the Bey had read my letter to him of yesterday's date, I presume he could not but have been satisfied with the information it contained relative to the prize-Goods captured by Commodore Morris' Squadron; but as he will not attend to my communications and absolutely refuses to read my letter, how is it possible for me to Satisfy him? The only answer that I can give to his demand of Settlement for those goods before this Ship leaves the Bay, is that I am under the necessity of leaving it tomorrow and shall most certainly leave it in the course of the day.

I am not authorized to say more to His Exc^y on the Subject of the Captured goods, than I had already said, and if he should declare war as he threatens I am confident he must have already resolved on it, without this frivolous pretext. On Your answer will depend my future movements with the Naval force under my Command.

I shall positively sail by 3. PM. tomorrow and wish first to See You on board if possible.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tunis, Vol. 2, Part 2, 1803–1806.]

14 NAVAL OPERATIONS, APRIL-SEPTEMBER 6, 1804

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 6 April 1804

At 10 AM, weighed anchor and made sail out of the harbour [of Syracuse] bound to the Westward — * * * Draught of Water Aft 14 feet 4 Inch^s — Forw^d 12 feet 2 Inches

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 6 April 1804

Light Airs & variable. Crew employ'd repairing sails making nippers &c &c Wind from the N East fresh & pleas^t. At 6 a signal from the Comm^r to get under way. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 weigh'd & stood out of the bay. L^t Stewart came on board. At 7 came too in 6 fathoms. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 beat to quarters cast loose the guns, set the watch each man under arms —

Mid night dark & heavy gales. —

[NDA.]

To Lieutenant John Cassin, U. S. Navy, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t

April 7, 1804 —

I yesterday received a letter from the Navy Constructor informing me that he has engaged 15 or 16 workmen exclusive of his Foreman and Apprentice, at Phil^a, and expects 5 or 6 from Balt^o. That to the Carpenters from Phil^a he had engaged to give a per diem allowance of \$2 50/100 with an allowance of 16\$ to each for his Expences down and two days work lost. Those from Baltimore he has engaged at \$2 p^r day with an allowance of \$5 to each for their expences in coming here. His Foreman he has engaged at \$3 25/100 per day with his expences here and back after continuing six months if he should choose to return at that time. The whole he has engaged to allow Grog twice a day while at work.

All these engagements you will confirm and let the Purser of the Yard pay the Men immediately for their Expences down agreeably to the rates stipulated between M^r Doughty and them. Instead of allowing Grog, allow to each of these men an addition to their p^r diem allowance of pay, 6 cents per day. You may also allow to the Plumbers Men 6 cents per day each in lieu of Grog. —

M^r Doughty has suggested that it will probably be expedient to raise the allowance of some of the Persons heretofore employed under him. Of this you will judge and act accordingly, but the rates of their pay, if encreased must not exceed the allowance made to the Men procured by M^r Doughty in Phil^a. M^r Doughty has also mentioned that it will probably be expedient to raise the Wages of the Mastmakers to \$2 50/100. Of this you will also judge. — The plumber is to be allowed for his service 166.66 $\frac{2}{3}$ \$ p^r month commencing from the 1st of the present month April 1804

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 7 April 1804

Put to sea in a gale from the N. W.

[LC original.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Saturday, 7 April 1804

Moderate Breezes from the W N W. & cloudy. At Anchor in Tunis Bay, *Syren* in company, At 5 P. M. a shore boat came off with the Drogerman of our Consul who brought me a letter from him which informed me that the Bey insisted on my landing to pay my respects to him, and to pay for certain Tunisian property taken by Comm^{re} Morris's Squadron. I answered the letter by saying I knew nothing of the property in question, and that an appearance of a gale obliged to put to sea immediately, Ordered the *Syren* to stand into the bay and anchor abreast of the Goletta to receive any communication from the Consul; At 6 P. M with the Wind from the N W b N, weighed anchor and stood to sea under close reefed topsails & Courses; Blowing very heavy. At Midnight passed Zembra Island: about 5 miles on Our lee Beam. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 A. M. it bore S b W 3 leagues. At 4 A. M it blew a heavy Gale; Handed fore & Mizzen top Sails and launched top gall^{ies} Masts. At 6 A. M. the gale had increased with Violent Squalls — handed the foresail. At 7 A. M. we were 30 Miles to the North of Cape Bon. Wore Ship to the W S W. & brought to under reefed mainsail & storm stay sails: A heavy Sea. At Noon saw Cape Bon S S W dis^t about 20 Miles — * * *

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 7 April 1804

Moderate breezes from the W N W.

At single anchor in Tunis Bay — At 4 P. M. a shore boat came off — Towards evening the weather became cloudy and overcast and had the appearance of a gale from the North^{ly}. Secured the Guns, Weighed & came to sail under three reefed topsails & Courses.

The *Syren* stood farther into the Bay and Anchored — We carried a press of sail in order to weather Zembra Island situated 10 miles to the N N W of Cape Bon and bearing from us E N E. 24 Miles —

At Midnight passed Zembra Island nearly 5 Miles on our Lee Beam — At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 A. M. took our departure from it bearing S b W, 8 miles By 4 A. M. we had handed the fore and Mizzen Top-sails & Launched top gall^{ies} Masts.

By 6 A. M. it blew a violent gale from the N N W with a heavy sea & frequent squalls — Reefed the foresail, Handed it & the Main T sail.

By 7 A. M. we were near 33 Miles to the Northw^{ard} of Cape Bon, at which time we wore to the W S W in order to avoid dangers which lye between Cape Bon & the Island of Maritimo

Brought to under reefed Mainsail & storm stay sails — The ship labors & pitches heavy — Set forward the fore runners & tackles in order to ease the bowsprit — The weather was hazy & overcast with heavy gales all the forenoon & the land was obscured till a little before noon when we saw Cape Bon bearing S S W $\frac{1}{2}$ W distant by our observation 14 Miles —

The Gale continues from the N N W.

Latitude observed 37°22' N.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 7 April 1804

Commences with stiff gale, & cloudy squally weather. At 4 hoisted out the barge & sent M^r Budd with the Tunissian (that had staid on board all night) on shore. $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 the barge return'd, let her astern & pay'd out more cable, over haul'd a range of the L^d cable $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9 unbent top gall sails & bent the old Ones — Meridian still blowing very heavy from the N. N W crew employ'd middle stitching sails blacking hamm^s cloths &c at 7 beat to quarters & gave the watch their arms —

Midnight strong gales & cloudy. —

[NDA.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 8 April 1804

Meridian the American Consul & his Attendants came on board, in a shore boat & bro^t with them a great quantity of sheep, Vegetables, Poultry & Fruit. — At 6 hoisted out the barge at 7 hoisted her in again —

Midnight moderate breezes & pleas^u wind N by W all the watch under arms. —

[NDA.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Lieutenant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

NEW YORK April 9th 1804.

SIR. I did not arrive here untill the evening of the 5th Ins^t owing to the extreme badness of the roads — I lost no time in making arrangements for the business that I was sent upon, however, M^r Cheeseman's being out of town, prevented my closing for the Gun Carriages untill the Day following, when he contracted to furnish 30 Gun Carriages for 24 Pounders all compleat, made of the best materials, on, or before the 21st of May next, it was the shortest time that he would contract for, he also declined contracting for a specific sum, but would furnish the materials, and get the work done on the best terms possible, I hope the time & terms will meet with your approbation. —

I also send on, this Day, seven Ship Carpenters, under charge of M^r Allen, who I detained for that purpose, it is all that I could prevail on to go this day, but tomorrow I expect 12 or 14 more will follow, I have agreed to pay them two Doll^s per Day — while they are employed at the Navy Yard. at Washington (Sundays excepted) the pay to commence from the Day that they report themselves to the Navy Office, or Cap^t Cassan, — also to pay their expences to and from Washington — they however are to procure their own board & Lodging, and be responsible for all expences they may be at While at Washington those are the best terms on which I could procure good Carpenters here, —

I see but little prospect at present of procuring any suitable characters for Masters, Boatswains, or Gunners, shall however exert myself to procure at least one of each Description before I leave this. —

L^t Ludlow has already sent off near seventy men under charge M^r Leacraft, and will on Wednesday next most probably send off fifty or sixty more, M^r Ludlow appears to be making use of every exertion to procure the number of recruits ordered, & in my opinion the service would suffer nothing here from my absence, therefore with that impression, as soon as the other business that was entrusted to me is compleated, I shall return to Washington with all possible dispatch, —

[NDA. MC LB, 1804-5.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

ON BOARD THE U. STATES BRIG *Syren*
April 9th 1804

SIR I have the satisfaction to inform you, that all is again quiet here, for six weeks, at the expiration of which term, satisfaction must be made for the captured goods in question

I much regret not having the pleasure of seeing you again as it would probably have *amused you*, to have received a detail of the negotiation — Capt. Stewart will make you acquainted, with circumstances — on your return, should you be desirous of seeing, me be pleased to fire one Gun, and make the signal sending your boat on shore — weather & permitting —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 10, Feb.-April 1804.]

To Monsieur d'Oubril, Russian Chargé d'Affaires, Paris, France, from Robert R. Livingston, U. S. Minister to Paris, France

PARIS 9th April 1804

The undersigned Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, has the honor to transmit to M^r Oubril charge des affairs of his I. M. the Emperor of all the Russias the copy of a note that he has just received from the Consul of the United States at Petersburg by which the Grand Chancellor has been pleased to communicate the intention of his Imperial Majesty to interpose his good offices with the Porte in behalf of the brave but unfortunate men that were captured by the Tripolitans. —

Permit me Sir, to express to you the high sense that the President of the United States will not fail to entertain of this new proof of the humanity of his Imperial Majesty, & of that liberal policy which has induced him to extend his benevolent views to the happiness of Citizens of a remote quarter of the globe — Be assured, Sir, that this trait of humanity will not fail to add to the respect with which his wise & virtuous administration has already inspired the Government & inhabitants of the United States, & increase their wish to bind more closely the ties which Commerce has already begun to form between the two nations —

I pray you Sir, to accept the assurances of my high consideration

(Signed) ROB^t R. LIVINGSTON

[NA. SDA. Disp., France, Vol. 9, 1803-1805.]

18 NAVAL OPERATIONS, APRIL-SEPTEMBER 6, 1804

To Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Franklin Wharton, U. S. Marine Corps, from
Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t

9 April 1804.

SIR, Your letter of the 7th Instant reached me this morning.

I regret, Sir, that you have been under the necessity of making an appeal to me on such an occasion as I was in hopes that the Gentlemen of the Staff would have volunteered their services. However the public service must not — shall not suffer. You will therefore order the Gentlemen of the Staff to perform the requisite duties in the line, and to share with their Brother Officers, the duties of acting as Officers of the day.

[NDA. USMC, LB, 1804-1820.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 9 April 1804

stood in for the Harbour [of Syracuse] at $\frac{1}{2}$ past Seven brought too with the Starb^d Anchor in [space] fathoms Water —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKraft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 9 April 1804

At 4 the shore boat & crew went off for Tunis, lower'd down the cutter At 8 M^r Budd, went on shore in the cutter with the American Consul

NB (Those remarks include 12 hours.)

[NDA.]

To Lieutenant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the
Navy

NAVY DEP^t

April 10, 1804 —

Since you left this it has been determined that the Frigate *United States* shall not go out in the present expedition. If therefore you should not have made the Contract for the Gun Carriages, you will decline doing it, but if you should have made the Contract, let the persons with whom you have made it go on with it. We must comply with our Engagements. —

R^t SMITH

(~~RE~~ Returned as a dead letter —)

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 10 April 1804

[At anchor in Syracuse Harbor.] These 24 hours Commence with mod^d Breezes Employed with the prize brig *Transfers* long boat bringing off Water and at other Necessary duty —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tuesday, 10 April 1804

At 7 A. M. hoisted English Colors which the strange sail answered with Ragusine —

We then made the private signal to a sail to the S W which was answered by the *Syren* which we left at Tunis on Saturday evening last. We cut the Clinch of the small bower and rebent it —

At Noon becalmed 3 Miles north from Zembra Sounded 114 fathoms hard bottom — Sixteen sick—The Commodore is still confined with a fever. *Syren* in company. —

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 10 April 1804

At 4 P. M got under way & made sail out of the harbour, a sail in sight out side of the harbour suppos'd to be the Commodore Mid-night gentle breezes & pleas^t haul'd up fore sail & hove the main top sail to the mast — At ½ past 9 made signal to the Commodore which was answerd. At ½ past 11 the Commodore spoke us & requested L^t Stewart to come on board. At Meridian L^t Stewart went on board the Commodore, same time came along side the Comm^{rs} Launch Sent part of the sheep, poultry, & fruit on board. Condemn'd 3½ fathoms of the Starb^d Cable.

[NDA.]

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, Washington, D. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t
April 11. 1804 —

You will take Command of the Frigate *Essex*, and order under your Command all the Officers attached to the Frigate *United States*. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

[11 April 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Richard Farquhar, Malta

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY It gave me greate Pleasure to hear of the Success the Vessels had under your Excellencys Command and also to think the Prizes turned out as I described them. I have more Information to give but I am a little afraid

M^r Schembrie is taking every step Possible to recover the Vessels & Cargos, he will Stick at nothing to gain his Point. but I hope he will be defeated in every attempt he is taking against America. — (for he has said to the Bashaw it is better to make Peace now which will prevent the Americans from assisting your Brother and recommence war when their Vessels is gone home then you will have an oppertunity of revenging Burning the Frigate and murdring your People) this speech was much applauded and he got a Rich Breast Pin in a present he knew that the Bashaw had Swore by Mahomat to be revenged for Burning the Frigate. he has reported all over Malta that Your Excellency sent him to Tripoli to make Peace for America and he offered three Hundread Thousand Dollars for it I took the Liberty of contradicting those reports as I knew he disoblged Commodore Morris much by

Such Storries & by writting to the Bashaw that the Commodore had a Vast deal of Cash in his Frigate to pay for Peace and the Bashaws expectations was raised on that Account which made him so displeased when Commodore Morris offered four Thousand Dollars it is reported the Bashaw will make Peace now upon moderate terms with America and soon make War again. We have been waiting for your Excellency Sending the Brig as every thing is ready as agreed on and I am convinced the Bashaw of Derna is marching to that Place in hopes of the Brigs arriving soon

MALTA April 11th 1804

[L.C. EPP, Vol. 10, Feb.-April 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 11 April 1804

At Anchor in Syracuse harbour Arrived the U. S. Schooner *Nautilus* from a Cruise having Sustained much damage in a Gale of wind off Tripoli being obliged to throw 4 of her guns Overboard —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 11 April 1804

At ½ past Meridian L^t Stewart, returnd on board, brac^d up the yards & made sail to the S^d & W^d

Latt: Obs: 36°43' N.

[NDA.]

To Lieutenant John Cassin. U. S. Navy, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT

April 12. 1804 —

The Law supplementary to the Act entituled "An Act providing for a Naval Peace Establishment and for other purposes", provides for the Appointment to the Navy Yard at Washington and to the Frigates & other Vessels laid up in ordinary in the Eastern Branch, the following Officers, viz^t

1 Captain in the Navy — to have the general care and superintendence of the Yard &^e and to perform the duties of Agent to the Navy Department. —

1 Commissioned Officer in the Navy, who shall receive for his services the pay and Emoluments of a Captain Commanding a 20 Gun Ship. —

1 Sailing Master —

1 Surgeon and 1 Surgeon's Mate. —

1 Purser.

1 Storekeeper.

1 Clerk of the Yard.

1 Head. Carpenter.

1 Plumber —

1 Head Blockmaker.

1 Head Cooper. —

2 Boatswains —

2 Gunners &

1 Sailmaker —

In virtue of this Law the President of the United States has been pleased to appoint you to the second station therein provided for, viz^t a Commissioned Officer in the Navy, with the Pay and emoluments of a Captain Commanding a 20 Gun Ship. —

As no officer has as yet been appointed to the first Station, you are to perform such parts of the duties of that Station as your other occupations will permit — as the Command will always devolve upon the Officer second in Rank, when the First Officer is absent. As you are too constantly employed in the Yard to admit of your attending to the duties of Agent to this Department, we shall not impose those duties upon you; but until a Captain in the Navy shall be appointed to the first Station, you are to consider yourself as possessing a Command over all the Officers attached to the Yard, or to the Vessels in Ordinary. —

I enclose letters to

M^r Lovell — Sailing Master,

M^r Doughty — Head Carpenter. —

M^r King — Plumber. —

M^r Hanson — Purser —

M^r Smallwood. Clerk of the Yard — attaching them to the Yard in virtue of the above recited Law, and directing them to report themselves to the Commanding Officer of the Yard. —

D^r Bullus is the Surgeon and M^r Jn^o Harrison the Surgeon's Mate. —

You will report to me the names of the persons filling the Stations of head blockmaker, head cooper, Boatswains, gunners, and Sailmaker — the rate of wages respectively allowed to them, and whether they are competent to the duties of the Offices they respectively fill. —

With respect to a storekeeper, we have not had time to make a proper election for that office. It is obviously an highly important office — great attention & knowledge of Accounts, are required for the discharge of the duties which it imposes. We must therefore be careful in making this Appointment. If you have any person in view, who is perfectly qualified for this Office, let me know his name and it shall be considered. —

When our leisure shall permit we shall prescribe a system for the Government of the Yard — in the mean time the public business will not suffer by being committed to your direction. We trust that you will exhibit exemplary conduct in the discharge of your own duties, and enforce among the other Officers of the Yard the observance of their respective duties. And I recommend that You write immediately circular letters to the Officers of the Yard, directing them to attend unremittingly to their duties, and it would be proper that they should know at what Hours their Services are required. I send You a draft of a Circular for this purpose, with blanks as to the Hours, which you will fill up. —

Your pay &^e commenced 28th March 1804. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

To Robert R. Livingston, U. S. Minister to Paris, France, from Thomas Appleton,
U. S. Consul, Leghorn

LEGHORN 12th April 1804.

SIR I had the honor of Addressing you on the 25th of March — the present serves principally to inclose you a letter from Com^o Preble which came under cover to me

In that which I have received from him dated the 18th of March at Syracuse, it Appears it was his intention to proceed the next day for the bay of Tripoli, and from thence off Tunis; as he expresses much apprehension of a speedy rupture with the latter regency; but as I presume he has fully explained to you how justifiable are his fears, and how incompetent are his present forces to oppose the power of these united regencies, I shall not further enlarge upon it —

Com^o Preble has doubtless mentioned to you the benefits he expects will be derived to our captives at Tripoli, from the instructions of the first Consul, as he has acknowledged to me the receipt of your letter. —

I now enclose you an extract of a letter from M^r Biddle a young Midshipman of the *Philadelphia* by which you will see the indignant treatment, our unhappy Countrymen have already experienced, and the rigour they expected would be again exercised towards them. — Com^o Preble in his letter to me, says, that the tripoline prisoners of distinction who were in his power, was a sure pledge of the good treatment of the Americans at Tripoli. — I am inclined to think, however, our Commander has not been apprised of a maxim of the Bey's, to wit, that if a Mussulman surrenders himself to a christian, he merits every species of inhumanity that the latter may please to inflict upon him. — Nor am I less apprehensive that he too easily persuades himself, he shall be able to obtain both a release of our prisoners, and a peace honorable to the United States. — It has ever Appeared to me that our government had conceived this war as a contest only with the Bey of Tripoli; but I have long since given it as my opinion to M^r Madison, that the principle we contend for, if once established with this power, would strike at the foundation of the political existence of every regency in Barbary, this truth, I cannot doubt for a moment they are fully persuaded of, nor do I hesitate to believe, that the other Beys will openly, or in a more disguised manner, make it a common cause. —

[NA. SDA. Disp., France, Vol. 9, 1803-1805.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board
U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 12 April 1804

Anchd. in Malta harbour.

[LC original.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Thursday, 12 April 1804

Wind N N E. Fresh Gales & Cloudy Weather — Steering S E b E for Malta At 3 P. M. saw Gozo, a small Island 7 or 8 Miles to the N W of Malta At 5 P. M. we were up with the N W¹ p¹ of Malta. At 7 saw Valette light S S E. At 8 P. M. took in Small Sails & bro't to. At 2 A. M. Strong Gales from N b W. Reefed topsails & down top gall¹ Yards. — At 7 A. M. ran into Valette harbor, and moored ship — Sailors repairing the damages our rigging sustained in the heavy gale of last Sunday. We are in Quarantine. The *Vixen* at Anchor here —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

To Thomas Fitzsimons, Philadelphia, Pa., from Secretary of State

(private)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

April 13th 1804.

SIR. Your letter addressed to the Department of State enquiring whether Government mean to pursue any measures for the relief of the Officers and crew of the Frigate *Philadelphia*, and whether anything can be pointed out as proper to be done by the friends of the prisoners? has been received — I have preferred to make the answer private.

The sympathy of the Executive for the condition of the captives is limited only by the superior consideration of the public good. This would be injuriously affected by too unbounded a desire to release them, in the double view of pecuniary sacrifices which might spring from it, and the encouragement it might hold out to the other Barbary States, and even to Tripoli, to repeat their aggressions. Measures are therefore in active preparation for exhibiting and employing an imposing force to compel the Bashaw to terms which may be admissible. In the meantime it must be a satisfaction to the friends of the prisoners to know that they will be amply supplied with necessaries; and that the First Consul of France has directed his Commissary at Tripoli to interpose in their behalf, which if it should not greatly facilitate the conclusion of an accommodation will at least contribute to soften the rigor of their situation. No means exist, and perhaps none ought to exist, for restraining the private endeavours of the friends of the prisoners to relieve them; but it ought certainly to be well considered, whether their measures by impressing the Bashaw with an opinion of an undue solicitude to relieve them, and possibly thwarting the negotiations of the Executive, may not have a tendency to protract the sufferings of those unhappy men.

[NA. SDA. Dom. L, Vol. 14, May 1802–May 1805.]

To Secretary of State from Thomas Appleton, U. S. Consul, Leghorn

LEGHORN 13th April 1804.

SIR At the moment of the departure of a Vessel for the U: States, there has been handed me two letters from Com^o Preble in date of the 18th and 19th of March at Syracuse. — As it is among the possible events that he had no opportunity from thence to convey to you, the intelligence he has transmitted me, I avail myself of a Brig bound to Martha's Vineyard, to forward you some extracts from them. — After having acknowledg'd the receipt of a letter from the first Consul of France to his Agent at Tripoli, he adds in the letter of the 18th "I arrived here last night to take in provision, and water, and Sail Again for the Coast of Tripoli to-morrow" — in that of the 19th "I have this moment received intelligence from a gentleman just Arrived from Tunis, that the Bey of that regency is equipping his whole Naval force with the Utmost expedition, and it is whispered that his Object is, the American Commerce, from various circumstances I believe there is much truth in the conjecture. — three of their frigates from 24. to 32. guns are now fitting out at Malta — one frigate of 32. guns and a number of smaller Vessels are getting ready at Tunis. — I shall Visit Tunis Bay immediately, with as many of the Squadron as can be Collected off Tripoli, to endeavour to learn what the intentions of the Bey are, and shall write you the moment I can come at the truth —

the Bey is very much dissatisfied that the U: States will not give him a frigate which he has demanded of them as a present — and this is to be his pretext for War.” — Be assured Sir, I shall continue to advise you of every event which comes to my Knowledge relative to the Affairs of Barbary. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Leghorn, Vol. I, Oct. 1793-Dec. 1806.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 13 April 1804

At Anchor in Syracuse Harbour Arrived the United States Brig *Syren* from a Cruise —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Friday, 13 April 1804

Strong Gales from the N b W. rec'd on board a large Quantity of Slop Cloathing — L^t Smith informed me that he arrived at Algiers and delivered the dispatches for Col^o Lear, and returned 10 days since with M^r O'brien late the U. S. Consul at that place; He came here by my request to assist in any negotiation with Tripoly, as he understands the language of the Country; Ordered the *Vixen* to sail for Tripoly. At 4 P M she got under way. M^r Obrien came on board with his Baggage. At 7 P. M. having completed our business here weighed our Anchors and put to Sea — Steered to the N E for Syracuse

Latitude Observed 36°13' No: Cape Passari at Noon bore N E b N $\frac{1}{2}$ N 12 Leagues

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 13 April 1804

Vixen brought me letters from our Consul at Algiers. Mr. Obrian joined us.

[LC original.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 13 April 1804

At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 1 light breezes from the S^d all sail set standing in for the harbour of Syracuse. At 2 came too in 6 fathoms with the larboard bower the light house bearing E by S $\frac{1}{2}$ S the (*Argus* Brig & Schooner *Nautilus*) store ship (*Woodrup Simms*) & the two prizes to the *Siren* at anchor in the harbour $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 L^t Hull & Summer's came along side, hoisted out the barge & launch, lowr'd down the cutter. $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 moor'd with the stream to the N E Ends with light airs from the S. E & fine weather

NB (those remarks include 36 hours)

[NDA.]

To Charles Maurice de Talleyrand-Périgord, French Minister of Exterior Affairs, from Robert R. Livingston, U. S. Minister to Paris, France

PARIS 14th April 1804.

The undersigned Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States has the honor to transmit to the Minister for foreign Relations the Copy of a note from the Grand Chancellor of Russia written by orders

of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias on the Subject of the unfortunate crew of the *Philadelphia* frigate captured by the Tripolitans —

The Minister will observe that H. I. M. has warmly interested himself in their behalf, & given Instructions to his Ambassador at the Porte to procure a firman to the Bey of Tripoli for the release of the Prisoners; an order which he may found upon the injustice of the war on the part of the Pacha who without provocation has broken the perpetual peace that the U. S. had purchased. — The first Consul having on the earliest notice been pleased to manifest a Strong interest in the fate of these unhappy men as well as in the reestablishment of the peace between the U. S. & Tripoly & taken measures which the undersigned has reason to hope will prove efficacious in accomplishing the object in which the first Consul has had the goodness to take so great an interest — The undersigned has thought it proper to make this communication with a view to leave it to the Judgement of the French Government how far the concurrence of the Ambassador of France at the Porte in the Steps that may be taken by the Ambassador of France at the Porte may come in aid of the measures that the first Consul has already been pleased to take with the Dey of Tripoli. —

The undersigned is assured that the President & people of the United States will be extremely flattered by the marks of attention that they have received from the two most distinguished powers of Europe, & will hope from their Joint efforts some future day an extinction of acts of barbarism which the narrow views of Commerce have too long tolerated to the disgrace of Europe —

The undersigned has the honor to renew to his Excellency the Minister of Exterior Relations his assurances of high consideration —

[NA. SDA. Disp., France, Vol. 9, 1803-1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 14 April 1804

[Syracuse] These 24 hours Commence with fine Pleasant Weather raked the main mast by Carrying the heel of it two Inches and an half forward hands employed at turning in the dead eyes of the main rigging setting it up and other Necessary duty —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 14 April 1804

Sailed for Syracuse.

[LC original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 14 April 1804

Light airs from the N N W — Standing athwart the Channell of Malta in order to make Cape Passari bearing N E 10 Leagues — The N N W wind continued light till sun down when we had light airs from the S E — Hauled up E N E in order to pass Cape Passari Moderate Breezes with a light haze, during the night —

At 2 A. M. we judge ourselves to be abreast of Cape Passari — Regular soundings from 42 to 52 fath^s sometimes mud and at other times brown sand

At day light saw the Cape bearing N W 4 leagues — This Cape is a barren desolate Island nearly two leagues in circumference — Upon it stands a large square watch tower — You have white water nearly 4 Miles from the Cape — We have come over this colored water several times — Our soundings were from 17 to 20 fathoms nearly three miles to the S E of this Cape. From day light till noon light airs and variable from the eastward — Employed working ship to Windward between Cape Passari and Saragosa which bore at Noon N E b N 5 leagues and the Cape S W b W $\frac{1}{2}$ W 4 leagues —

Several small craft in shore: fired a gun and hoisted English colors —

Surgeons report 6 sick, 7 convalescent & 5 discharged The Commode is on the recovery — He attend^d the deck.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 14 April 1804

Meridian Lieu^t Summers & Hull came on board, gentle breezes from the S S E & pleas^t At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 P. M the *Constitution* came too in the harbour. rec^d a quantity of mutton & Potatoes for the use of the crew, Carpenters employ'd fitting capstern. ends with moderate breezes & pleas^t wind S. E

[NDA.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy

Siren SIRACUSE

April 15th 1804

SIR It is some time since I informed you how much the *Siren* would be distress'd by the removal of M^r Brook. The Sailing Master M^r Harrison was then under charges, (Officialy reported to you) that I presumed was sufficient to point out, his unfitness: for a station so important: & I have not one under the grade of Lieut, (except M^r Brook) that can stow or take charge of the hold — Yesterday I informed you M^r Harrison was going on shore in such a state of health that he is render'd unserviceable, even were he otherwise competent to the duties of his station — I did not presume Sir you would impute to me an intention of delaying the execution of your orders of this morning to M^r Brook, nor do I perceive any passage in my note to you, which justifies such an insinuation —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 10, Feb.-April 1804.]

To Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Argus*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*

Syracuse Harb: 15th April 1804

SIR, You will immediately proceed to the Blockade of Tripoly, and cruise on that Station until further Orders.

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

To Lieutenant W. M. Livingston, U. S. Navy, of U. S. Brig *Argus*, from
Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harb. 15th Ap^l 1804

SIR. I have rec^d your letter of this date enclosing your commission and tendering your resignation and requesting permission to go home. You have my permission to return to the United States by any conveyance you please, and I shall forward your resignation to the Navy Office for the acceptance of the Hon^{ble} Secretary. You may rest assured, that your resignation will readily be accepted; of course you will no longer consider yourself an Officer in the Navy, nor at liberty to wear the uniform of it.

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Midshipman Edward N. Cox, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble,
U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 15th April 1804

SIR Agreeable to your request by letter of this date, you are permitted to return to the United States for the recovery of your health.

M^r EDWARD N. COX

Sail^r Master of U S Schooner *Nautilus*

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy,
commanding, Sunday, 15 April 1804

At Single Anchor in Syracuse harb^r

These 24 hours Commence with Moderate and fine Weather at 2 P M, the U. S. Ship *Constitution* Commodore Preble appeared off the harbour at 4 P, M, she brought to in the harbour of Syracuse hoisted the guard Sig^l and rowed guard thro, the night Lieutenant Livingston left the Brig this day being permitted to resign At Meridian Weighed anchor and proceeded to sea on a Cruise — a heavy swell from the Eastward and the wind dying away the Commod^o made the Sig^l to return came too with the larb^d Anchor

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board
U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 15 April 1804

Arrived and anchd. in Syracuse Harbour.

[LC original.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S.
Squadron in the Mediterranean, Sunday, 15 April 1804

Wind E S E. Standing in for Syracuse harbour. At 1½ past 3 P. M. entered and anchored in 7 fathoms — Found the *Syren*, *Argus*, & *Nautilus* at Anchor and the ship *Woodrop Sims*, Mills Reddick Master from Norfolk loaded with stores for the Squadron; The *Argus* convoyed her up. Considering our situation with Tunis, I have thought prudent to keep the *Argus* aloft, and have this day ordered her and the *Syren* to sail for the Blockade of Tripoly; The *Nautilus* having recieved considerable damage & lost 4 of her guns in a heavy gale of wind off Tripoly I ordered her to Messina to repair,

28 NAVAL OPERATIONS, APRIL-SEPTEMBER 6, 1804

and from thence, Off Tripoly — Lieut^t Livingston of the *Argus* sent in his resignation; his Conduct has been for a long time very incorrect; I therefore enclosed his Commission to the Secretary of the Navy.

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 15 April 1804

Calm & pleas^t At 4 AM light airs from the northward. At 7 hoisted out the barge, rec^d a quantity of mutton & Potatoes. —

Meridian gentle breezes & pleas^t crew employ'd hoisting in water & provisions. At 2 P. M sent 18 men on board the Prize Brig to discharge her. Rec^d on board 400 round 24^{lb} shot 18 bbls pork 16 bbls beef & fill'd 16 casks of water. At 6 the men return'd from the Prize brig (*Transfer*) Midnight light airs from the E^d —

[NDA.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant Richard Somers, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SCHOONER *Nautilus*

16th April 1804

SIR. Agreeably to your orders of the 9th of March, I sailed in company with the Brig *Syren* on a cruise off Tripoly but was obliged to leave the station and return to this port (Syracuse) for repairs in consequence of damages rec^d from the *Syren's* running foul of us on the 20 of that month. I enclose to you the report of the Officer commanding the deck at the time the *Nautilus* being run foul of, for your examination likewise the report of the damages.

After having repaired those damages, I returned immediately and cruised off Tripoly several days. from thence I was obliged to return into port, from having sustained damages in a gale of wind by shipping a sea which carried away all my Bulwarks from the Gangway forward to the Bridle port, and filling the decks full of water so as to endanger our going down; — were obliged to heave over four of her Guns for the preservation of the Vessel. On examination since my return here, I find the stantions are generally all rotten, and not able to support the recoil of the Guns. I believe those that were carried away by the sea, were previously broken by the recoil of the Guns, when firing at the Gun Boats

I have to request you will permit me to repair to some place where I may refit.

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

To Sailing Master Humphrey Magrath, U. S. Navy, of U. S. Brig *Argus*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U S. SHIP *Constitution*

Syracuse Harb^t 16th April 1804

SIR, Agreeable to your request to return to the U S for the recovery of your health, you are hereby permitted to return in the Store Ship *Betsey Walk*.

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

To Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke, U. S. Navy, of U. S. Brig *Siren*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 16th April 1804

SIR, You will immediately repair on board the United States Brig *Argus*, and take charge as Master of that Vessel under the command of L^t Commandant Hull

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

To Sailing Master Alexander C. Harrison, U. S. Navy, of U. S. Brig *Siren*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 16th April 1804

SIR I have rec^d your letter of this date, directed to L^t Comm^r Stewart, stating that your health renders it necessary that you should return to the U S for its recovery; and requesting my permission that you may return, which I now grant you; and you are at liberty to return in the Prize Ship Captured by the *Syren*.

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

Certificate concerning Peter F. Crocillo, from Captain Edward Preble,
U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES FRIGATE
Constitution 16th April 1804.

This is to certify that Peter F. Crocillo has served as Surgeon's Mate in the Navy of the U. States from 20th December 1803 to the 16th April 1804 at which date he is discharged having no further need for his services.

(Signed) EDWARD PREBLE

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Joseph Barnes, U. S. Consul,
Sicily

LEGHORN April 16, 1804

SIR, I have had the pleasure of writing you two Letters to the care of Mess^{rs} Falconett & Co Naples, & one to the care of Mess^{rs} Fred^t Degen & Co — which no doubt you will have rece^d. —

A report has been circulated here that four Corsairs, of Barbary, Supposed to be Tripolines, were off Sardinia; I have taken considerable trouble to ascertain the Source of this matter, & all that I can Learn is, that Some time Since four Barbary Corsairs were off Sardinia, but to which of the States they belonged was not known

This however I believe, had they been Tripolines we Should have heard more of them. —

I understand you may have the Gun Boats necessary for your Expedition from Naples, tho' not the powder Balls as requisite — In consequence I have written to Genoa, & Venice on the Subject — I shall only add, while I remain in this part of Italy, which will be about a month longer, you may command me at pleasure in any Matter in

which I can be useful to my country — Independent of my of my Official capacity or interest. In haste I remain with respect & esteem
Your obed^t Ser^t

J: BARNES

EDW^d PREBLE Esq^r

Commander in chief of the U. S. Squadron

[LC. EPP, Vol. 10, Feb.-April 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 16 April 1804

These 24 hours Commences with light airs and Variable at 5 AM moderate breezes and Clear Weather weighed Anchor and made sail at $\frac{1}{4}$ p^t Captain Hull went on board the Commodore at 6 M^t H, Magrath left the Brig having obtained permission to return home and M^t Brooke came on board and Succeeded him as Sailing Master at 8 Captain Hull returned made sail and stood out of the harbour [of Syracuse]

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Brig *Argus*, 18 guns, kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke, U. S. Navy, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 16 April 1804

This day begins with light airs & Variable at 5 AM moderate breezes and clear weighed anchor and made sail at 6 M^t H. M^t Grath left the brig with permission to return to the United States and M^t Brooke came on board to succeed him at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 strong breizes close reefed the topsails reefed the boom mainsail sent down the top Gallant yards furled the mainsail launched the flying Jib boom and ringtail Boom at 11 set the main storm staysail —

At Meridian fresh breezes and Clear Weather with a heavy swell from the S. W, East point of Sicily bore N N W. Cape Passari W. b N.

[LC. EPP, *Argus*, 1804.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Monday, 16 April 1804

Wind S E. Moderate. M^t Magrath Master of the *Argus*, M^t Cox Master of the *Nautilus* & M^t Harrison Master of the *Syren* applied for permission to go home on account of ill health which I granted Ordered M^t Brooks to the *Argus*, M^t Burrows to the *Syren*, and M^t Casson to the *Nautilus* as Masters — Commenced taking in water and provisions for 5 Months — The *Argus* sailed for the Tripolitan Coast. —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Monday, 16 April 1804

Moderate breezes from the S E. At single anchor in Saragosa. *Syren*, *Argus* & *Nautilus* in company At 2 P. M. the *Argus* weighed & attempted to proceed to sea — She reanchored towards Evening — The *Nautilus* is in a disabled state occasioned by a heavy gale off Tripoly. Recieved the 20 Gang Casks lent the *Syren* full of water by a shore boat. Moderate breezes from the S E. till midnight when we

had a breeze from the W N W — At Day light sent the large cutter on the watering service — She made one Trip. The shore surf prevents her landing at the watering place. At 9 A. M. strong breezes — Down Top G^r Yards — Employed cleaning Ship, stowing the fore and main holds — Surgeons report the same as yesterday except the case of the Boatswain added. Noon strong breezes from the N W — Saw two sail in the Offing under Jury topmasts — The *Argus* sailed on a cruize off Tripoly —

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 16 April 1804

[At Syracuse] At 8 am M^r S. B. Brooke left the *Siren* & join'd the U. S. Brig *Argus* as Master. At 5 P. M. M^r Brown left the Prize ship (*Madona* [*Catapoliana*]) & join'd us. rec^d a quantity of bread, flower, vinegar &c &c., and 1 cable from the *Transfer*. at 6 rec^d a quantity of wood &c. Ends with fresh gales & clear pleas^t weather with a heavy sea —

[NDA.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from James Leander Cathcart,
Naples

NAPLES APRIL 17th 1804

DEAR SIR Your very acceptable favors of the 31st of January & 19th of February determined me to proceed to Naples but being unwilling to take so long a Journey without some probability of success, I wrote to his Excellency General Acton on the subject of your request, a copy of which with his answer [27 March] are enclosed (N^{os} 1 & 2) being thus assured that I did not risk the mortification attending a refusal, I first ship'd the cloathing for the prisoners on board a small Spanish vessel bound to Naples & then purchased a carriage & came post to this City where I arrived on the 12th Ins^t without happening to any accident except the loss of a wheel which was replaced at Rome, & having caught a very violent cold by laying in damp sheets at a miserable tavern on the road. Having arrived before the vessel which brought the prisoners cloathing had finish'd her Quarantine & mine being likewise onboard I could not wait upon General Acton until yesterday, & have now the satisfaction to inform you that I was receiv'd by him with every mark of respect & after informing him that you had intended to call here yourself, and had desired me to meet you but was prevented by the menaces of the Bey of Tunis, I open'd the subject of my mission and after discussion obtain'd the promise of four large gun boats & four Mortar boats (Carrying eighteen inch mortars) compleatly equip'd with artillery, Mortars, ammunition bombs balls & every other apparatus, to be deliver'd to you on demand at Messina; the order for that purpose will be forwarded to the Count Turnè Commander in Chief afloat at that place, & in his absence to the Governor of Messina, so that you have now nothing to do but to call or send for them when ever you think proper; during discussion the General ask'd if we wish'd them to be man'd with their people, after paying him a compliment for this fresh mark of his Sovereigns condescension & good will towards

us, I inform'd his Excellency that you had not instructed me to make the demand, but from the consequences which might arise from the ignorance of each others language I presumed you intended to man them from your own Squadron —

By the Generals answer to my letter you will see that those boats and artillery are only lent, & it is natural to suppose that they will expect to receive them again in the same order that they are deliver'd to you, and that the ammunition that may be expended must either be replac^d or paid for in cash; those arrangements you will be better able to make yourself at Messina, than I can here, especially as the General has promised not only in this instance but in every other to facilitate your accomodation with all his influence —

In conversation his Excellency inform'd me that they have at sea four Frigates & two Corvetts, that two Frigates & the two Corvetts are recall'd & that a seventy four which is now a fitting out and nearly ready for sea is to supply their place and with the remaining two Frigates are destined for the protection of their coast & commerce against the piratical States of Barbary —

I have thought it necessary to give you this information that in case of a War with Tunis, you might know what force this government intends to maintain at sea which will serve you as a guide in any temporary arrangements you may deem expedient to make with them for the protection of our trade untill you receive a re-inforcement to your Squadron which I presume government will see the necessity of and act immediately —

General Acton has likewise given me permission to deposit the cloathing for the prisoners in his Majesty's stores where you will find them subject to your orders, M^r Matthiew our Consul here being charged with their care untill you send for them — I have likewise deposited two thousand spanish dollars in the hands of M^r Frederick Degen subject to your orders for the use of the Captives at Tripoli which if they should not want you will please to inform me, that I may draw upon him for the ammount to serve for any other purpose that may occur —

Yours of the 18th Ul^o I receiv'd here on the 13th ins^t & consequently Will return to Leghorn in a few days having terminated my business I presume to your satisfaction; I need not mention to you how much mortified I am at the disappointment, especially at the moment that the measures which I have so strenuously recommended to government for more than four years are about being put into execution, to see a person of M^r OBriens character who has for ever pursued measures diametrically opposite to mine sent on to negotiate a Treaty with a nation who has treated us with such indignity is really mortifying, instead of a person calculated to inspire those people with exalted ideas of our intrepidity & to stamp them with a decided dread of our arms, to see one arm'd with all the mean intrigue & low artifice of that sink of perfidy and corruption the Sanhedrim of Algiers sent on to beg a peace through the influence of such perfidious mediators engenders the most displeasing reflections: should he succeed, do you imagine a peace so procured could possibly be permanent; believe me not Sir, would they not have reason to conclude that we would accede to any terms to preserve a peace which we had stoop'd to procure by such unworthy means, & would we not have reason to suppose they would commit annual depredations upon our commerce when

they would find by experience that they had nothing to fear from us: Those people must not be humour'd but beaten, you wisely observe, & you have it now in your power to do do it most effectually & thereby found a peace both honorable & permanent, concessions to one State stimulates the avarice of the others, & untill the whole are convinced that we are not in the habit of brooking insult with impunity we may calculate upon annual outrage & indignity, from one or the other continually —

As you are the only person who perfectly coincides in opinion with me relative to the measures which ought to be pursued with the Barbary States, I think it possible that at some future period you may wish me to accompany you; I am allways ready to serve my Country & will embark at a moments warning when ever you think proper to send for me notwithstanding that I have suffer'd more than can well be imagined since I have been in the service by the deep design envy and malice of some, & by the gross ignorance cupidity misrepresentation & imbecility of others with whom I have unfortunately been connected, I will never refuse my services but must beg leave to observe that I am determined never to be leagued or have any communication direct or indirect with either Davis or OBrien, for neither the one nor the other have ever pursued any one measure calculated to promote either the honor or interest of their country since they have been in Barbary; the one is cultivateing the good graces of the Bey of Tunis & ministers in order to be appointed Consul; the other has been the mere echo of the Algerine Jews ever since he has been in Barbary —

You will now have an opportunity to judge for yourself & this caution may tend to prevent your becoming a dupe to their deception & artifice —

Wishing your success in all your enterprizes may equal your most sanguine expectations I have the honor to subscribe myself with respectfull esteem

P S: I forgot to inform you that on the 11th of March the Imperial Pollacca call'd *La Benevolenza* Cap^{tn} Luca Lucovich arrived at Leghorn from Tripoli in eight days loaded with Madder root, Sena, Ostrich feathers, & some gold dust, the property of the Bashaw of Tripoli & his subjects consign'd to Arbib a Tripoline Jew — said vessel when her Quarantine is out will take in a return cargo for Tripoli supposed to be very rich, if you look out for her, you will have a great chance to fall in with her as she performs a long Quarantine, her cargo will be entirely Tripoline property —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April-June 1804.]

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Enterprize*,
from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*

Syracuse Harbour 17th April 1804

SIR, I wish you to come here with the *Enterprize* as soon as possible, as I have some important business for you; however if you cannot reach this within four days, you will be too late, and in that case, you will proceed immediately off Tripoly where you will find the *Syren*, *Argus*, and *Vixen* and cruise there 'till further orders.

Send me the odour of roses by the bearer, which M^r Davis purchased for me.

L^t Comm^d DECATUR
Enterprize at Messina

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

[17 April 1804]

To Midshipman William Burrows, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble,
 U. S. Navy

SIR You are hereby appointed Sailing Master of the U. S. Brig *Syren*. You will therefor repair on board said Brig and take upon yourself the charge and duty of Sailing Master agreeable to the regulations of the service, for which this shall be your sufficient warrant.

Given under my hand on board
 the U. S. Ship *Constitution*
 this 17 day of April 1804

Signed, EDWARD PREBLE

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

To Lieutenant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, ordered to command U. S. Brig *Scourge*,
 from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour, 17th April 1804

SIR You are hereby Ordered and directed to take the Command of the United States Brig *Scourge* and fit her for a Cruise with all possible expedition — Make out Indents of what is wanting in the different Departments, for my approbation, and I shall give an order on George Dyson Esq^r Navy Agent for such supplies as are necessary. —

[NHF. Dent's LB.]

[17 April 1804]

To Midshipman Charles Morris, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble,
 U. S. Navy

SIR You are hereby appointed Sailing Master of the U. S. Brig *Scourge*. You will therefor repair on board said Brig and take upon yourself the charge and duty of Sailing Master agreeable to the regulations of the Service for which this shall be your sufficient Warrant

Given under my hand on board
 the United States Ship *Constitution*
 this 17 Day of April 1804.

Signed, EDWARD PREBLE

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

[17 April 1804]

To Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble,
 U. S. Navy

SIR You are hereby appointed Lieutenant of the U. S. Brig *Scourge*. You will therefor repair on board said Brig and take upon

yourself the Charge and duty of Lieutenant agreeable to the regulations of the Service for which this shall be your sufficient Authority —
 Given under my hand on board
 the United States Ship *Constitution*
 this 17 Day of April 1804
 Signed E: PREBLE

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

[17 April 1804]

To Midshipman Henry Wadsworth, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble,
 U. S. Navy

SIR You are hereby appointed Lieut^t of the U. S. Brig *Scourge*; You will therefore repair on board said Brig and take upon yourself the charge and duty of Lieutenant agreeable to the regulations of the service for which this shall be your Sufficient Authority.

Given under my hand on board the United States ship *Constitution*
 this 17 day of April 1804

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board
 U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 17 April 1804

Commissioned the *Scourge*. A gale from the westward.

[LC original.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S.
 Squadron in the Mediterranean, Tuesday, 17 April 1804

Wind N W. A strong Gale — Laying at Anchor in Syracuse, *Siren* & *Vixen* in company — At 2 P. M. launched top gall^t masts. At 3 P. M. let go the best bower anchor; It blew excessively hard; in the night it moderated. In the morning up top Gall^t Masts & weighed the Best bower relieving water & stores: In consequence of the loss of the *Philadelphia* & the damage the *Nautilus* has sustained, I am at a loss for a sufficient number of Vessels, to Blockade Tripoly and Watch Tunis. I have therefor thought it adviseable to commission the *Transfer* Brig, prize to the *Syren* after having had her Valued by M^r OBrien, M^r Dyson, and Cap^t Reddick. This Vessel sailed for Tripoly, from Malta, with powder & other stores belonging to the Tripoline Consul, who knew the Port was blockaded by us; She arrived safe two days after the Burning of the Frigate: She delivered all her Powder to the Bashaw, and sold her other stores, and took on board 6000. Gall^s of Oil & sailed for Malta in the Night, but was met with by the *Syren* close in with the Tripoline Batteries, and detained for adjudication; her papers are sent home by L^t Stewart to obtain her condemnation, and as he is certain of obtaining it, he has sold her to me for Acc^t of the U. S. for 5000 Doll^s, agreeable to her Valuation; The money to be paid by the Secretary of the Navy when the Copy of Condemnation is produced. I have appointed L^t Dent to command her, M^r Wadsworth & M^r Izard acting Lieutenants of her, M^r Morris acting Master & Doctor Marshall acting Surgeon; M^r Green from the *Nautilus* acting purser; M^r Rowe & M^r Davis Midshipmen from this ship to serve on board of her; John M^r Fate boatswains Mate of this ship to be acting boatswain, and have given her 22 able & Ord^y Seamen & Marines from this ship & ten men from the *Syren*, and

ordered her to be equipped for a cruise off Tripoly as soon as possible. I have named her the *Scourge*. She mounts 16 Six pounders, & is a good Cruiser — . The Store Ship *Woodrop Sims* brought me out dispatches from the Navy Office.

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig *Scourge*. U. S. Frigate *Constitution* and U. S. Brig *Argus*, from 17 April to 8 August 1804

April 17th joined the U. S. Brig *Scourge* as Master in obedience to orders recieved from Commodore Preble — Employed getting her ready for sea untill May 5th when we sailed for Tripoli and arrived off there on the 10th

Continued to cruise off the Harbor untill August 2nd when I received orders to join the U. S. Frigate *Constitution* untill further orders.

August 8th received orders from the Commodore to join the U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lt Commandant Hull as one of her Lieutenants.

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 17 April 1804

[At Syracuse] Commences with fresh breezes from the S S W & pleast. weather hands employ'd stowing hold &c. rec^d for use of the crew mutton &c. Meridian clear & pleas^t sent 10 men on board the Prize brig to discharge her. At 7 the men return'd from the Prize, Rec^d from shore a quantity of Provisions &c. &c — Ends with light airs from the W^d fine agreeable weather. —

[NDA.]

To Midshipman Christopher Gadsden, Jr., U. S. Navy, Charleston, S. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t

April 18. 1804 —

You will proceed to this place immediately on receiving this letter, with all the men you may have engaged. On your way up, you will stop at Hampton, and finding the public Ships there, you will deliver the Men agreeably to the order of the Commodore who will give the Captain of your Ship a letter to D^l Bedinger Esq^t upon which he will pay the Charter agreeably to Bill of Lading. Not finding the public Ships at Hampton, you will proceed to this place with all practicable dispatch, unless you should on your way up the Potowmac meet the public Ships, in which case you will deliver the Men agreeably to the Commodore's Order. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*

Syracuse Harbour 18th April 1804

DEAR SIR The *Vixen* arrived here without Col Lear, who could not leave his station at present.

M^r OBrien came up in her to assist me in any negotiation with Tripoly. I expect he will be of much service as he speaks the language of Barbary, and has had long experience in the manners, habits, and Customs of its Inhabitants.

I enclose you a letter from the Dep: of State I have put it under a fresh cover, as the original (you will observe) is pretty well worn out by travelling. I hope e're this, the Bey is in better humour, than when I left you. I think it will be well to pay him for the goods he complains of having been detained belonging to his Subjects. however I suppose in your letters from the department of State you will have rec^d instructions respecting that business; if not, I know from a perusal of copies of Col: Lear's letters to you, that it is his wish that the claim of the Bey should be paid and you ought to have no hesitation in satisfying him on that head immediately.

Captain Decatur will have the honor to deliver you this; and I shall visit your Bay in a few days myself. Adieu! and believe me with great respect.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 18 April 1804

Fresh Breezes from W N W. — At anchor in Saragosa *Syren* & *Nautilus* in company — Watering ship By 2 P. M. the W N W wind encreased to a strong breeze. Discharged the three shore boats with directions for them to attend tomorrow morning — Sent three officers and a party of men to assist in getting ready for heaving out the U. S. Brig *Scourge* late the *Transfer* Towards evening the weather moderated At day light two shore boats came alongside and took empty water casks — Recieved in the course of the forenoon 75 Gang casks of Water —

Recieved from the *Woodrop Sims* Store Ship 27 Bolts of russia canvass, 22 bolts of which were damaged by the leaking of the Store Ships decks — Nine bolts of N^o 2 & three bolts N^o 1 English. 144 Pounds sewing twine — Sixty two lb of the twine was damaged & totally unserviceable We also recieved six coils of running rigging The damaged canvass was ordered to be scrubbed in order to take out the black mouldy places

At 9 A. M. anchored here the U. S. Schooner *Enterprise*, returned from Messina where she has undergone some repairs.

Surgeons report 7 sick, 5 Convalescent and 7 discharged from the sick list —

This day were discharged from the *Constitution* on promotion to the *Scourge*, M^r Izard Masters Mate, M^r Wadsworth & M^r Morris Midshipmen

Noon light airs from E S E.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 18 April 1804

Commences with moderate breezes from the N. W. with Pleas^t weather Rec^d a quantity of mutton & Vegetables. At 9 the *Enterprise* came too in the harbour [Syracuse] —

Meridian Calm. At 1 P. M unmoor'd At 3 a light breeze from the N^e 6. hoisted in the Launch M^r W. Burrows join'd us as Sailing Master (from the *Nautilus*) At 7 M^r A. Harrison left the *Syren* & went on b^d the Prize Brig (belonging to the *Nautilus*) as passenger, on Acc^t of his ill state of health, bound to America —

Re'd from shore a quantity of Russia Duck, 2 coils of rope & a number of other necessary articles, Sent on board the Prize ship (*Madonia* [*Catapolianna*]) some bread & beef survey'd & condemn'd 98^{lbs} of Bread, Ends with gentle breezes from the N. E. overhaul'd a range of the L^d Cable, weather app^x very unfavourable.

[NDA.]

To President Thomas Jefferson, Monticello, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t

April 19, 1804 —

I have the honor herewith to transmit to you, for your consideration, a copy of the opinion on the Conduct of Cap^t [Richard] V. Morris, formed and pronounced by the Court of Enquiry instituted agreeably to your directions for that special purpose. —

[NDA. Nom. Appts., 1798-1820.]

[Enclosure]

Concerning Court of Inquiry on Captain Richard Valentine Morris, U. S. Navy

The report of the court is in the following words. —

“FRIDAY 13th April, 1804.

“PRESENT,

“The same members of the court, as before, and the judge advocate. The court was cleared and proceeded to form and pronounce their opinion as follows, viz.

“This court having carefully examined and deliberately weighed the evidence produced, and all that was alledged by captain Richard V. Morris in explanation or in vindication of his conduct, Do REPORT as their opinion that the said captain Morris did not conduct himself in his command of the Mediterranean squadron, with the diligence or activity necessary to execute the important duties of his station; but that he is censurable for his inactive and dilatory conduct of the squadron under his command, in these instances, viz.

“1st. In remaining with and detaining his squadron at Malta, without necessity or any adequate object, answerable to the length of his stay and detention aforesaid, that is to say, from the 5th to the 30th day of January 1803, also from the 11th to the 19th day of February 1803, and also, from the 1st to the 21st day of May 1803.

“2d. In carrying his whole squadron on the 19th day of February 1803 from Malta to Tunis Bay, and thence down to Gibraltar, and not returning with or sending back any part of his squadron till the month of May following; having in the mean time, no part of his squadron on the station left to cruize off the coast of Tripoli, or otherwise protect our commerce in that quarter as occasion might serve.

“3d. In remaining with and detaining his squadron at Gibraltar without necessity or any adequate object, till too late in the spring of the year 1803; that is to say, from the 23^d day of March to the 11th day of April, 1803.

"4th. In not proceeding with, or sending any part of his squadron (after the one unsuccessful attempt in the month of January 1803) to the coast of Tripoli, till he sent Captain Rodgers from Malta with the frigate *John Adams* alone, on the 5th of May 1803, who arrived with his frigate before Tripoli on the 8th of May following.

"5th. In not going sooner than the 22d of May 1803 to the coast of Tripoli.

"6th. In quitting the blockade of Tripoli, on the 10th June 1803, in the frigate *New-York* accompanied by the schooner *Enterprise*, without necessity or any adequate object, and never afterwards appearing on the coast of Tripoli.

"7th. In raising the blockade of Tripoli on the 26th June 1803; and carrying the whole squadron from thence to Malta, Messina, Naples, Leghorn, &c. without necessity or any adequate object, and never afterwards sending any part of the squadron to the coast of Tripoli.

"And this court do further report, that as to the period that the Mediterranean squadron was under the command of Captain Morris from the 25th May 1802, when he first arrived in the Mediterranean, to the 5th January 1803, when he was joined at Malta by captain James Barron with the frigate *New-York*, and by captain John Rodgers with the frigate *John Adams*, there are no facts disclosed by the evidence, sufficiently clear and explicit whereon to ground any censure of the conduct of captain Morris, in his command aforesaid, or whereon to form any specific opinion sufficiently satisfactory to the judgment and conscience of this court.

"WHEREFORE, they have limited the expression of their opinion to such periods of his command, and to such parts of his conduct, as they could from the evidence, fairly and clearly pass an opinion upon."

"GIVEN under our hands this 13th day of April 1804."

(Signed) "SAMUEL BARRON, *President*,
HUGH G. CAMPBELL,
JOHN CASSIN."

[See documents under date of 31 August 1803, in "Naval Documents related to the United States Wars with the Barbary Powers," Volume II.]

[LC. "Defence of Commodore Morris" by Morris, E 335, M87.]

To Lieutenant John Cassin, U. S. Navy, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., from
Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t April 19. 1804 —

ESTIMATE OF PROVISIONS to be sent out in the *John Adams*, store ship. —

Beef	450 Barrels
Pork	400 Barrels
Flour	150 Barrels
Suet	12, 000 Lbs
Bread	140, 000 Lbs
Cheese	10, 000 Lbs
Butter	3000 Lbs
Rice	4, 000 Pints say lb.
Pease	450 Bushels
Molasses	1500 Gallons
Vinegar	1500 Gallons
Spirit	3, 550 Gallons

Above you have an invoice of the Provisions estimated for the *John Adams*, and which it is intended to put on board of her. There will also be a few Tons of Cordage and some spare Canvas. Judge from this Invoice whether the *John Adams* will not carry more Beef and Pork, and communicate your opinion on the subject without delay. Should there be more Beef and Pork now on board than is contemplated by this Invoice, it must remain on board, and if you should be of the opinion, that after receiving the other articles, there will not be room for more Beef and Pork than is mentioned in the Invoice or than is now on Board, or that being room for more Beef & Pork, they may be conveniently stowed on Board after the other articles shall be put in, you will go on with all possible dispatch in stowing the other articles on Board. — M^r Miller and M^r Smith, Bakers, will deliver the Bread — M^r Brent will deliver the Flour, Cheese, Butter &c —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

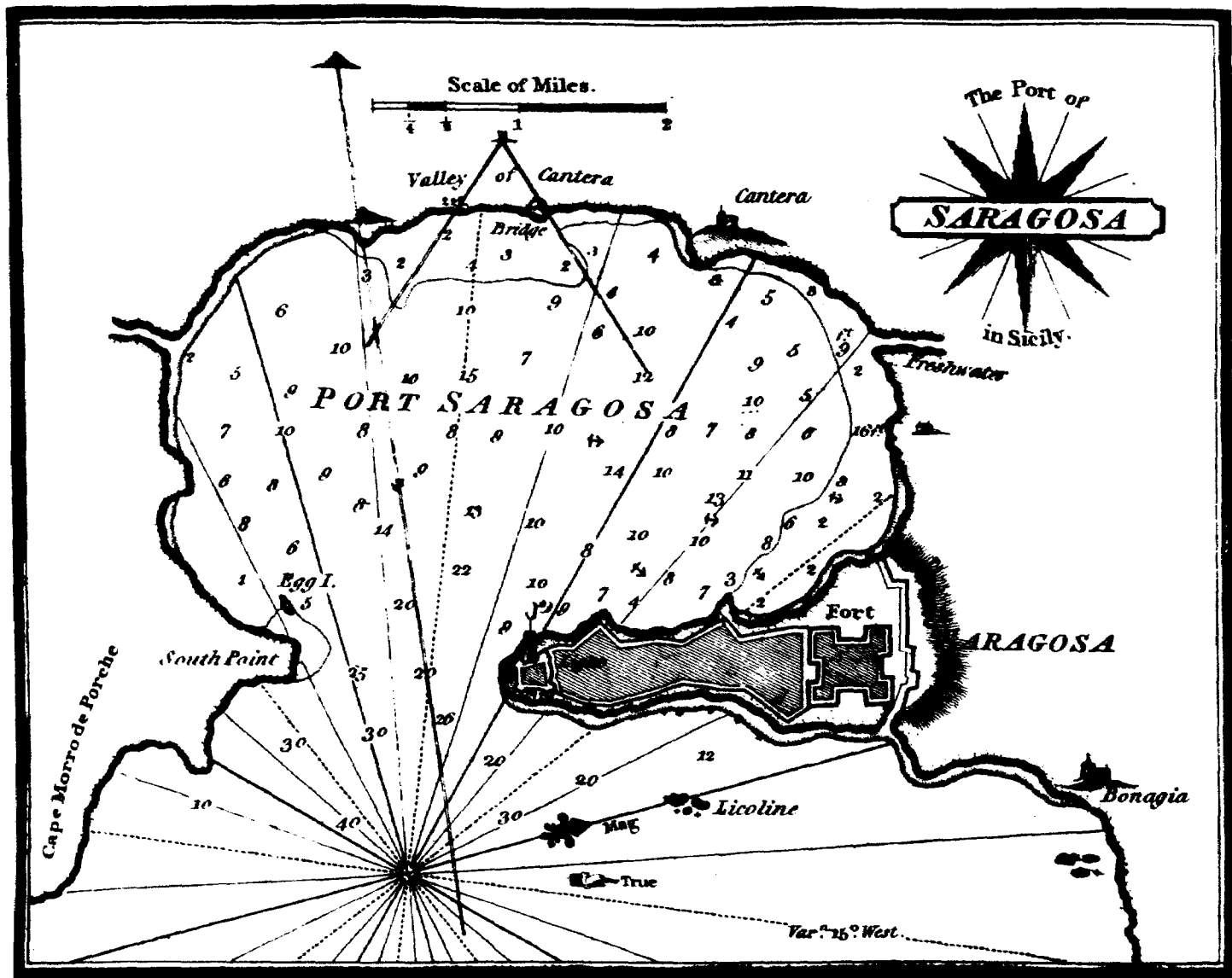
UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*

Syracuse Harbour 19th April 1804

SIR. On the 15th of March, I had the honor to forward you TriPLICATE dispatches from Malta. I sent them by a British Man of War to Gibraltar, in charge of one of my Midshipmen, who was to forward them by three different Vessels, and return and join me again.

I then sailed for the Coast of Tripoly, which port the *Syren* and *Nautilus* were blockading. I carried with me a letter written by order of the First Consul of France, by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the French Commissary General at Tripoly directing him to endeavour to procure the release of our Country Men and effect a Peace between the United States and that Regency

On the 26th in sight of Tripoly, I fell in with the *Syren* she had a few days before captured a Greek built ship under Russian Colours. This ship sailed from Smyrna with a Cargo of Powder, Shot, Ship-Timbers, Guns, and 75 Turkish Soldiers recruits on account of the Bashaw of Tripoly. The Pilot has declared on Oath, that the Captain, himself, and all the crew knew of the blockade of Tripoly by our Squadron previous to sailing from Smyrna; and that in consequence of that knowledge they cleared out for Gerba in the Kingdom of Tunis, but that his agreement with the Captain and Merchant was, to Pilot her into Tripoly, and that they ran for that Port which they entered in safety in a gale of wind from the Eastward. You will please to observe that I was obliged to haul off from the Coast the day before (25th dec^r last) on account of the same Gale which enabled that vessel to enter with safety. On the 27th *Uto*. she left Tripoly with a Cargo of Sheep & Bullocks bound to Malta on account of the Tripoline Consul, and was met with by the *Syren* off the Harbour of Tripoly and captured by that Vessel — This capture is certainly a legal one on the part of Lieu^t Stewart. He will immediately send her papers to his Agent in Philadelphia, in charge of a Midshipman who was present at the capture, in order that she may be condemned, and a copy of her condemnation sent out; in the mean time she will be detained at Malta. I cannot spare men to send a large light ship home, and her Cargo of live stock must necessarily be sold here. A few days after the aforesaid capture, the *Syren* fell in with a Brig of



MAP OF THE PORT OF SARAGOSA (SYRACUSE) IN SICILY.

16 Guns owned by the Tripoline Consul at Malta. She has for a long time past been employed in carrying Powder and other Military Stores to Tripoly and is supposed to belong to the Bashaw but covered by his Consul. She sailed from Malta for Tripoly with Powder and supplies for the Bashaw, and took a favorable opportunity after a gale to slip in, altho' they knew of the Blockade but in coming out with a Cargo of about 6000 Gallons of Oil she was captured under the Guns of the Tripoline Castle by the *Syren* and sent into this Port — a Brig sailed from Malta in company with the aforesaid Brig, which also belonged to Malta, and was chartered by the Tripoline Consul — her cargo consisted of Plank and Nails for building Gun Boats — Building Stone for the Bashaw's New Forts, and about 20 bales of Hemp. Flax, Wool, and Turkish Clothing belonging to 8 Tripolines who were passengers on board her, She cleared out for Gerba in the Kingdom of Tunis, but was met with by the *Nautilus* to the Eastward of Tripoly in the Night standing in for the City with a free wind, the fires at the City then in sight. Lieu^t Somers sent her in here for examination, and on searching her a great number of letters for Tripoly were found secreted under the Transom cieling and the Bashaw of Tripoly's passport to the Tripolines found on board, who were all armed with Muskets, Pistols & Sabres The Mate who is brother to the Captain has also acknowledged on oath before a Magistrate, that they were bound direct from Malta to Tripoly, but cleared out for Gerba to avoid our Cruisers. She had no Invoice of Cargo nor a single letter for Gerba. Governour Ball at Malta told me that he considered those captures as perfectly legal, as he had given public Notice of the Blockade, and had forbid any communication with Tripoly. L^t Somers will send his prize home for adjudication and to take the papers of the other Vessels that they may be condemned. The 16 Gun Brig [*Transfer*, 17 March 1804] was built for a Cruiser, and is a very fine Vessel. She has 16 Six Pounders a great number of Muskets, Blunderbusses, Cutlasses Pistols, and other Military Stores excepting Powder, the whole of which, she left with the Bashaw of Tripoly, and was to take a fresh supply at Malta, I have had her Valued by three Gentlemen of character, who have estimated her Value at five thousand dollars as she stands with all her stores &c. and at that valuation I have taken her into the Service of the United States under the name of the *Scourge* and have appointed Lieut Dent to command her. I have been induced to do this, as I am in want of Cruisers — The *Nautilus* has lately suffered so much in a gale of wind off Tripoly (in which she was near being lost, having all one side of her Waist stove in — and three of her Guns carried overb^d & lost) as render it necessary to send her to Messina to undergo a thorough repair. She is very rotten, and never was strong enough for a Cruiser. The *Enterprise* has just returned from that place, where she has been repaired.

On the 27th *Ulto* I hoisted the white flag, and fired a Gun off the Harbour of Tripoly where I was at Anchor The Bashaw answered by doing the same. I then sent a Boat on shore with an Officer (M^r Izard) in charge of the letters from M^r Talleyrand to the French Commissary General and letters to Captain Bainbridge. M^r Izard was allowed to see Captain B—— in the Bashaw's Castle, where he and his Officers are confined under a strong Guard, but he was not allowed

to see any of the other prisoners. The letters were delivered among which was one from me to the Bashaw's Prime Minister proposing an exchange of Prisoners, which he did not accede to —

The 28th I again sent my boat on shore when the French Commissary General came off. he observed he would do all in his power to endeavour to effect the release of the American Prisoners, and to bring about a Peace; but that we must not expect to accomplish the ransom of the Prisoners for less than 200.000 Dollars unless we could show more force before Tripoly than we have yet been able to show — However it is generally supposed, and I have good reason to believe that the Commissary is altogether in the interest of the Bashaw and wishes to make as good a bargain for him as possible. The Consuls are all intriguing for themselves and against us, and do not wish us to have Peace with Tripoly, as they are certain that such an event will be the Signal for War with some of them. I suspect we must depend altogether on ourselves. The Bashaw is daily gaining strength — he has now 14 Gun-Boats — and a Gang of Carpenters from Spain are building him several more — He is also building several new Batteries to the East and West of the Town on which he employs all the Crew of the *Philadelphia*. If I had two more frigates, and a few Gun and Mortar Boats, I should be able most certainly to subdue him directly. I have been endeavouring to procure the Gun and Mortar Boats from the Neapolitan Government, but fear I shall not succeed, as the British Government are working against us to prevent it — Would it not be well to build 10 or 12 Gun and Mortar-Boats on a large Construction, and send out here against next year, if we should not have force sufficient to subdue Tripoly this? I however hope yet to bring the Bashaw to terms soon, as I am taking measures to destroy his Gun Boats, and the small towns on his Coast in order to distress the Inhabitants, and drive them into the City upon him — I solicited permission to send on shore at Tripoly clothing for the Prisoners which was not obtained but I expect soon will be.

On the 5th instant I went to Tunis, to see how our affairs stand there — M^r Davis came on board — every thing was quiet, but the Bey is fitting all his cruisers & threatens to take our Vessels, if he is not in six weeks paid for the Tunisian property captured by Commodore Morris' Squadron. He insisted on my landing to pay my respects to him at his Castle, this I declined but wrote to him a copy of the letter I enclose you — On the 7th a heavy Gale of wind Came on which obliged me to leave the Bay and put to Sea — a Tripoline Xebeek of 16 Guns was hauled up within the Gouletta dismantled and the crew gone home. in consequence of having been blockaded by the *Enterprise* for a fortnight previous to her going to Messina for repairs. The other Tripoline Cruisers are hauled up in Tripoly, where I hope yet to destroy them.

I touched at Malta where I found the *Vixen* from Algiers which brought M^r O'Brien late Consul who has Volunteered his services with me for the Summer; from his knowledge of the language and disposition of the Barbarians I expect he will be of great service particularly in any negotiation. I have rec^d letters from Col Lear and from the Department of State for M^r Davis at Tunis. M^r O'Brien sails immediately in the *Enterprise* for that place with those letters and I hope every thing will be settled to our satisfaction with that Regency; but we must not rely too much on that hope unless we have more force

out — On my arrival here, I found the Ship *Woodrop Sims* with a cargo of provisions and Stores and some canvass and cordage which is much wanted. We are now plentifully supplied with provisions for some time to come. The *Argus* convoyed the Store Ship here, and is now off Tripoly with the *Vixen*; the *Syren* sails this evening to join them and the *Enterprize* will proceed there from Tunis after landing Captain OBrien; and I shall sail from this in two days for Tunis and take him on board again.

The *Scourge* will be fitted from this Ship's Stores and Manned by the different Vessels of the Squadron and will be ready to sail in a few days for the Blockade I have appointed M^r Wadsworth and M^r Izard acting Lieutenants of her, and M^r C Morris, Acting Master M^r Brooks has been appointed Master of the *Argus*, in place of M^r Magrath permitted to return to the U S by his own request on account of ill health — M^r Harrison Master of the *Syren*, and M^r Cox master of the *Nautilus* have likewise been permitted to go home on acc^t of their health, and M^r Burrows appointed to the former, and M^r Casson to the latter as acting Masters M^r Livingston has written me a letter, and requested permission to resign, to save himself from a trial by Court Martial for serious charges. I now enclose you his commission, which I hope you will accept to save the feelings of his friends. He goes home in the Store Ship. M^r Ridgley and M^r Israel stand next for promotion as they are certainly two of the smartest Officers of their rank in the service.

I am hon^d with your letters of the 24 Jan: 4th and 9th Feb^r. I am glad the *John Adams* is coming out, as I shall have occasion for [her] before Tripoly, if she is so situated with respect to her orders that I can employ her on that station. The men she is to bring out for this ship and for the *Enterprize* will be acceptable as the crew of that vessel is impatient to return to the United States

You may rely with confidence that I shall conduct the blockade of Tripoly with discretion, and shall pay proper respect to the rights of Neutrality agreeable to the wishes of the President.

Slop clothing of every description can be procured here on better terms than in America, excepting blue Woolen Trowsers and Jackets, the only clothing necessary to be sent out. The Mediterranean passes you sent out, ought to have been bottoms or regular passes in the place of Tops. The Barbary Cruisers have the Tops, and should one of our small Cruisers fall in with one of their Frigates she would be sent into Port, if she could not produce a pass-port, by which much trouble and difficulty might be created. The Algerines sent in two French Brigs of War under similar circumstances. I wish you to send out a proper pass for each of the Squadron: the new passes will be best. If they are sent out whole, we can cut them here. M^r Hunt Midshipman on board this Ship, is very deaf, and does not promise to make an Officer; I have therefore sent him to assist M^r Cox in conducting Lieu^t Somers's prize to the United States I enclose you a list of the Officers as they are now attached to the different Vessels of the Squadron

P S. I have not yet drawn a Bill since I left America excepting the one I drew at Cadiz for 3500 dollars but I expect I shall be obliged to, as the repairs of the *Enterprize* and *Nautilus*; — the purchase of spirits and Wine &c^t for the Squadron; — the necessary supplies of

the Officers and Crew of the *Philadelphia*, and keeping the Officers of the Squadron paid up, will soon expend the 55,000 dollars brought out in this ship, and the *Argus*. The pay of the Officers of the Squadron alone, is about 2300 dollars p^r month, and without such pay, they could not appear decent, or live comfortably. All the Officers and Men turned over from the last Squadron have been paid up on board this ship. I can (if I should want) obtain Money at Malta on Par on London or perhaps something under, and opportunities may offer to draw on the United States without loss. I shall as soon as possible, send a Vessel down to Gib^r to replace the *Argus*, but cannot at present spare one. I send you enclosed a number of letters for your information — Signed E. P. —

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

[19 April 1804]

To Midshipman Stephen Cassin, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble,
U. S. Navy

SIR You are hereby appointed Master of the U. S. Schooner *Nautilus*, You will therefor take upon yourself the charge and duty of Master in her accordingly, agreeable to the regulations of the Service for which this shall be your sufficient Warrant.

Given under my hand on board the
U. S. Ship *Constitution* this 19 day
of April 1804

Signed, EDWARD PREBLE

To M^r STEPHEN CASSION

hereby appointed Master
of U. S. Schooner *Nautilus*

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 19 April 1804

Moderate breezes from E S E. Employed watering ship and stowing the fore & main hold — Discharged the two boats which we employed watering & gave them certificates for two days each Towards Evening fresh breezes from the East⁴

At 1 A. M. the wind shifted in a squall from E S E to W S W — Let go the best bower. At 2 A. M. Launched Top Gall^s Masts — From this time till 8 A. M. strong breezes from the N W with light showers by intervals — At 9 A. M. more moderate. Sent 3 officers & 30 Seamen to assist in refitting the rigging the U. S. Brig *Scourge* — Recieved from the *Constitutions* stores on shore, 3 large Blocks, One flying Jibb boom & One foretop Mast Studd^s S^t Boom. Fresh Breezes which prevent the watering service from going on. Made the *Enterprise* Signals N^o 598 & 995 — Surgeons report 7 sick, 7 convalescent Noon fresh breezes from N N W.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

To Midshipman Daniel Murray, U. S. Navy, Philadelphia, Pa., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t

April 20. 1804 —

We have found it of great advantage in Balt^o, to open two Rendezvous for the same Ship. If you should be of opinion that a similar plan would be of service in Phil^a also, you will open a second Rendezvous at such House as upon a consultation with M^r Harrison, may be deemed most eligible. Such rendezvous you will place under the direction of an Officer on whose abilities you can rely, to be considered as a Branch of the Rendezvous under your Command.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

To Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Franklin Wharton, U. S. Marine Corps, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t

20 April 1804

SIR, We require for the Frigate *President* 1. Captain and 1 Lieutenant of Marines, and for the Frigates *Congress*, *Constellation*, and *Essex* each 1 Lieutenant of Marines. I wish to see you tomorrow morning on the subject.

[NDA. USMC, LB, 1804-1820.]

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Enterprise*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbor Ap^l 21st 1804

SIR You will proceed from this for Tunis. M^r OBrian will take passage with you for that place where he is to be landed, from thence you are to proceed directly for the blockade of Tripoly unless circumstances should induce M^r OBrien or M^r Davis our Charge d affaires at that place to advise you to the contrary for the good of the Service — You will leave a letter with M^r Obrien or M^r Davis for me acquainting me of your route —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

To John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U S SHIP *Constitution*, SYR^o H^t
April 21st 1804.

DEAR SIR I thank you for your kind attention to Cap: Decatur and the assistance you have rendered him in the repairs of the *Enterprise*. I have now to request your kind Offices in favour of Captain Somers of the United States S: *Nautilus* who visits your place to repair some damage which that vessel has sustained in a gale of wind off Tripoly. I have nothing new to communicate, but expect ere long to see you at Messina. I have sent you by the *Nautilus* One thousand dollars for which you will please to forw^d me duplicate receipts by Captain Somers, and debit me with the expences on the *Nautilus*

P. S. In lieu of the One thousand doll^r mentioned Cap^t Decatur sends you 962 23/100 doll^r

E P.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

To Lieutenant Richard Somers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Nautilus*,
from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbor Ap^l 21st [1804]

SIR You will proceed to Messina, and repair the damage the *Nautilus* has sustained in a gale of Wind off Tripoly — Make your requisitions on M^r John Broadbent & he will furnish you: As soon as the *Nautilus* is in order for sea proceed to this place, Take on board as much provisions and water as you with prudence can, and sail directly to join the Squadron in the blockade of Tripoly —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Mrs. F. Leckie, Syracuse

SYRACUSE 21st April 1804

MY DEAR SIR The Governour has this moment called upon me to request that I would address you upon the subject of the dispute which has unfortunately arisen between yourself and him. He desires me to represent to you, that the situation of his Court with the French Government is such, that without disobeying the orders rec^d he could not act otherwise than he has done, though on all occasions it is his wish to convince you of the very high esteem and regard which he entertains for your person and the American Nation, the interest of which, it will ever be his desire to promote.

Let me, therefore, beg of you, that if you go to Naples you will not represent his Conduct in such a manner as to injure or perhaps entirely ruin a man whose weakness is ever the cause of those disputes which arise more from the bad advice of those about him, than from any evil intention of his own.

You will have the goodness to answer the present as soon as possible, that I may calm the fears of the Governour who though he affects indifference is terribly frightened.

I remain D^r Sir

Yours truly

F: LECKIE

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

To Mrs. F. Leckie, Syracuse, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution 21st APRIL 1804

DEAR MADAM I am hon^d with your esteemed favor of this morning I am confident the Governour could not have rec^d any Orders from his Court to protect deserters from the United States Squadron to oblige the French Government, or to insult our flag by forcibly detaining our Officers on shore; of course he could have acted with more propriety than he has done. He certainly has a very singular way of discovering that attachment to the American Nation which he professes to have for it.

I am however willing to impute his conduct to the advice of secret enemies he has about him, and can assure you I have no wish to injure him, or to make any representations to his Court of his conduct, but what my public character requires of me. In compliance with your request, which has been dictated by the goodness of your heart, I shall endeavour to screen his conduct in such a manner as not to

injure him if it can possibly be avoided. The Governour in having prevailed on you to become his advocate, has acted wisely for once in his life, for be assured Madam it will ever afford me the highest satisfaction to have it in my power to oblige you.

M^{rs} F LECKIE

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

[21 April 1804?]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from the Governor of Syracuse

Your Excell^y cannot be ignorant of my freindship toward you & how much it becomes me to maintain that good harmony which reigns between the King my master and the united States of America you are much mistaken if you suppose that I had the most distant thought of commit^t the least hostile action against a Nation that I so much respect not only for the regard they have for my Master the King but also for the particular esteem I entertain for your good self so much so that I immediately sent an officer & inform'd you of my operation the moment I was persuaded, that your laws & your treaty with france authorise you to do as you have — I have now simply to pray and in consideration to the friendship you have always shewn be pleased to soften all in your power the punishment due to your deserter & only be assured that I will always behave towards you and your Squadron with every regard and attention as from the first moment you entered this port — I understand you are going to naples to complain of my Conduct what ever may befall me I will never repine at any thing you may occasion me, before we part I desire to embrace you at any place you may Judge most fit be it at my House at M^r Leckies, or M^r Dysons where I may renew the proof of my sincere freindship & inalterable esteem with which I subscribe myself

MARCELLO D^e GREGORIO

What pleasure it woud give me if you woud honor me with your Company to Morrow to Dine in Company with M^r Decatur

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.-Feb. 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 21 April 1804

These 24 hours Commences with light airs and Clear Weather saw a strange sail on our Weather bow made sail and gave Chace at 4 Exchanged Signals with the U. S. Schooner *Vixen* at ½ past Captain Smith of the *Vixen* Came on board the *Argus* and returned at 8 P M

At 10 A M made all sail standing in for the fort to the Westw^d of Tripoli the *Vixen* and us fired several shot at the above fort which was returned by both the forts Wore Ship Emp^d as Necessary —

[NDA photostat.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from James Leander Cathcart, Naples

NAPLES April 22nd 1804

DEAR SIR Enclosed are duplicates of my dispatch of the 17th ins^t, the original went by post the day of its date to Messina; I likewise gave you the heads of the negotiation by two different conveyances by Sea —

I now send you a Cypher [See Edward Preble Papers, vol. 11, doc. 2527; Library of Congress, Mss Div.] the Key (with me) you will please to make the word *Constantinople*, I recommend to you to send a copy of it to Capⁿ Bainbridge and fix on a Key between yourselves as by that means he may be able to forward you intelligence which it would be imprudent to trust to legible characters: I would thank you to inform him that I will write to him and use for the Key — the word *Philadelphia*, by the time I expect he may have receiv'd the Cypher — I send you the rough copy of the Treaty wick I intended to present to the Bashaw of Tripoli & its translation in Italian, if the Tunisians keeps quiet; or if they do not & you can prevail on the Neapolitan government to keep in the Cruisers of Tunis with their seventy four and two Frigates I hope to hear that you will force the Bashaw of Tripoli to sign it or one as honorable on board your own ship; you may depend Sir a few Bombs will alter the Bashaws opinion & get the better of his obstinacy much better and sooner than the persuasive arguments of all the OBriens & M^dDonoghs that ever left Ireland backd with the pretended influence of the Jews of Algiers: I hope however that the sight of your force will effect all you wish for in case of going to extremitys I regret from the inmost recesses of my soul the dangerous situation that Capⁿ Bainbridge his officers & crew would be placed in, as well as the necessity you would be under to adopt a rigorous retaliation repungnant to your feelings & at which humanity shudders

M^r OBrien has thought proper to assert among other falsehoods that the contents of the 14th Article of the enclosed Treaty is without foundation although I have proof in the hand writing of Farfara the Bashaws interpreter to substantiate the fact; he has likewise declared that the Bashaw of Tripolis personal pique to me would prevent him from negotiating with me for peace; this I presume was the reason government gave me orders to place the powers originally invested in me in the hands of Colonel Lear: this likewise is false for I have document to prove that in July 1802 the Bashaw & his minister wish'd me to come to Tripoli in preference to any other: I therefore request that should you land in Tripoli you will be so good as to investigate those matters & give justice to whom its due: I should be extremely happy if every hour of my administration was investigated by an honest and impartial man who has no other views but the honor and interest of his Country: but to be exposed to the malice envy & misrepresentations of a set of men destitute of every sense of honor & adverse to every measure but those calculated to promote their own case and emolument is distressing beyond description: On investigation you will find Sir that I have neither studied my interest or ease since I have been in the service, had I pursued a different line of conduct I should have been receiv'd at Algiers with distinguish'd marks of approbation but being conscious from near 20 years observation that the humiliating situation that the powers of Europe have been reduced to at different periods, has proceeded from their local situation, commercial jealousies, and misrepresentation of their Consuls who were more intent on preserving their salaries & commercial priviledges than the true interest of their Country, & viewing our situation entirely in a different point of view from any other, as a rising nation with an increasing Navy & well knowing that the first impressions made by us on those Barbarians would be the means of

their ranking us either with Great Britain and France or the small tributary nations I determined to resist their impositions in the first instance so far as prudence dictated and I was authorized by my instructions: I was and am sensible that a war with those powers is by no means desirable but then Sir I am of opinion that it ought not to be dreaded as so great a national calamity; if we intend to have a Navy we must have officers & men and no place presents so good a nursery for them at present as the Mediterranean; was I to dive farther into politicks perhaps I could prove to your satisfaction that the war with Tripoli so far from being a calamity has really been attended with great national benefit, the effects of which will be more visible in a few years: in fact Sir my conduct has been approved by three administrations, I have honorable testimonials of it from the President & Secretary of State Colonel Humphreys Mess^{rs} Barlow Donaldson Smith and others to which I am happy to add your own: & therefore can have had no motive in view but the interest of my Country and in future shall despise the insinuations of those who have pursued plans calculated to promote their own interest and ease though I shall never cease to regret the effects produced by their measures; You certainly on viewing the history of the war with Tripoli will agree with me that we have had one or two opportunitys of humbling that Regency and of making peace with them on our own terms; if those opportunitys were not embraced or if accidents has since happened which has marr'd those prospects it has not been through any fault of mine but in consequence of measures over which I had no control, I therefore am not responsible for the consequences: I have acted from the certainty I feel in the success attending energetic measures and I feel confident that if the other States remains quiet this summer which will prevent the necessity of a division of your force that you will prove the truth of my assertion by demonstration which I most sincerely hope may be the case and that your exertions may be crown'd with the most compleat success which will redound to the immortal honor of yourself & the brave Officers and Seamen under your command —

The bearer of this is M^r Spence a midshipman who was left sick at Leghorn & whom I have brought with me to this place on his way to join the Squadron; he is the son of the purser of the *Philadelphia* now a prisoner at Tripoli; as his family has been unfortunate, & he has not many opulent connections to bring him forward, I take the liberty to recommend him to your notice and to request that should the command of the gunboats be given to midshipmen you will include him in the number; he is in my opinion a very fine young man, possesses a nice sense of honor, and has been at sea since he was twelve years old four of which he has been in the Navy: if you should be inclined to favor my request I flatter myself that M^r Spence will do honor to your choice & my recommendation —

Wishing to hear from you as often as opportunity serves I request you to believe that I continue with respectfull esteem

Enclosed is a letter from M^r Barnes —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April-June 1804.]

To Sir John Acton, Prime Minister of State, The Two Sicilies, from James Leander Cathcart, Naples

NAPLES April 22nd 1804.

SIR The undersign'd Agent of the United States of America embraces this opportunity to inform your Excellency that he has inform'd Comodore Preble by post of the permission granted by his Sicilian Majesty (QDC) to make use of four of his Majesty's gun & four of his mortar boats artillery & other necessary apparatus: & now dispatches M^r Rob^t Spence an Officer in the Navy of the United States to Messina in order to convey the intelligence to said Commander wherever he may be with the greatest possible dispatch: & at the same time takes the liberty to remind your Excellency of the permission granted to deposit fourteen bales of cloathing for the American prisoners at Tripoli in his Majesty's stores untill call'd for by some of our vessels of War & request your Excellency to grant the necessary permit. —

While the undersign'd Agent takes a pleasure in expressing to your Excellency the highest sense of his Majesty's goodness in granting so promptly the request made by him on the part of Comodore Preble he requests to be permitted the honor of testifying to your Excellency the pleasure he anticipates in informing his government of the very polite reception he met from your Excellency & the very friendly part your Excellency was pleased to act in facilitating the request. —

Publick business demanding the presence of the undersign'd Agent at Leghorn he has requested the American Consul here to procure him the necessary passport & profits of this opportunity to tender to your Excellency the homage of his highest respect & arrogates the honor of subscribing himself. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April-June 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Marcello de Gregorio, Governor of Syracuse

April 22nd 1804

I have endeavoured by every means to preserve the good harmony established from the first moment your Excellency entered this Port, but I cannot deny being much hurt at the occurrence of this day as it infringes the neutrality of the King my Master.

Notwithstanding I am certain that Your Excellency will preserve that goodness towards me which you have shown on all occasions, and earnestly beg you only to suspend the Punishment of the sailor taken on board of the French prize 'till such time as I can inform my Sovereign of the circumstance, and receive an answer to know if his sentiments correspond with yours that you may in the mean time keep him on board your Vessel, and afterwards judge him as you think fit. I am persuaded from your regard for me, you will grant me this favour only reflecting that it will relieve me from all responsibility. I hope for your kind interposition to prove the good friendship that has existed between us, be assured I am forced to this resource to avoid any difficulty with the French, as the Prize Captain of the Privateer of said Nation firmly declares that he will give information to his Government With sentiments of the highest respect I sign myself Your Excellency's Most devoted & Obliged

(Signed) MARCELLO DE GREGORIO

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

To Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Siren*, from
Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution* AP¹ 22^d 1804

Syracuse Harbor

SIR You will sail immediately to join the Squadron in the Blockade of Tripoly, take under Convoy to Malta the ship *Woodrop Simms* and your prize, which you will see safe into that Port, and if necessary you may stop 24 hours at Malta to arrange the business of the Prize, but not longer. Cruize off Tripoly untill I join you with this Ship — Station the *Argus* & *Enterprize* to the West^d of the Town and take your station with the *Vixen* to the Eastward of it, untill farther orders.

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco, from Captain Edward Preble,
U. S. Navy

U S. FRIGATE *Constitution*

SYRACUSE HARBOUR

22nd April 1804

DEAR SIR I am hon^d with your favor of the 22nd February 1804, by Cap: Hull, and sincerely regret that there should be any further cause of trouble as it respects the *Mishouda*.

I have questioned Captain Smith on the subject of the money said to be delivered in his presence, who denies having been present at any such transaction, and as Lieu^t Cox is now in the United States, it is not possible for me to throw any light on the subject. As to the violence committed on Raiz Omar's teeth I think your enquiry very proper, but I am rather induced to believe that these complaints are founded in principles not very honorable to Omar. If, however, it should prove otherwise I agree with you that prompt satisfaction should be made him.

I observe what you say respecting the arrival of the Gun Carriages at Tangier. — As this present was promised by Govern^t before the violation and renewal of our treaty, it may be well that it is carried into effect; but I cannot but condemn the idea of supplying the *Barbary States* with the means of defence for certain it is, that their avarice is stimulated in exact proportion to their ability to command. You are so fully apprized of my sentiments respecting the treatment of these Barbarians that it is not necessary to dwell on the subject, but rest assured Sir, that the more I am familiarized with their character, the more firmly am I fixed in my first impressions.

I regret Sir, that it is not in my power to meet your wishes in sending a ship of war on your coast as soon as the first of May. Independant of the warfare with Tripoly circumstances have made it necessary to watch the motions of Tunis which makes it impossible to send a vessel to Larach, 'till I have more force from the United States; when this is the case I will lose no time in dispatching one of my squadron to Tangier to be employed on such service as circumstances may require — With you I duly appreciate the Presidents generous approbation of the measures taken to re-establish peace with the Emperor of Morocco.

I can say in truth that I shall always feel obliged by any communication in which the interest of our Country is concerned

Under the conviction that I shall in all cases meet your cordial co-operation

I subscribe myself with
Sentiments of esteem
Yr. M. Ob. Serv^t

(Signed) E PREBLE

JAMES SIMPSON Esq^r
U S. Consul at Morocco

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

[22 April 1804]

To Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Siren*, from
Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR You will turn over to the U. S. Brig *Scourge* L^t Dent, as many men as you can conveniently Spare
Constitution Ap^l 22 1804

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

To Midshipmen John Davis and John Rowe, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
April 22^d 1804.

SIR You will repair on board the U. S. Brig *Scourge*, & place yourself under the Command of the Commanding Officer —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board
U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 22 April 1804

Some difficulty with the Govt. of Syracuse respecting the detention of officers by closing the gates, which was adjusted next day.

[LC original.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 22 April 1804

This day begins with moderate and Pleasant Weather under easy sail off the harbour of Tripoli which at ½ past 2 bore SE, at 4 bore away in C^o and Exercised sails at 5 hauled our wind at Sundown Tripoli bore SSE dist^t 6 Miles Sounded in 30 fathoms Water at 3 AM, Close reefed the topsails blowing Very heavy from the North^d and Eastward sent down T. G. Yards and launched T. G. masts the gale Increasing set and took in sail as Necessary at ½ past 8 wore Ship to the Southward Variously Employed

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Sunday, 22 April 1804

Wind S W. Moderate breezes & fair weather. I had this day an unpleasant affair with the Governor of Syracuse, which originated in his protecting a deserter from one of the Squadron. About 4 weeks since a seaman deserted from the *Enterprise*, and was enticed on Board a French privateer boat by her Officers, who promised him protection, in consequence of which he did not conceal, from us, the

knowledge of his being there. Cap^t Smith being the Senior Officer in Port at that time applied Verbally to the Governor to have the Deserter restored, but recieved no answer satisfactory; He then wrote to him, but recieved no answer, and the deserter sailed on a cruize in the Frenchman; this day the Deserter arrived in a Maltese Coaster, prize to the French privateer. Lieut^t Decatur sent his boat on board of her and took his man out The Prize Master complained to the Governor, who, without giving me notice of the Affair, shut the gates of the Town, & detained by Force L^t Somers, Commander of the *Nautilus* & eight other Officers. He then sent off his Aid de Camp & one of his Council to inform me that in consequence of L^t Decatur having recovered his deserter, he the Governor had detained a number of Officers belonging to the U. S. Squadron, And that they should not be allowed to return on Board untill the Deserter was restored to the Frenchman: I observed to the two gentlemen, that this conduct was rash and improper, and an insult to our Flag, which I would not submit to, and as it was, at this time, past 8 OClock in the Evening, they could not go on shore, untill all the Officers of the Squadron were allowed to return to their respective Vessels. In the Morning, I wrote a letter to the Governor, demanded the immediate and unconditional return of the Officers, and threatened to complain of his Conduct to the King his Master; he immediately opened the Gates for our Officers, and sent a deputation of Gentlemen off, and wrote to me several letters, requesting I would forgive his hasty conduct, and assuring me, that I might command him, on every Occasion. In consequence of this humiliation, I released the deputation he sent on board yesterday. I immediately after recieved a pressing invitation to dine with him, and an assurance of his unbounded friendship: the Invitation I declined — At 10 A. M. the *Woodrop Sims* Store Ship sailed for Malta, with her Cargo A report that the French intend to take possession of this place induces me to divide our provisions & stores by sending that ship to that place The *Syren* Sailed on a Cruize off Tripoly, with Orders to see the Store Ship into Malta. The *Enterprize* sailed for Tunis with Orders to land M^r Obrien there, and then to proceed off Tripoly to join the Squadron in the Blockade of that place. I have sent M^r Obrian to Tunis to assist M^r Davis in arranging our Affairs with that Regency — M^r OBrien took dispatches from the Secretary of State for M^r Davis, and several letters from me — The *Nautilus* sailed for Messina to be repaired

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 22 April 1804

Moderate breezes from S W. At Anchor in Saragosa *Syren*, *Nautilus*, *Enterprize* & *Scourge* in company This afternoon Cap^t Decatur of the *Enterprize* apprehended a deserter from his Schooner on board a French Prize — Complaint was made to the Governor of the Port who immediately gave orders to detain an American Officer who was on shore on liberty. The Commodore retaliated by detaining two Officers who came on board the *Constitution* — Signal was made for the Squadron to clear for action The Batteries were manned throughout the night — At 8 A. M. the business was adjusted perfectly to the satisfaction of the Commodore.

Noon Moderate Breezes — Surg^t report 7 sick, 9 convs^t At 10 A. M. sailed on a cruize off Tripoly the U. S. Brig *Syren* — She took under convoy for Malta the *Woodrop Sims* Store Ship — The *Enterprize* sailed from this Port bound to Tunis with Consul Obrien. Sailed also the *Nautilus* where she is ordered to recieve some repairs.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 22 April 1804

Commences with light airs & variable. At 6 A. M hoisted in the barge. The Commodore made signal for us & the *Enterprize* to get under way. At ½ past 7 the *Enterprize* weigh'd & stood out of the harbour [Syracuse], made signal for our convoy to get under way. ½ past 10 wind haul'd to the E^d weigh'd & stood out of the harbour. The *Nautilus's* Prize & our ship under our convoy with the Store Ship *Woodrup Simms* ahead. At 10 (our prize ship) not being able to beat out of the harbour, wore round stood in & came too an anchor — saw the *Nautilus* under way coming out. ½ past 10 L^t Maxwell join'd us again from the Prize — Meridian moderate breezes & pleas^t wind S. E Ships Co: employ'd clearing decks &c.

(NB those remarks include 12 hours)

[NDA.]

To Midshipman Oliver H. Perry, U. S. Navy, Washington, D. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t April 23, 1804 —

You will consider yourself attached to the Frigate The *Constellation* as one of her Officers and will immediately report yourself to her Commanding Officer. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

To the Commanding Officer of U. S. Ship *John Adams*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbor Ap^l 23^d 1804

SIR I have been informed by letter from the Secretary of the Navy that the U. S. Ship *John Adams* armed en flute would arrive here by the last of the present month with provisions & Stores for the Squadron under my command; having on board 20 Men for this Ship & a Crew for the *Enterprize*

On your arrival in this Port you will immediately fill up your water casks from the fountain: and proceed with the provisions Stores and men to join the Squadron off Tripoly — And to cruize there untill you fall in with me — You are not to deliver any Stores without my written orders — You are to capture all vessels belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoly or his subjects and to distress the Enemy by Every means in your power —

The Port of Tripoly has been declared by me, and is at present in a state of blockade; You are not therefore to suffer the Vessels of any nation to enter that place while blockaded by us, and any vessels who may endeavour to enter without permission from me for so doing, You are to detain, and send into Malta for examination —

You are strictly to examine all vessels which you may happen to fall in with, and suffer no vessel whatever to pass without searching her between decks. You are to succour all Vessels belonging to the U. S. that may be attacked by the Enemy, or in their possession.

You are to respect the rights of Nations with whom we are at peace, and not to capture Vessels within the Jurisdictional limits or under the protection of such nations —

Should you want money for the necessary expences of the U. S. *John Adams*, under your command you are to draw on me for it, expressing in your Bills the purpose for which you may draw, taking care that letters of advice accompany your Bills. It will be requisite to use economy in the expenditure of such monies as you may recieve of me for the Use of the U. S. Service as you are to hold yourself accountable to the Navy Depart^t for it.

The Officers of your ship may recieve payment of money from time to time, but no advance beyond what may be due them —

You will keep me regularly informed of all your proceedings —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Midshipman Thomas O. Anderson, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble,
U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbor Ap^l 23^d 1804

SIR You are to proceed to Malta in the Polacre Ship *Madona Catapolianna* detained by the U. S. Brig *Syren* for carrying supplies of Powder & other Military and Naval Stores to the Bashaw of Tripoly in violation of the blockade of the Port of Tripoly in Barbary by the U. S. Squadron under my command —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Assistant Surgeon Thomas Marshall, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble,
U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
April 23^d 1804

SIR You are hereby appointed Surgeon of the U. S. Brig *Scourge* — You will therefor repair on board said brig and take upon you the charge of Surgeon in her Agreeable to the Regulations of the Navy: And for so doing this shall be your Authority

Given under my hand on board
the U. S. Ship *Constitution* the
23^d day of April 1804.

Signed EDWARD PREBLE

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

[23 April 1804]

To the Governor of Syracuse from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Last night a Soldier deserted from your Garrison and swam off to this Ship. If you will send a Boat with an Officer to receive him, he shall be immediately delivered up.

Constitution 23rd April 1804

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Monday, 23 April 1804

At anchor in Syracuse. *Scourge* in company; Wind S E. sent a number of our best seamen, to assist in getting her ready for sea: In the Evening, the wind shifted to the W N W, Pleasant weather — Completed our stock of all sorts of provisions for 5 months — Our Carpenter, Armorer Sail Maker & Cooper at work for the *Scourge* — A deserter from the Syracuse Garrison came on board & wanted to enter — He was refused: He swam off from the Point Battery where he was Centinel I wrote to the Governor, and informed him of this circumstance, and desired him to send an Officer to recieve the Deserter, which he did, with a letter of thanks — .

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 23 April 1804

Beating out of the Bay At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 came too in the harbour of Malta in 10 fathoms with the store ship — At 10 furld all sail & hoisted out the barge —

(N. B. Those remarks include 36 hours.)

[NDA.]

To the Right Reverend Bishop Carroll, Baltimore, Md., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP

April 24th 1804

Your letter on the subject of M^r Benedict J. [or I.] Neale's wishes has been received — If you could recommend this Gentleman from personal Knowledge of his merits the recommendation would be entitled to the highest respect & I would with pleasure confer the appointment upon him — His being of respectable connections and good education is certainly in his favour but unhappily the respectability of the Father does not always descend to his posterity — and the influences of the most correct education are too often destroyed by inherent Vicious propensities —

In making appointments to Offices of honor, it is therefore all important, that we scrupulously enquire into the previous conduct of the applicants — the station of midshipman in the navy is at present a respectable and honorable station — but it is my wish to make it still more so — You will readily percieve that this Object can never be effected unless great Care is always taken to appoint none but Gentlemen of most unexceptionable characters —

If M^r Neale will present himself to this Department with satisfactory testimonials of his fitness for the station of midshipman his application shall be considered.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803-1805.]

To Captain Anthony Gale, U. S. Marine Corps, Philadelphia, Pa., from
Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^t

Ap 24th 1804

In consequence of the resignation of L^t Col. Burrows, Franklin Wharton Esq. has been raised to the station of L^t Col. Commandant

of the Marine Corps — Being the Senior first Lieutenant in the Corps you will consider yourself as raised to the Station of Captain in the Marine Corps, until the pleasure of the Senate shall be known — You will receive Orders from L^t Col. Wharton to repair immediately to this place prepared for actual Service —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803-1805.]

To Lieutenant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Scourge*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Syracuse Harbour 24th April 1804

SIR As soon as the United States Brig *Scourge* is fully equip'd and ready to Sail, you will proceed off Tripoly and join the Squadron in the Blockade of that place. — You are to capture all Vessels belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoly or his Subjects and to Annoy and distress the Enemy by every means in your power. — You are not to suffer the Vessels of any Nation to enter, or to have Commerce with Tripoly, and any Vessels who may endeavour to enter that place, whilst Blockaded by us, without permission from me for so doing, you are to detain and send into Malta for examination. — You are to respect the Rights of Neutral Nations and not capture Vessels within the Jurisdictional limits or under the protection of such Nations.

All suspicious Vessels which you may happen to fall in with, you are strictly to examine both with regard to papers and Crew; and suffer no Vessels to pass without first searching her between Decks — And you are at all times (as far as may be in your power) to succour, Aid and free any American Vessel attacked by the Enemy or in their possession. — Should you want Money for the necessary expences of the Brig *Scourge* under your Command, you are to draw on me only for it, expressing in your Bills the purpose for which you may draw taking particular care that Letters of advice accompany said Bills — You are to use the most rigid economy in the expenditure of all such Monies as you may occasionally receive of me for the use of the United States Service and hold yourself Accountable to the Navy Department for it. — The Officers of your Vessel may receive payments of Money from time to time, but no advance beyond what may be due to them. — You will loose no opportunity of keeping me informed from time to time of all your proceedings. —

[NHF. Dent's LB.]

[24 April 1804]

To John Green, appointed Acting Purser, by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR I do hereby appoint you acting Purser of the U. S. Brig *Scourge* under the command of L^t Comm^r Dent — You will therefor immediately repair on board said Brig & take upon you the charge of Purser in her agreeable to the regulations of the Navy, and for so doing this shall be your Authority —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

[24 April 1804]

To the Commodore or Commanding Officers of the U. S. Ships of War before Tripoli,
from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

(Copy)

GREETING

WHEREAS His Excellency Hamouda Bashaw Bey of Tunis, has caused application to be made to me as the Consular Agent of the United States of America for a Safe Conduct, for an Ambassador of the Grand Signior, and his Suite, (to wit, Nine Servants, two Negro-women, & one Negro boy) charged with Dispatches from His Exc^y the Capt. Bashaw, for the Bashaw Bey of Tripoli, and now embarked on board the Spanish Bombard *La Vergine del Rosario* Captain Francesco Della Torre, and navigated by Seven Seamen —

I have therefore granted a Passport to said Vessel, provided, she embarks no kind of Merchandize of any nature, or takes on board as passengers any others, than those above mentioned, nor goes, or returns with any Articles of provisions, or other Stores, than may be necessary for the prosecution of said Voyage. It is therefore requested of the Commanders of the Vessels of War of the United States to permit said Vessel to pass & return from said port of Tripoli in Barbary, without hindrance, or molestation, in case the nature and intention of this Safe Conduct is not violated or abused. —

In witness whereof I have hereunto Set my
name and affixed the public Seal of Office,
In Tunis this twenty fourth day of April
one thousand eight hundred and four —

(L. S.)

(Signed) GEORGE DAVIS

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April-June 1804.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé
d'Affaires, Tunis

Copy

TUNIS April 24th 1804
9 P. M.

SIR, I have the honor to inform you, that this morning the U. States Schooner *Enterprise*, anchored in the road of the Gouletta, and about 6, in the evening, had the pleasure of receiving M^r OBrien on shore, who delivered me the dispatches you did me the honor to write, all of which have been heretofore duly acknowledged, except N^o 7 & 8.

I have to regret that my several communications of the 18th & 22^d Feb^y — 7th & 30th of March, have not been received, but which shall be forwarded you by an express in two days, when you shall have a full detail of our Affairs. — A Spanish Vessel sails for Tripoli tomorrow morning with my Passport, having on board a Choux of the Grand Signior, and which does not permit me to offer you any additional remarks —

I have read to M^r OBrien, the several dispatches, I had the honor to address you, as above stated, and beg you will do me the Justice to attribute the non receipt of my letters, to some unaccountable accident, rather than to a negligence of duty, or a want of that respect,

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part 1, Jan. 1804-Nov. 1805.]

[24 April 1804]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Richard O'Brien, on board
U. S. Schooner *Enterprise*

Narrative or extract of remarks written at Sea

Dr SIR, I left you the 26th of March and on the 28th it came on to blow a severe gale from the S. S. W. This drove us to the Nth of Galita. we then steered for Syracuse and arrived there the 31st — left there the 4th of April, arrived at Malta the 6th took lodgings and landed my family on the 7th. Let me inform you before I further detail, that none of us were sick at Sea.

On the morning of the 12th of April arrived the Commodore at Malta in the evening I bid adieu to my family and came on board the Commodore. We got under way, and arrived at Syracuse on the 14th. On the 22^d I left the Commodore at the latter place, and came on board the *Enterprise*, and is at sea destined for Tunis, which place I expect to arrive at on, on the 24th where the *Enterprise* is to land me, and is to proceed afterwards on a cruize of[f] Tripoli. On the 28th the Commodore is to call off Tunis, and I am again to go on board. We then intend for Naples on the business of the Gun boat mission. You shall then be informed of the result. At Syracuse we left the Commodore. The *Argus* & *Vixen* is cruising off Tripoli — The *Syren* sailed with us and is intended for Malta in order to convoy a Greek Russian Ship a prize to the *Syren* and *Nautulus* and to convoy The *Woodrop Sims*, Capt. Reddick a store Ship from the U. States for the fleet. The *Nautulus* is intended for Messina to repair having been damaged & shattered in a gale of W^d off Tripoli on the 7th & 8 of April in said gale lost some of her Guns and had waiste stove in — The Commodore had been of[f] Tripoli, had sent his boat on shore as a flag of truce landed cloathing for the unfortunate prisoners. The French Consul came on board, and rec^d the letter of the French Agent. wrote on our affairs, said letter I do not calculate on, will be any essential service to us. on either tacks of Peace or ransom. It might be viewed as the 2^d Volume of the mediation of France as turned out on the Swede Affairs. relative to Tripoli — The Commodore & *Siren* proceeded to Tunis. and no doubt, but M^r Davis, has detailed to you the result of what passed there he put out from there in a severe gale of wind and arrived at Malta, leaving the *Siren* there to bring away the dispatches of M^r Davis — I had forgot to mention that at Malta I left there three Tunisian Corsairs, which had become letters of Marque and brought to Malta cargoes of Cattle, which I beleive they make more on than they would cruising, but I must observe that Malta is the Arsenal for Tunis. The Corsairs that want repairs is loaded with Cattle and half armed & half manned proceed to Malta their cargoes payes for their repairs. — Whilst at Malta my best soundings informed me that they expected, that the first step that would be taken by John Ball [or John Bull?] would be to blockade his Brother untill that they were more at leasure to make an official visit As this was & is a matter of opinion, We must view it as such untill the event will be realized — At all events I pray God to protect You & Yours —

I find that our Squadron has taken and done as Viz

The Ketch [*Mastico*] from Tripoli said Vessel afterwards was made the machine which burned the ex *Philadelphia*. A Maltise Brig with Tripoli Passengers & Merchandize cleared out for Jirba, but was

caught entering Tripoli — Since the Mate & crew has declared in writing. They were intended for Tripoli to land their merchandize and passengers and afterwards proceed for Girba. — A Brig of Malta from Tripoli, mounting 16 Guns and 45 men cargo Oyle Iron Ballast &c. intended for Malta. This Vessel had been a British Brig of War, we valued her with her Guns and apparal at 5 thousand dollars. has taken her on the 17th into our service is Commanded by Lieu^t Dent, and M^r Izard as 2^d will have 70 men destined for Tripoli blockade a promising fine Vessel now the *Scourge* [formerly named *Transfer*]. — A Rusian Greek or Neapolitan Polacre with cattle Sheep & horses, from Tripoli for Malta, taken by the *Siren* and *Nautulus* — having also on board M^r Bryan M^dDonogh he is now at Malta. A new British Consul is expected at Tripoli. — I find that the Conde Galino. The Agent of the Pacha of Tripoli resident at Malta. The Person that promised to obtain the Peace & Ransom for the U. States with Tripoli. That this said person has been playing both a double & treble game, but he has been punished in some respects for his intended deception. For the three Vessels crossed & captured — he has been the chief owner & freighter. — It seems that Tunis & Tripoli was negotiating relative to the frigate. The former was to give the latter 2 small Xebecks but the burning of the frigate upsett the project. — The said Cond Gallino or Agent of Tripoli at Malta that had proposed the terms of Peace & Ransom to the Commodore. This false Prophet had a large sum of money owed to him by the Pacha of Tripoli, and he wanted to purchase the frigate from Tripoli in order to have on the business an oppertunity of paying himself. But the frigate was burned 36 hours before he arrived at Tripoli. Thus failed his plan of buying the frigate from the Pacha and selling her to the Commodore — Whilst these schemes were going on to lull & amuse, he was by his Agency the procurer of all wants of Stores for Tripoli, but by being detected and having 3 of his there trading Vessels captured he has gained nothing by his duplicity. So that the prospect has turned out relative to the terms proposed by this double faced Agent, as we in some respects feared would be its fate or result — but this does not give any cause to dispair — a close blockade and now & then other galling and distressing enterprizes must convince the Government of Tripoli, that it is peace, that is wanted and will tend to the interest of both parties. —

As yet I do not learn or conceive any reason to View our Affairs with Tunis in any other light then what our general opinion, was on them subjects, but as this is the 23^d of April and it 4 P. M. we being to the East of Cape Bon 10 miles — I expect in 2 days to be able to write you on the result of our endeavours at Tunis. —

N. B. The Neopolitans has 3 Ships of the line 2 frigates and a Corvetta at Sea — Nelson has not been to Malta — is off Toulon

I am sorry to have left the territory of Patroon Grandi without receiving the requisite receipt or certificates from you for the articles of the Gov^t of the U. States delivered by me to you, but hope you will forward me the requisite on this tack by two different conveyances by way of Tunis under cover to George Davis Esq^t the American Charge d'Affairs, whom I learn is thus officially confirmed by our Government

24th of April here I am at Tunis at the house of M^r Davis — He has wrote to you many letters, which you had a right to have received before and after I left you — You shall hear of all transactions which shall turn up here during — The short time I shall here remain —

N. B. The Commodore has been sickly but well pleased with the Belt present —

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol.7, Part 1, Jan. 1804–Nov. 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 24 April 1804

These 24 hours commence with heavy gales and Cloudy Weather at 3 P. M. got the main yard down at 4 the *Vixen* in sight astern wore ship to the Southward at 8 fresh breezes and Cloudy the *Vixen* out of sight —

At midnight strong gales with a heavy sea made Sig^l N^o 4 to the *Vixen* which was Shewn 45 Minutes and not answered set and took in sail as Necessary at $\frac{1}{2}$ p^t 11 Tk^o to N, E, — At Meridian a very heavy swell the *Vixen* in Sight astern Sounded in 110 f^m soft oozy Bottom —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tuesday, 24 April 1804

Moderate breezes from E S E — At Anchor in Saragosa *Scourge* in company — Condemned by survey 233 lb of cheese rotten, stinking & unfit for men to eat. Also 2 bbls beef "G, M Darde" — The cheese & beef were hove overboard — Condemned also 66 lb Mouldy bread

Towards evening the Weather became overcast & had the appearance of a gale from the East^d Down top gall^t Yards. At 11 P. M. let go the best bower — Veered 20 fath^s on each cable. At 8 A. M. sailed for America the Maltese Brig prize to the *Syren* — She passed the outer breakers with signal of distress flying Boats ordered in readiness. She passed in safety A russian ship prize to the *Syren* was under way for Malta — She was ordered to reanchor Employed work^s up Junk & cleaning ship Our Carpenters, Sail Makers & Armors employed about the *Scourge*. Strong E N E breezes all forenoon with a swell sett^s into the Harbor.

Surg^r report 7 sick, 4 conv^s & 1 discharged.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

Extracts from journal of Surgeon Jonathan Cowdery, U. S. Navy, from 24 April to 6 September 1804

[From 28 March to 13 April 1804, Surgeon Cowdery was ill so nothing of particular interest was noted in his journal until 24 April.]

April 24. — John Morrison died, in consequence of a hurt he received a few days before while at work under the directions of his new masters. The Bashaw permitted me, with two of my fellow officers, to go to his garden, conducted by a guard of two Turks, armed with pistols and sabres. This precaution, they pretended was taken to prevent the wandering Arabs and Moors from robbing us; but it was probably done to prevent our escaping to the squadron, then cruising of the harbour, in sight.

May 7. — Our boys caught a large scorpion in the small yard of our prison.

May 11. — Our squadron appeared off the town. The Turks were at their quarters. They had twelve gun boats armed, manned, moored out in the harbour.

May 16. — Ten of our officers took a walk to the gardens under escort of a guard. They returned with a variety of flowers and ripe apricots.

May 29. — A party of us, under escort as before, took a walk into the desert. On our return we dined in the Bashaw's garden, under the shade of orange trees. The dinner was prepared in the Turkish style, and we ate with wooden spoons—it was simple and good. We visited several gardens, and were treated with as much respect as could be expected or desired from a foe, who held us as prisoners of war. On returning to town we saw two of our brigs at anchor off the harbour, seeming to defy all the force of Tripoli.

June 27. — Mr. Hodge our boatswain, Mr. Douglas the sail-maker, and Mr. Fontaine the first master's mate were taken from the prison and set to work by order of the Bashaw.

July 19. — The Bey was well enough to return to Tripoli. He called at the door of our prison, which was unlocked and the bolts and bars unloosed. I was conducted to him when he expressed great satisfaction at having recovered his health, thanked me for my attendance, and promised to alleviate our misfortunes, as far as was in his power. I was then sent back to prison. The Bashaw and Bey spent a day alternately in town, on account of the expected attack by the Americans.

July 31. — I was carried with my trunk and bed, to the castle, where a room was provided for me, and the Bashaw informed me I must attend the Americans and his family as a physician.

August 3. — The American squadron, under commodore Preble, consisting of one frigate (the *Constitution*), two brigs, three schooners, and seven gun-boats, at about 2 o'clock, P. M. commenced an attack on the batteries and gun-boats of Tripoli. I stood on the top of the castle, where I had a fair view of the engagement. Three of the enemy's gun-boats were captured by the Americans. Two Turks swam on shore, and were carried before the Bashaw, who gave them a suit of clothes and a few dollars. They said that many were killed on both sides.

Aug. 5. — The American squadron anchored off Tripoli, I was ordered to dress the wound of a mameluke, who had his hand shattered by the bursting of a blunderbuss. I amputated all his fingers but one, with a dull knife, and dressed them in a bungling manner, in hopes of losing my credit as a surgeon in this part of the country, for I expected to have my hands full of wounded Turks in consequence of the exploits of my brave countrymen.

Aug. 9. — At about 12 o'clock the alarm gun of Tripoli was fired. The Tripolitans all took their stations, and went through the Mahometan prayer, by kneeling and kissing the ground several times, with their faces towards the east, all with as much regularity as the exercise in a well disciplined army. Their military manœuvring was a scene of the utmost confusion. I got permission to go on the top of the castle, where I had a most extensive view of the sea and land, and saw the American squadron approaching the town. At about 1 o'clock the attack commenced, and the battle soon became vigorous, with a tremendous cannonading on both sides. I now beheld the melancholy catastrophe of the explosion of one of our gun boats. I saw the mangled bodies of my countrymen precipitated into the air. For a few moments a general silence took place, when the firing recommenced with unabated vigour. I saw the shells explode, and set fire to the town in many places; but the houses being principally built of stone, mud and mortar, the fire did but little damage: the shells and shot, however, battered the town very much, and almost destroyed some of the houses. The firing ceased at 4, P. M. when the ship *John Adams* joined the squadron. The Bashaw has a bomb proof room in his castle, where he staid during the action. On hearing of the explosion of our gun boat, he ventured out to take a peep, with the precaution of having a *Marabout* or priest, to seal a small piece of paper on the top of his head, with a Turkish or Mahometan scrawl, with assurances that it would entirely secure him from all danger, but he soon returned to his cell. The Turks all wear a paper of this kind, sewed up in a little velvet bag, with assurances from the *Marabout* that it would protect them in the greatest danger. The *Marabout* gets a sum of money for these blessings. If a Turk gets wounded or killed, it is supposed the blessed paper was too old, or not placed in a proper manner. In the time of action the *Marabout* gets upon some secure place and cries to Mahomet in the most dismal yells to let them conquer their enemies; and beckon to the vessels to run on shore or be destroyed. Such of our crew as were able, were put to work, and drove about like horses or mules.

Aug. 10. — Lewis Heximer, who lately turned Turk, went by order of the Bashaw, and told capt. Bainbridge, the particulars of the two late actions. The Bashaw informed me that the late commander of the schooner *Vixen*, lieut. Smith, was commodore of the gun boats in the late action, and was killed by a musket shot through his head. Our men complained of being drove and beat about at an unmerciful rate, in consequence of which they petitioned the Bashaw, in the following terms:

“To his Excellency the Grand Bashaw of Tripoli: The petition of the whole of the American prisoners, most humbly sheweth:—

“That your humble petitioners, when doing with all their power, as they are commanded, are most cruelly beaten by our wardens, stoned, insulted, and spit upon by the soldiers and others; required to carry burthens impossible for us to sustain; and chased and bruised, until we are, or soon shall be, unable to labour at all.

“From the many acts of justice, kindness, and generosity we have experienced from your Excellency, we cannot suppose that such conduct is authorized by your commands; or that we should be punished for what is out of our power to perform; or for the actions of others, which we have no agency in, and which we cannot prevent.

“Returning your Excellency our sincere and humble thanks for your bounty and privileges heretofore shewn, and relying on your goodness and protection, we therefore most humbly pray, that your Excellency would interpose your royal authority, and grant us a speedy relief. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will remain your Excellency's most humble, faithful and obedient servants.”

On the petition being explained to the Bashaw by Heximer, (or *Hamet Amerikan*, his new name) the Bashaw forbid the Turks striking the prisoners.

Aug. 11. — The Bashaw sent for me, and, agreeably to his orders, I took a seat by his side. He began conversation about my country, and our squadron, which was then in sight, and consisted of eighteen. He said that for two dollars he could repair all the damages that the bombardment did to his town; that but one man was hurt by the shells; that what he had been offered for the American prisoners was but fifty dollars per man; that he would make them earn that sum in two months. He asked me what I thought my country would give for me. I told him I did not know. He said he would not take twenty thousand dollars for me; to which I replied, that I might then expect to remain in slavery for life. He patted me on the shoulder and said, I must then content myself to stay with him. I asked to go and see our men, but he refused, saying, the Moors and Arabs would kill me if they could catch me.

Aug. 12. — Our squadron hoisted a flag of truce, sent in a brig and schooner and fired a gun. The Bashaw did not, and swore he would not, answer it; and said he would not treat with commodore Preble. A truce however was afterwards held. Consul O'Brien wished to come on shore, but was refused.

Aug. 15 — Another truce was held, when the Bashaw demanded one million of dollars for our ransom. One hundred and twenty thousand dollars were offered and refused.

Aug. 17 — The Bashaw informed me that fifteen Americans were found drifted ashore at the westward of the town, and that one of them was an officer with an epaulet on the right shoulder. We supposed they were men destroyed by the explosion of the gun boat, at the late engagement. I asked permission to go with two or three of our men and bury them, and the Bashaw told me I might go the next day. Our squadron lay at anchor off the harbour. The inhabitants had chiefly moved out of the town, through fear of another bombardment; and the Bashaw ate, drank and slept in his bomb proof room. Several tribes of the back country inhabitants had lately come and offered their services to the Bashaw, were not more than one thousand men. Many of them had muskets without locks, but had a sort of match to put fire to them. They were almost naked, half starved, and without discipline. When they are going to battle, or appear before the Bashaw, they run to and fro, shaking their rusty muskets over their heads, all crying *Halaoui Buoy?* (I am my father's son.) Every tribe has a priest, or what they call *Marabout*, whose badge is a small green flag, which is carried in his hand or stuck up at his tent. They pretend great skill in prophecy, in which the people put the utmost faith. They prophecy success in battle: and for a small sum of money, insure any one against wounds or death in fighting a Christian. They often go on eminences, and beckon and sing to the American vessels to run on shore. They prophesied that another American vessel was to go on the rocks, and the Bashaw fully believed it.

Aug. 18. — Was not permitted to bury our dead. Our squadron stood out to sea. At evening the Bashaw went to his country seat and the Bey came in to keep the throne till his father's return. They never both leave the castle. When the Bashaw leaves it, the gates are shut till his return, for fear of incursion upon the throne. In the evening, the moon shining very bright, the prince or Bey ordered out the band of music, which was very ordinary, and made Christians, Turks, Arabs and Guinea Negroes dance before him, according to the mode of their respective countries, at which he seemed highly diverted.

Aug. 19. — Between 9 and 10 o'clock in the evening, Mr. Church, a respectable English gentleman was shot through the head in the street, on his return from visiting his neighbours.

Aug. 24. — In the morning, between 2 o'clock and day light, two of our small vessels hove about thirty shells, as was supposed for the round fort, but they all fell short of the mark. Such attempts served rather to encourage than to intimidate the Tripolitans; and the Bashaw was in high spirits on the occasion.

Aug. 26. — At about 4 o'clock P. M. the fellow who murdered Mr. Church, was executed near the spot where the crime was committed. It had therefore been a custom in this country, when a person had committed murder, to fly to a tomb of a *Marabout* (or priest) where they were protected from justice, and a fee to a *Marabout* would procure them absolution. This fellow fled to a palace of this kind immediately after killing Mr. Church. The English consul Mr. Langford, on being informed of the murder, addressed the Bashaw, and demanded justice. The Bashaw then found out by a boy, who accompanied the murderer when he committed the crime, the particulars of the affair; and immediately sent a file of men and ordered them to prevent any person carrying food or drink to the murderer. They watched him until night when the Bashaw sent his *Marabout*, who coaxed him away, brought him to the castle and confined him in irons. The next day the Bashaw called his divan, when it was decided that the prisoner was guilty of wilful murder, and ought to suffer death. It appeared by the evidence and confession of the prisoner, that Mr. Church had lent a sum of money to a Spanish carpenter in this place: — that Mr. Church had pressed him for payment; and that the carpenter's wife hired the Turk to kill Mr. Church for forty dollars. The villain took his watch from his pocket after he had shot him. The boy who accompanied him and carried a lantern was bastinadoed with five hundred blows. The carpenter's wife was ordered to leave Tripoli.

Aug. 27. — Our squadron stood towards the harbour.

Aug. 28. — About 4 o'clock in the morning, I was awoke by a heavy and incessant fire of cannon, and the whistling and rattling of shot all around me. On getting up, I found that our gun-boats were close in, and were firing upon the town and batteries. Every gun in Tripoli that could be brought to bear, was returning the fire. The Tripolitan gun boats were close under the castle for protection. The firing continued until a few minutes after sun-rise, when one of the largest gun boats ventured out, with an intention of boarding the nearest American boat. As soon as she got within pistol shot, the Americans discharged their piece, loaded with grape, and killed four and wounded two of the enemy, they then put about and retreated. At the same time, commodore Preble bore down and gave the batteries to the westward of the town two broadsides. The squadron then stood out and anchored off the harbour. The damage done to the town was considerable. A large vessel was sunk in the harbour and others damaged. Many men were killed and wounded.

Aug. 29. — The Bashaw sent me to his palace in the country, to see his eldest son the Bey, whom I bled in the foot. He requested me to spend the day and dine with him, which I did. He endeavoured to have the dinner in the Christian style. It was set on a table, and consisted of a large dish of boiled rice and stewed fowls, out of which we both ate, he with a wooden spoon, and I with a silver one, without knife or fork. The prince's servant stood by him, and pulled the fowl in small pieces with his fingers, for the prince to eat. I made use of my fingers and teeth to get mine in pieces. Our dessert was dates and water-melons. Our drink was lagby, or the juice of the date tree, which we drank out of a large gold cup. He shewed me the garden, and took great pains to entertain me.

Aug. 30. — A truce was held, I took a ride upon a mule about eight miles to the westward of the town, in company with my guide, Hamet, a Turkish officer, and several footmen. I there saw a boat, which drifted on shore, with a dead man, and several muskets and swords in it. The man appeared to have been shot through the body with a cannon ball, which had also pierced the bottom of the boat. The Turkish officer collected about twenty Arabs, who hauled the boat

upon the beach, dragged the dead man out of it, stripped him entirely naked, and left him on the beach. I tried in vain to hire the Arabs to bury the body; they said it was contrary to their religion to bury a Christian. I asked permission to get him buried by our countrymen, some of my fellow prisoners, but was refused. I found that our men, who were destroyed by the explosion of the gun-boat, on the 9th inst. lay in a state of putrefaction on the beach. They were scattered on the shore for miles, and were torn in pieces by dogs. The Bashaw had frequently promised me that these men should be buried; but refused to let me take some of our men to go and bury them.

September 2. — At about 4, P. M. our squadron commenced another attack on the town in which eight of our gun boats drove sixteen Tripolitan gun boats under the battery on the east side of the harbour; while the commodore bore down and gave the batteries at the west end of the town, several broadsides. Many of his shot came into the town and castle. Two bomb-ketches were employed in heaving shells into the town, which did considerable damage to several houses, and entirely destroyed the house of the Spanish carpenter, the Bashaw's naval contractor. I observed the utmost confusion and random-firing among the Tripolitans. It appeared they were almost out of powder. Two of their guns burst, one of which was an eighteen pounder of the late *Philadelphia* frigate. The men, women and children ran out of the town in the utmost terror and distraction.

Sept. 3. — Had been to see the prince in the country, and was returning about 10 o'clock in the evening, with the Bashaw and suit, when we saw a most extraordinary light or flash, and heard heavy report. We all wheeled about, and made for the place we had left; but the Bashaw soon altered his mind, and proceeded to town, while I went to the country palace and staid all night. The explosion was a fire ship, sent into the harbour by commodore Preble, which did but little damage.

— The Turks found ten dead men near the place where the vessel blew up, on the evening of the 3d instant. The Bashaw and his people had a thanksgiving to Mahomet on the occasion. Their ceremony was prayer in doleful tone, and singing, accompanied with the sound of an instrument made by drawing a skin over a hoop.

Sept. 6. — More men were found, three of which appeared to be officers. By permission, I took our boatswain and a gang of men, and buried these bodies a little east of the wall of the town. All that I saw, who appeared to have been killed by the explosion, amounted to fourteen. The Bashaw's son-in-law told me that six more had been found drifted on the western shore; but I could not ascertain the truth of it.

[LC. Rare Book, "American Captives in Tripoli" 1806.]

To Samuel Brown, Navy Agent, Boston, Mass., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP

25. April 1804

We must not let the wives and children of the unfortunate captives suffer — at least we must relieve them as far as may be in our power — therefore the allotments of pay by virtue of powers presented by the officers and men we must continue to pay —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803-1805.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Richard O'Brien, Tunis

TUNIS the 25th of April 1804

SIR, When I left Algiers, and was intended for this place I had reason to believe that M^r Lear the Consul General had forwarded to you the instructions or orders of the Government of the United States relative to giving Tunis a fixed sum in cash annually to the amount of ten thousand dollars p^r annum in order to settle the affairs of the United States with the Regency of Tunis on the basis of a lasting and permanent peace. But as I have not been furnished by Consul Lear with the copy of these instructions, and you declare to me that you

have not rec^d any such advice from Consul Lear, therefore in order that no difficulties should arise in the negotiation for the final arrangement of our affairs for not being furnished with these instructions. and I knowing that the Government of the United States have given orders to that amount, I think it prudent to declare to you as my opinion, and authorise you by these presents to offer the Government of Tunis the sum of Nine or ten thousand dollars p^r Annum in cash, but to be paid every two years, in order to do away all claims and pretensions of this Regency on the Government of the United States of America and thereby to secure the Peace and friendship of this Regency towards the United States. It is however to be observed that on the business of the Annual or Bennial stipulations with Tunis that eight months will be required in order that it may be forwarded to the Government of the United States and their sanction obtained.

These terms are to be considered as independent of the consular present which must not exceed ten thousand dollars the half in goods, and half in cash. It is also necessary that the Governm^t of Tunis be made sensible that this stipulation on the part of the United States is to commence from the date of their acquiescence. After this is agreed to you will draw on M^r Lear for the sum of four or five thousand dollars twenty days after sight to make good the claim of Tunis for Tunisian property captured and sold by the Americans some time since. You will be pleased to communicate the result of the negotiations by a courier express to Tobias Lear Esq^r Consul General for the United States at Algiers. Enclosed you have a copy of M^r Lear's letter to me on this subject.

(Signed) RICHARD OBRIEN

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 25 April 1804

This day begins with light breezes and a heavy swell from the Eastward the *Vixen* in Company at 4 TK^d ship made and Shortened sail as Necessary Variously Employed —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 25 April 1804

Fresh breezes from E N E. At anchor in Saragosa. *Scourge* in company. Ships comp^y employed washing their cloathes — At 3 the weather became moderate — Weighed the best bower — The Principal Stores for fitting out the *Scourge* have been supplied by the *Constitution*. At Midnight the Wind Veered to the N N W. At 8 A. M. shortened in on the small bower — Up top gall^y & royal yards Sent M^r Lewis Jouvas our cruizing Pilot on board a Maltese brig prize to the *Syren* in order to proceed hence to Malta. During our stay in this Port which has been 12 days the ships company have had fresh provisions & Vegetables — Ships Draft 22 ft 11 In forward, 21 ft 6 difference 17 Inches — 83 Leagurs, 72 butts & 50 gang casks of water on board making in all 37950 gall^s

Surgeons report 8 sick 4 conv^{es} —

Noon light airs from N E with a swell setting into the harbor —

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

To Midshipman John M. Gardner, U. S. Navy, Baltimore, Md., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t

April 26, 1804 —

For what Vessel or Vessels were the 5 men lately apprehended by you, entered. They were shipped in Philadelphia and deserted in the Potowmac. They state that they were entered for the Frigate *Congress*. If so we must put them on board of that Ship. We must preserve good faith with all.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

To Lieutenant John S. H. Cox, U. S. Navy, Philadelphia, Pa., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t

April 26, 1804 —

Your letter of the 20th instant tendering your Resignation has been received. Your resignation is accepted.

You will make out your account for pay and transmit it to the Accountant of the Navy who will have it adjusted. —

We have never received a Roll of the Crew of the *Philadelphia* at the time she captured the *Mirboka* therefore the distribution of the prize money cannot now be made. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

To Daniel Bedinger, Navy Agent and Superintendent of Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV DEP

Ap 26th 1804

We want a Bowsprit for the Frigate *President* of the following dimensions

Extreme length.....	67 feet 6 inches
diameter in the Bed.....	32 inches
d ^o at the outer end.....	20½ inches
d ^o at the heel.....	27½ inches
length out Board.....	40 feet 10 inches
in Board.....	25 feet 8 inches

I am told M^r Hall is the best mast maker in norfolk for frigate spars speak to him and have the Bowsprit prepared without delay — The *President* will Stop at Hampton where she will receive it If a solid stick cannot be procured that can be relied on tell M^r Hall to build a Bowsprit Pray do not suffer the Frigate *President* to be delayed for want of a Bowsprit — Let me hear from you by return of mail —

P S. Could you in the course of three weeks buy any Bills on Leghorn or Naples — to what am^t & on what terms

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803-1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 26 April 1804

At 4 spoke the *Vixen* and sent the and sent the Jolly boat on board Captain Smith came on board and returned on board the Schooner at 7 P M, —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 26 April 1804

Light breezes from the N E. At single Anchor in Saragosa — At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 12 weighed & proceeded to sea Left the *Scourge* refitting with 37 men on board her John M^rFate boatswains Mate of the *Constitution* has been appointed boatswain of the *Scourge* In proceeding to Sea we had light and Variable airs with a heavy swell — In passing the outer point it fell nearly calm. Bitted a range on each bower cable. At 4 P. M. a dead calm with an offing of two miles from the outer point At Sundown mustered at Quarters. Cape Passari bore S W b W nearly 4 leagues Cape Porco N b E $\frac{1}{2}$ E 9 miles From this time till day light we had calms or light airs from the N W. Ships head to S S E and S S W Saw Cape Passari at day light bearing N W 4 or 5 leagues & six strange sail to the W b N Gave chase under all plain sail. At 7 A. M. discovered them to be ships of war standing for us — Cleared for action & slung the yards. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11 we boarded the headmost ship which was the Neapolitan Commodore He had in company a Squadron of Six fine frigates At Noon Cape Passari bore N b W — The Neapolitan Squadron parted company to the Eastward —

Latitude Obs^d 36°29' N.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Stren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 26 April 1804

Light airs & variable At 4 AM the Breeze sprung up from the N^e — At 8 brought too on the larboard Cable & hove short. At 9 the Prize to the *Nautilus* arriv'd here from Syracuse. At 10 weigh'd & stood out of the harbor [of Malta]

(N. B. These remarks include 12 hours)

[NDA.]

To John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

AMERICAN GARDEN, near ALGIERS

April 27th 1804

DEAR SIR The Spanish Courier which arrived yesterday from Alicant brought me your acceptable favor of the 4th Ins^t and two Packages from the U. S. which you had been so good as to forward to Alicant. Your favor of the 26th Ultimo reached me a few days since, by an extra opportunity from Alicant, as the Courier sails again (very unexpectedly) for Alicant this morning — I have only time to acknowledge the rect. of your favors, and to thank you for the communications made in them — Your a/c of the Bags \$20.50 is right and passed in Conformity. —

A Brig arrived here yesterday from Tunis which brings a report that the British are making great preparations at Malta to attack this place, which has caused considerable alarm, particularly among the Tribe of Israel — Our Affairs are at present in a good footing here to all appearances, but there are Uncertain Latitudes, as says my Predecessor, who saild on the 26 ultimo in the U. S. Schooner *Vixen* for Syracuse, with his family. —

M^r Lear is in good health and joins me in resp^t & affectionate regards for your good sister, brother & self, and remembrance to all acquaintances. —

I have only time to say that I am with very sincere regard, Dear Sir,

[Stephen Decatur Col. NDA photostat, Book A.]

To Robert Montgomery, U. S. Consul, Alicante, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

AMERICAN GARDEN Near ALGIERS

April 27th 1804

DEAR SIR, As the Courier, which arrived yesterday, sails again (very unexpectedly) at 10 o'clk this morning, I have but a single moment to acknowledge the receipt of your several favors of the 15th ultimo; the 7th & 22^d Inst — and to thank you most sincerely, for their Contents, and for the kind attention which you shew to my Letters, which I am afraid must at times, be very troublesome. — The U. S. Schooner *Vixen* left this on the 26 ultimo with M^r OBrien & family, to Touch at Tunis, and proceed to Syracuse. — we have not heard from them since their departure, nor from the Commodore

I have heard nothing from the U. S. since the information of the loss of the *Philad^a* had reached them, there is no doubt however but measures will be immediately taken to effect a ransom of our unfortunate Countrymen, if it should not be arranged before that time, and should it be so arranged that your Agency can be usefull in the way you mention, I shall feel very happy to promote it. —

M^r Lear is very thankful for your kind offer to execute any commissions for her, and as we doubt but they would be done in the most satisfactory manner, but at present we are tolerably well provided. Should we remain here a year, you will, I am afraid be troubled very often. The Only thing I think of at present, is to beg the favor if there is any good Salmon, Mackrel, Shad, or Herrings at Market, to have a Cask of each sent by the first favorable opportunity. —

A Brig arrived here yesterday from Tunis which brings a report that the British are making Great preparations at Malta to attack this place; This has created some alarm, particularly among the Jews, I do not however put much faith in reports from that quarter. — The sudden return of the Courier, is, I presume owing to some pressing demands which this Dey is said to have made on the Spanish Consul here. At present we stand well here; but that will not excuse an under Security. —

M^r Lear unites with me in best respects & wishes for a pleasant & safe Voyage for M^r Montgomery to England. —

P.S. I trouble you to put the Enclosed letters for M^r Kirkpatrick & M^r Gavino in the way to receive them.

[Stephen Decatur Col. NDA photostat, Book A.]

To Midshipman Edward N. Cox, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble,
U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*

April 27th 1804

SIR If M^r Higgins should think proper to sell the prize brig *S^t F Crucifiso* of which you are prize master, he has my permission to do it at Malta In that case, you will take passage in the Store Ship for

America & carry with you all the letters & papers entrusted to your charge excepting M^r Higgins should wish to detain a part of the Papers of that Vessel, but you must take particular care of the Papers of the *Transfer* which are enclosed in a letter from Cap^t Stewart to the Judge or his Agent in Philadelphia — If your prize is Sold in Malta M^r Higgins will direct you what to do with the People —

M^r Edw^d N Cox

Prize Master of Brig *S^t Crucifixo*

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 27 April 1804

These 24 hours Commence with light airs and Clear Weather at 4 the Eastermost land in sight bore SE Westernmost W b S at 5 Calm drifting in Shore got the Sweeps out set all sail that would be Servicable and emp^d the Sweeps while Necessary set & took in Sail Occasionally

At AM, took in the small sails at ½ past 9 bore away to the Southw^d set and took in Sail Occasionally

Latter part fine Weather Various^y Employed

[NDA photostat.]

To Purser Buller Cocke, U. S. Navy, Norfolk, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t

April 28: 1804 —

I have received your Letter of the 23^d instant. —

You shall be appointed Public Storekeeper at the Navy Yard at this place. I am sensible of the great responsibility which is attached to the Station, and that great attention and skill in accounts are indispensably requisite to discharge with fidelity the duty which it imposes. I will therefore allow you for your services a liberal compensation, say, 1500 dollars per Annum.

You will hold yourself prepared to proceed to this place when called upon. Knowing the situation of your family, I shall not order you hither at an earlier period than the public Services shall require.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

[28 April 1804]

Appointment of Buller Cocke as Storekeeper

To all who shall see these Presents, GREETING. —

KNOW YE that reposing special trust and confidence in the patriotism, fidelity, and abilities of Buller Cocke, I do hereby appoint him Storekeeper under the Act of Congress entituled "an Act supplementary to the Act entituled" "an Act providing for a Naval Peace Establishment and for other purposes"; he is therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duties of Storekeeper, by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging, and he is to observe and follow such orders and directions, from time to time, as he shall receive from me, or his superior Officers set over him.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the
Department this 2[8] day of April
1804 and in the 29th year of
Independence. R^t SMITH Secry Navy.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

[28 April 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Richard Farquhar, Malta

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY I waited on Capt^a Stewart to know if he had any orders from Your Excellency to take the Bashaw of Derna's Consul & me also some People I had Engaged to assist us in Bengaza —

but Capt^a Stewart told me he had no orders I was astonished, to think that their should be so much Cash laid out and that the Consul and M^r Clementee & me Should have been Aranging every thing for three Monthes & keeping forty People in pay all that time and Purch[as]ing a Cargo which will not Sell at any other Place. we therefore hope Your Excellency will let us know, I advanced M^r Clementee one Hundred Dollars on Account of the men he took to Syracuse

MALTA April 28 1804

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April-June 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 28 April 1804

At 1 Spoke the United States Brig *Syren* Cap^t Hull went on board backed the main top sail at 2 P. M., filled away made and shortened sail as Necessary At Sundown Tripoli bore S W b S dist^a 3 leagues Brig and Schooner in Comp^y

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 28 April 1804

Fresh breezes from N N W. Standing off & on Valetta waiting the return of the boat. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 12 M^r Higgins the Navy Agent came off in a shore boat — At 2 P. M. the cutter returned. By $\frac{1}{2}$ past two P. M. had dispatched the shore boats. We then bore up to the S E to the assistance of the russian prize ship which as I mentioned sailed from Saragosa two days ago. She had 4 feet water in her hold — The Commodore ordered her to proceed round the S E. point of Malta & anchor in the Harbor of Narsa Scirocco — We then bore up in chase to the S E. Up top gall^t Yards At 6 P. M. spoke H B M brig *Morgiana* from Trieste bound to Malta with two ships under convoy From this time till day light, light and Variable breezes from the West^a Punished Leon^d Cozzens and George Simmons with 3 doz^a lashes each, for drunkenness, neglect of duty & disobedience of Orders — William B Brown with 2 dozen for stealing & disobedience of orders — and Mathew Brophy with one dozen for disobedience of Orders — At 10 A. M. calm. Out cutter — Valetta Harbor N W b W $\frac{1}{4}$ W 7 or 8 Miles — The Commodore left the ship in order to proceed to Malta in the cutter — A breeze springing up he returned — Filled & stood in towards the Harbor From 9 A. M. till 11 a dead calm — From this time till noon light breezes from S W b S — Noon Valetta Harbor W b N $\frac{1}{2}$ N — Surgeons report 8 sick 3 convalescent

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Stren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 28 April 1804

Commences with fresh breezes & pleas^t At $\frac{1}{2}$ past Meridian took in sail & spoke the *Argus* & *Vixen* $\frac{1}{2}$ past 1 L^t Hull & Smith came on board. At 2 fill'd away & made sail. At 3 discov'd the land ahead —

Latt: Obs: 33° 1' N.

[NDA.]

[29 April 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from the Officers of the Gun Room of the U. S. Frigate *Constitution*

The Officers of the Gun Room request the pleasure of Comd^{re} Preble's company to Dinner to day —

29th APRIL 1804

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April-June 1804.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Richard O'Brien, Tunis (Copy) TUNIS 29th of April 1804.

DEAR SIR, On the evening of the 24th I got to Tunis, and on the 27th with M^r Davis had an audience with Hamed Pacha — We observed that the Presidents letter would give him a main view — that the frigate he demanded he could not get — that he would be offered something annually or biennially in cash and no stores. That the goods of Tunis, taken by the Americans some time past would be paid for to the am^t of 4 or 5 thousand dollars — Says the Pacha I have not as yet read Your Government's letter — but I refer you to the Sapatapa my Minister — We took our leave.

28th We had a long discussion with the Minister — no frigate — We offered to give 8 or 10 Ths^d \$ — annually in cash, to give on account of the goods 4 or 5 Ths^d \$. and we suppose the Consular Present to the amount of 10 Ths^d \$ — he said he would consider of it and talk with his Master. —

29th I went to Bardo with M^r Davis took my leave of the Pacha asked him if he had any commands for the United States — he said he would write the President and alluded we were friends — I am now waiting ready to depart the moment the Commodore comes off here — or if further attacked by the Bey or Minister to give them a definitive answer, not to exceed the boundaries as detailed — in this time does not permit me to add more at present — but hereafter you shall have full details —

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part 1, Jan. 1804–Nov. 1805.]

[29 April 1804]

Comments by George Davis and Richard O'Brien concerning Tunis

REMARKS ON THE AFFAIRS OF THE U. S. AT TUNIS.

TUNIS 27TH APRIL 1804. This morning at 8 AM went to Bardo the place of residence of the Pacha; about 9 AM we were admitted to an audience. M^r Davis introduced me, and gave into the hands of the Pacha the letters from the President of the U. S. After some conversation we told the Bey that the President's letter would inform him

of the heads of particulars. As he had the letter adjacent to him unopened, we could not immediately commence on our mission; we therefore waited the Bey's attack, and as we ta[c]ked towards him, he tacked from us. When on a second manoeuvre as I had hold of the Bey's hand, intimated that the Frigate he demanded he could not get. That he would be offered something annually in cash, and no stores. That the goods of Tunis condemn'd by the Americans would be paid for to the amount of four or five thousand dollars. Says the Pacha "I have not yet read your Gov^t letter, but I refer you to the Sapatapa my Minister" We took our leave and returned to Tunis.

28TH: This morning Mess^{rs} Davis and OBrien went 12 miles into the country to the seat of the Sapatapa or Minister of Tunis — he rec^d us calmly and with a little stiffness, and in an hour gave us an audience as follows —

"Well" says he "you have seen the Bey" — Answer Yes: —

"What did you bring him"?

A letter from the President, which gave a refusal of giving this Government a frigate —

"What is the motive for this refusal"?

We want to keep all our own force.

T. — "Do you allude to your War with Tripoly? You there occupy but a "small force, as I understand you have in Frigates, Brigs and Schooners to the "number of 40 or 50 Sail — I do not as yet learn you have any ships of the line: — but if you cannot at present give, or spare us a Frigate or Corvette — we will "have patience until you are at peace with Tripoly."

U S — We ans^w We must candidly assure you that you may forever extin-
guish the idea or hope of getting a ship of War from the U S.

T — "Why do you give them to Algiers"?

U S — We stipulated at the Peace to give Algiers a Frigate; and as to the other Corsairs, they were built and paid for at the expence of Algiers; or taken on account of the annuities, and Peace stipulations.

T. "Well if you do not give us the Frigate, you can give us the Cash or means "as a substitute to obtain one".

U S. We wish to preserve your friendship, and will give you to the amount in cash pt Annum or Bennial at the rate of eight thousand dollars.

T — "This is a small sum for our friendship! — Why not give us stores as you "do to Algiers"?

U. S. We stipulated by treaty to do by Algiers as we have done; and with Tunis made all our stipulations good; and cannot conceive in justice, where you have a right or pretence to have any claim on the U. S.

T. — "The Spaniards, Deans, Swedes, and most all other Nations who wish "to secure our friendship with effective tokens and demonstrations of the same — "I ask you if *your Government* has not an equal interest so to do"?

U. S. No — Our situation is superior to those mentioned Nations. Spain is in your power: — Those of the North have for 6 months in the Year a frozen Ocean. they want to occupy their Vessels in the Winter Months in this Sea; therefore they gain a Doubloon whereas we do not gain more than two dollars.

T — "Is not our friendship to be considered more important — We knew noth-
"ing about your Country — You came and demanded of us Peace and Friend-
"ship."

U S. Yes, we did; and secured it by Treaty and Stipulations which we have made good.

T — "When we want Peace with your Country, and is very much in need of it, "you shall know thereof; or when you see the Ambassadors of Tunis on the Mis-
"sion to America"

U S. Our System is Peace and Harmony — Yours is not; but it must be evident to you, that Peace must be to the advantage of both Nations; and perhaps if the interest of both Nations could be viewed in its true light, the balance in favor of Peace, would be on the part or to the advantage of Tunis.

T — "You have been three years at War with Tripoly; who has not the power "that Tunis has — You have spent Millions & done nothing — You have lost a "Frigate and her Crew — You are tired of the War and want peace."

U S. We have used but a small part of our force against Tripoly; his Corsairs have been shut up these 3 years, and his port blockaded We have spent much Money, and will spend more: the loss of the Frigate was an accident — but we have burnt her in a port called very strong. We repeat, that, our system is Peace and will continue the War to obtain it —

The Minister of Tunis answered “that he would explain all we said to his Master — We took our leave.

29TH OF APRIL went to Bardo with M^r Davis in order to take our leave of the Pascha. He said he would write to the President, and give his answer to M^r Davis — He said we were friends — we took our leave.

We the undersigned do hereby certify that this paper as Narratived, is the substance or purport of our audience and conference with the Bey of Tunis and his Minister

TUNIS 29th April 1804 —

(Signed) RICH^d OBRIEN
GEORGE DAVIS

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 29 April 1804

at $\frac{3}{4}$ past 1 P. M. Wore Ship to the S, E, the Squadron fired Several Shot at a Battery to the Westward of Tripoli which was returned made and Shortened sail Occasionally at Sun down the *Syren* and *Vixen* in Company

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Sunday, 29 April 1804

Light breezes from S S W. At 2 P. M. brought to under Topsails, the Main topsail to the Mast. About 1 Mile from Valette, I embarked in the Cutter for Malta, where I found the Store Ship *Woodrop Sims* safe arrived. I also found here the Brig S^t F^s *Crucifixo* prize to the *Nautilus* & the Polacre prize to the *Syren*; both reported to me not to be sea worthy to cross the Atlantic Ocean.— Desired the Agent to haul the Brig up, untill farther orders and directed the prize master to take passage with his dispatches in the Store Ship — The L^t Stewart, I find, has left Orders to sell the Polacre — The three Tunisians still in this Port, but nearly ready for Sea. At 7 P. M. I returned on board The Cutter was hoisted in, and we made sail to the Westw^d It soon fell calm, and remained So all night — At 7 A. M. a light breeze from S E. All sail set — Steered N N W —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 29 April 1804

Light airs from S W b W. We are running in for the Harbor of Valetta which bears W N W 7 Miles — At 2 P. M. wore off the harbor and brought to, one mile from the land — The Commodore went on shore in the cutter M^r Jouvas our cruising Pilot who was sent on board the russian ship at Saragosa came on board having moored her safe in Malta. From 8 P. M. till day light we were off Valetta either with a calm or light airs At 7 A. M. a light breeze sprang up from the S E. Made all plain sail and set top gall^t studd^e sails. From this

time till noon we were running along shore to the North^d between Valetta & the North part of the Island of Gozo. Forenoon Pleasant—Ships company cleaned and Mustered. Noon light breezes from S E. Steer^d N W b W with an offing of 6 Miles E b S from the N. part of Gozo.

Latitude Observed 36° 3' N.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Stren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 29 April 1804

At 3 tack'd to the S. E standing in for a small fort to the W^d of Tripoli follow'd by the *Argus* & *Vixen*. At ½ past 3 commenc'd a brisk fire on the fort & a small Battery close on the beach, & continued the sport 'till ½ past 6. The enemy's shot flying over & in every direction of us but to no effect. At 7 wore & stood off shore, the flag of the upper fort, some distance from shore, having haul'd down her colours (after having sent 2 shot in it with our bow guns) & ceas'd firing ½ past 7 Tripoli bore S. E took in sail At 8 reef'd topsails & wore to the S. W. ½ past 8 wore to the N E^d — * * * ½ past 10 back'd the main top sail low^d down the cutter L^t Stewart went close in shore 10 miles to westward of Tripoli in Order to sound At ½ past 11 fill'd away —

[NDA.]

To Purser Robert W. Goldsborough, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t

April 30, 1804 —

You are hereby appointed a Purser in the Navy. I enclose a blank Oath of Allegiance which you will take and return to me with a letter accepting this Appointment from the date of which Acceptance your pay and Emoluments will commence. —

You will repair to this place immediately prepared for actual service and take passage on board of the Commodore's Ship for the Mediterranean as a Supernumerary Purser. While on board of the Commodore's Ship you will act as his Clerk.

N. B. Warrant dated April 9, 1804, delivered May 28, 1804 —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

TRIPOLI BARBARIE 30th April 1804

(rec^d July 13th 1804)

DEAR SIR I had the pleasure to write to you on the 3 & 5th inst in the latter acknowledged the receipt of yours of the 12th of February last. Since my last nothing particular has occurred, except the death of one Seamen. Our Seamen are much in want of Cloathing which I have been expecting every day for this month past from Malta; but have not heard from Commodore Preble since the 27th of March when he had communication with this place as mentioned in my letters of the 3 & 5th inst

I feel very unhappy in not having heard from America; hope before this, that you have received advices from Government.

As I know the satisfaction you feel in hearing from us, I shall frequently trouble you with my letters; altho they will be barren of news and contain a repetition of close confinement and anxious feelings

Please to tender to M^r Lear my best respects and sincere wishes for her happiness and believe me to be D^r Col^d

with grateful feelings for your attention

Your sincere but unhappy friend

W^m BAINBRIDGE

Col^d LEAR, *Consul General, Algiers*

[Written on back of letter: — "you will be pleased to scorch this letter and all others from the *same quarter*, over a hot fire—G. D. (George Davis)"]

[The following was written in lime juice and copied from photostats of the original.]

This is wrote with lime juice which is not visible until heated by fire. This information to you will enable us to correspond freely without danger of detection as letters on common subjects will be permitted to pass to and from our prison.

The person who comes to negotiate with this government should be a person of moderation and address for only such a character will take with Sidi Muhammed Minister of Foreign Affairs, who is a man of much penetration and great politeness and has the entire confidence of the Bashaw. a generous *fee* properly given him would in my opinion be attended with great advantage in negotiating — I believe the Bashaw is desirous of peace but no doubt his demands will be big. to effect it the United States must *pay* or attack him by land 4 or 5000 troops properly commanded and landed without giving him much time to collect his forces should be able to beat him [or "to take Town"]

Pray let me hear from you as frequently as possible give me confidential information on the determination of our Government and inform me how Algiers stands toward the United States. I am certain that you will excuse these request[s] for the goodness of your heart will surely feel my anxiety on these points.

The interest of France is very great hear if she offers her assistance it should be done by a French man direct from France and not through their consul — [*]

[*There are about five more lines of this letter and four lines of closing remarks and signature. These, except for a few scattered words, are illegible.]

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 30 April 1804

These 24 hours Commence with fresh breezes and Clear Weather at ½ past 1 P M, saw a small Vessel at anchor under the land set all sail and stood in at ½ past 2 hove too and sent all the boats under the Command of Lieu^t Blake to bring her out the boats returned at ½ past 4 she proved a small sloop laden with earthen Ware Spoke the U. S. Schooner *Enterprize* old Tripoli bore S. S. W dist^d 3 Leagues made and set sail as Necess^y got out a hauser and made the prize fast astern —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 30 April 1804

Commences with clear & pleas^t weather. At $\frac{1}{2}$ p^t Meridian L^t Stewart return'd, accompanied by L^t Smith, hoisted up the cutter.
 * * * * * At $\frac{1}{4}$ past 2 * * * L^t Smith went on board the *Vixen*.
 * * * [Meridian] Tripoli bearing S. S. W. The *Vixen* still in Co: —

[NDA.]

[May 1804]

Statement of the Tunisian Naval Force

One Frigate carr^e { 26 nine P^d^{rs} on her main deck } One year Old, Built at Port Farina, ready for Sea
 { 10 Six P^d^{rs} on her Quarter deck }

One D^e-----D^e { 28 Eighteen p^d^{rs} on her gun deck } Building but not quite finished
 { 14 Nine p^d^{rs} Quarter deck }

Two Xebecks----- 34 Guns each 9 & 6 p^d^{rs}, A present from Spain, Both new & ready for Sea.

One D^e----- 32 Guns—French built & lately coppered at Malta—Ready for Sea

Nine Sail of Xebecks & Polacres from 30 to 24 Guns — Some out & some ready for Sea

Ten Sail of D^e & D^e “ 16 to 12 Guns — D^e-----D^e

Ten Sail of D^e & D^e “ 10 to 6 Guns — D^e-----D^e

Thirty Row Gallies of 1 & 2 Guns & from 30 to 40 Men each D^e-----D^e

Ten Row boats mounting each 1 long Swivel & carrying 50 Men each.

Seventy four Sail in All —

N, B, — All their cruizes from 6 to 44 guns carry 10 Men to a gun— This is the compliment of men established by the Algerines to enable them to fight both broad sides at Once and leave a sufficient number for sail trimmers & boarders — May 1804 —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

[May 1804?]

Algerine Naval Force

One frigate of.....	44 Guns
Portuguese Benguensa.....	44 D ^o
American Renegado.....	34 D ^o
Xebeck of.....	32 D ^o
Polacre of.....	18 D ^o
Xebeck Vecho of.....	26 D ^o
Brig <i>Philadelphia</i>	22 D ^o
Schooner <i>Bowers</i> [or bowers?]	16 D ^o
Xebeck of.....	34 Guns
D ^o of.....	18 D ^o
Schooner of.....	14 D ^o
Forty or fifty gun boats —	

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d' Affaires,
Tunis

TUNIS May 1st 1804

10 P. M

SIR I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your several communications, of the 17th January 3^d and 18th February and 18th of April, all of which were handed me by the Ex Consul M^r OBrien — his Excellency the Bey, 'tho silent is far from being, in a better humour, than when you left us; notwithstanding, that his claim for the Captured property, will be settled without delay —

his demands, on the Government of the U. States far exceed, any thing anticipated — in an audience, with the Sapatapa, on the 28th Ultimo M^r OBrien & myself, informed him — the length to which we should go—as yet he gives me to understand, it is too insignificant for his acceptance — one of his chief Agents, inform'd me this evening, that the Bey is resolved to give an absolute refusal to, the proffer'd terms — the consequences of which I am not authorised even to suggest — perhaps he will again write to the President, leaving us in Statu quo, untill an answer can be received — he probably waits the arrival of the Russian Fleet in those Seas, and learn whether their intentions are as is whisper'd, to make him a visit — or, what is more probable, intends to see the result of our negociation with Tripoli — whatever may be his views, or intentions; it is of the first importance that a vessel should look in here very frequently which will never be detained longer, than to send my dispatches to you, on board — the Tunisien property to the Amount of nearly five thousand dollars is to be paid for immediately, agreeable to the promise of M^r OBrien & myself — a bill can not be negociated on Algiers, for that amount — and I have no funds will you accept *one*, on Col. Lear for five thousand dollars, in order that the affair may be closed? —

Will you make any Provisional deposit here for the use of our country men at Tripoli? a Spanish Vessel, sailed a few days since for that port with my passport, and a thousand dollars, at the disposal of Capt B — I have the honor to enclose a copy for your information —

GEORGE DAVIS

[Surgeon, U. S. Navy]

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affairs, Tunis, from Richard O'Brien

TUNIS the 1st of May 1804.

Sir. I agree with you that sound policy and the Usanse of this country points out to you your true course of attacking the Bey thro' the pockets of his Ministers of influence; and as it has already been observed that there is no security for your making them just compensations, you are hereby authorized to give the sum of five thousand dollars as greasing fees, and render yourself responsible for the payment of the same if possible in three months from this date, or to be paid before your departure from this country provided this sum will be the means of their accomplishing the arrangement for Eight fathoms in cash p^r Annum, and a regalia in proportion, if done for nine.

I shall also recommend to Government that ten fathoms be continued in the Consulate, that the remaining or extra two (if done for Eight) and one (if for Nine) be continued as occasional doucers, and Stand Bys to answer as Stays and Shrouds to steady the Mast, if thus arranged.

The Consular Regalia or present for the Bey, Ministers and aids, must depend on our Government forwarding, on their officially establishing or confirming the Consul at Tunis, the requisite articles &c* to the amount I shall inform our Gov^t of as fully as within the knowledge of Sir [R. O'Brien]

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 1 May 1804

[Off Tripoli.] These 24 hours Commence with fresh breezes and clear at 8 strong Gales got down the Top Gallant Yards and took in sail as Necessary the *Enterprize* to windward at 11 the Prize parted the hauser and west astern at 12 Tacked to the S^e Westw^d

[NDA photostat.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

(Copy)

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*

Tunis Bay 2^d May 1804 —

SIR, The Ports of Farina, Bizerta, and Jerba, in the Kingdom of Tunis, are places frequented by Tripolitan Cruisers whenever they can escape from their own Ports, and should they capture any of Our Merchant Vessels, those are the Ports they would be most likely to send their Prizes to, not only so, but if the Tunisines should capture our Vessels under the Consular Passport without giving us any previous notice those are the Ports they would be most likely to send such Vessels to for the purpose of concealing their depredations from Your knowledge as long as possible. I therefore think it advisable that You appoint a confidential Agent at each of these places in order that You may receive the earliest intelligence of whatever may be interesting to our Government. I have no doubt but such a measure will be approved by the Hon^{ble} Secretary of State, and that a small Salary not exceeding one hundred and fifty Dollars p^r annum would be readily allowed to such Agents in order to insure their fidelity. Should

any important event occur you will do well to hire a Swift Sailing Boat, and send her to me off Tripoli with intelligence.

I believe if the Government knew how much Your private Secretary is to be relied on in case of any accident to Yourself, and the immense advantage he must on all occasions be to you from his thorough knowledge of all the languages Spoken in the Tunisian Regency, that they would not hesitate to allow You to retain him in Your Service particularly as his dismissal will lessen the Respectability of Your Official appointment with the Regency. I should at any rate advise you to retain him untill You can again hear from the Department of State.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tunis, Vol. 2, Part 2, 1803-1806.]

To Captain Richard V. Morris, U. S. Navy, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t

May 2: 1804 —

Enclosed is a copy of the opinion of the Court of Enquiry [See 31 August 1803] in your case. Upon receiving this opinion I transmitted it to the President of the United States who is, at this time, at Monticello. He is expected at the Seat of Government in a few days, and on his arrival, it will be determined what further proceedings shall be had on the Case. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 2 May 1804

Fresh breezes from S b W. — Working ship up Tunis bay. At 2 P. M. we tacked in 20 fathoms $1\frac{1}{2}$ Miles ENE from Cape Carthage—Stood over for Cape Tortas till 3 P. M. when we tacked & stood up for the Anchorage At 4 P. M. came to, with the best bower in Tunis Bay in 7 fathoms in muddy bottom. Veered 60 fath^s and furled sails —

Our situation is 3 miles from Cape Carthage bearing by compass N b W — Cape Farina N b E. — Zembra Island N E b E $\frac{1}{4}$ E — Castle Golletta which guards the Entrance to Tunis W. nearly 6 Miles —

At Sundown fresh Breezes & Overcast weather Down top gall^{ts} Yards & bent the sheet cable. Mustered the ships company watch & watch & Employ'd them in washing & scrubbing their cloathes On anchoring, hoisted a Jack & fired a gun as a Signal for a shore boat — At 8 A. M. sent the Pinnacle with the Pilot & six men on shore. He returned at 11 A. M. with Consul O'Brien and Doctor Davis — Saluted with 5 Guns.

Fresh breezes from S b E all the forenoon Ships company fleetling the fore topmast rigging and cleaning between decks.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Captain Edward Preble,
U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*

Tunis Bay May 3^d 1804.

Rec^d June 2^d 1804.

DEAR SIR, I have been hon^d with your dispatches by the *Vixen*, for which, accept my thanks. Be assured it is no small degree of gratification to me, that my conduct in these Seas meets your approbation. The thanks of the President have been conveyed to me by the Secretary of the Navy, and I have received a very flattering letter from the Secretary of State: as a friend these circumstances will please you, and be assured is the highest reward I ever can receive for my services.

M^r O'Brien has settled his family at Malta; he came here last week in the *Enterprise* from Syracuse, and I have now called in to take him away. M^r Davis and himself have had a long conference with the Bey; his demands are very imposing, but he knows his own interest and exposed situation to our attacks too well to declare war against us. However, nothing has so good an effect to convince him that he cannot make war with impunity as frequently shewing a force in this Bay.

This being the only frigate we have in the Mediterranean, it is to be regretted that to keep this Regency in check, I am obliged occasionally to leave my Station before Tripoli. It is surprising that more force has not been sent out — I am contemplating a bold stroke against Tripoli — One successful dash at them will effect a peace, and make them remember the war.

M^r Davis has no money and cannot negotiate bills: It has become necessary to pay the Bey of Tunis for the captured property immediately; and to enable him to do this, I have supplied him with four thousand dollars from this Ship, it being all the money I have on board excepting Gold, and have taken triplicate receipts for the same. From what I have seen of M^r Davis, and from M^r O'Brien's opinion of him, I think the Government will do well to establish him as Consul for this Regency. I have recommended his appointing a confidential Agent at Ports Farina Bizerte & Jerba for the purpose of giving me early intelligence of any movements interesting to us: he will enclose you a copy of the letter, and give You all the interesting information from this quarter. I have had the French Commissary at Tripoli on board, and delivered him the originals of which I send you a copy by this conveyance; but M^r Beaussier is too much in the interest of the Bashaw to serve us, and it is for the interest of the French Government that we should be at war not only with Tripoli but with Tunis, in order that we may blockade the ports of the two Regencies, and cut off all supplies of provisions from the British at Malta & Sicily if they should take possession of it. We must depend on ourselves to effect Peace and protect our Commerce.

Present my best regards to M^{rs} Lear, and request her to accept my thanks for her very elegant Present — this token of her consideration will ever be dear to me

P. S. We have captured four prizes, one of them a Brig of 16 Guns, which I have taken into the service and given the Command to Lieu^t Dent. —

[3 May 1804]

To John S. M. Matthiew, U. S. Consul, Naples, from N de Manzo,
Russian Counsellor and Agent General, Naples

The Underwritten Honorary Counsellor & Agent General of his Imperial Majesty of all the Russias in the two Sicilies presents his distinguished Compliments to M^r Jn^o Matthiew Consul General of the U. S. of America, & does himself the Honor to acquaint him, That from on the part [sic] of the Counsellor of State, and Consul Gen^l of his august Sovereign in Sicily, It has been communicated to his Imperial Majesty's charge d'affaires to this Royal Court, That the russian Polacca named the *Madonna Catapologhi* commanded by Captain Geo^o Morfino went out of the Port of Tripoli on the 29th day of March of the current Year, and was hailed on the following day by an American brig to bring too, which brig afterwards (against all Rules established by Maritime Powers) carried the Polacca into the Port of Syracuse as a lawful Prize, owing to the Blockade of the Port of Tripoli by the American Squadron —

To be convinced of the Illegality & Injustice of this Procedure, it is only necessary to take into just Consideration, that the above Polacca departed from Smyrna on the 6 of November 1803 freighted for Gerba, that in consequence of bad Weather, she was constrained to enter Tripoli on the 26 Day of the following Month December, where the Captain was obliged by the Bashaw to unload his Cargoe and to abide upwards of 2 Months ere he could recover his Freight for the same

After this, having let his Polacca on Freight to Gaetano Schimbrow an english Subject to carry a Cargoe of Sheep and Oxen for the British Troops at Malta, Captain Morfino departed from Tripoli on the said 29 day of March of the current Year and on the following one as is already mentioned was taken at the distance of 80 Miles from that Port.

These veridical and incontestible facts ought Sufficiently to convince the Consul Gen^l of the U. S that Captⁿ Morfino leaving Smyrna at a time when the Port of Tripoli was not as yet in a state of Blockade, could not consequently have any Notice thereof, and so much the more so since the Circular of M^r Matthieu bearing date of the 14th X^mber 1803 notifying the Blockade of Tripoli was not as yet received in those Parts; therefore it cannot be said that Captⁿ Morfino has contravened the official Notice of the Blockade of Tripoli by the forces of the U. S of America, as he had not nor could he have any Indication thereof —

The Writer moreover hopes that the Consul Gen^l will be pleased to weigh in his Mind that the Blockading of a Port prohibits other Vessels going therein but not that of their coming out

The above Polacca having been thus carried into the Port of Syracuse where She has performed Quarantine and is not yet released; the Captain & Crew having been disbanded contrary to every Maritime Law and Rule & consequently ignorant of what Port the Polacca may have been conducted to for the formal decision of the Legality or Illegality of the Seizure, The underwritten thinks himself authorized both by the duties of his Station & the ties of Friendship which Subsist between his Sovereign & the U. S of America, to make the most lively Instances to M^r Matthieu that he will be pleased to give

effectually and solicitously those Cautions which may contribute to the regular and due Release of this Polacca

The Writer hopes for a quick and fortunate Issue to this his official Letter and to have the satisfaction of making it known to the Charge d'affaires of his Court in order that the same may render a just Account of the Esteem in which the U. S of America hold the good Correspondence which exists between them and his Imperial Majesty, or of the Necessity of adopting those Measures which the Advantage and Security of his Subjects' Commerce may induce him to deem seasonable and requisite —

Signed N DE MANZO

NAPLES, 3^d May 1804

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April-June 1804.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, 3 May 1804

Sailed for Naples.

[LC original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 3 May 1804

Fresh Breezes & frequent squalls from the South^d Laying at single Anchor in Tunis Bay. Ships company employed working up Junk Unbent the main top mast stay sail & bent a new one; the Old one cut up to repair lower studd^d sails.

At 4 P. M. let go the small bower. Fresh breezes from the South^d thro' the night. At 8 A. M. shortened in 20 fathams — Sent up Royal & top gall^t Yards. At 10 A. M. sent the pinnace on shore to land Consul Davis: Consul O'Brien remains on board.

Towards noon, weighed & came to sail — Stowed the two Bowers Surgeons report 7 sick, 5 convalescent & One discharg^d Noon laying to in Tunis Bay, waiting the return of the boat. Winds Moderate from S S E.

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

To Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Argus*, off Gibraltar, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t

May 4: 1804:

The Gun Carriages having been delivered to the Emperor of Morocco, and pacific dispositions towards us having been manifested by him, it is conceived that your remaining with the *Argus* in his neighbourhood to watch his movements, is now unnecessary. You will therefore, immediately on receiving this Letter proceed up the Mediterranean and join the Commodore of the Squadron. —

Commodore Preble is so far remote from Gilbratar, and the conveyance of Letters from that place to him so difficult and tedious, that it is more than probable he remains unapprized of the proceedings in that quarter. For this reason you receive these orders immediately from me. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

To Josiah Fox, Washington, D. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEPT

May 4th 1804

You will consider yourself as hereby appointed head Ship Carpenter and Navy Constructor to this Department and you are hereby attached to the Navy Yard at Washington under the law supplementary to the act entitled an act providing for a naval peace establishment and for other purposes — you will take the accompanying oath and return it to this office with a letter accepting this appointment — your pay will commence from the time your predecessor left the office —

Your General duties will be to Keep regular accounts of all the timber plank, scantling, and other materials in the Carpenters Department — that now are or that may hereafter be deposited in the navy yard at this place — to receive returns of the timber plank scantling &c in all the navy yards in the United States — to keep regular accounts thereof so that whenever called upon you will be able to furnish us with particular information on the Subject — You are to Superintend the building and repairing of all ships that may be Ordered to be built or repaired at this place or when specially directed, when Ordered to be built or repaired at any other place in the United States — you are to make drafts and models of Vessels whenever called upon you are to inspect and measure all the timber that may hereafter be received at the navy yard at Washington — to attend to the sizing of the Spars to see that the whole timber Spars &c are kept in a State of preservation and when required you are to inspect into the state of the public Timber plank &c in the different navy yards of the United States to see that proper means are pursued for its preservation —

In these your General duties will consist — as early as a general System can be devised, it will be done and the duties of all the heads of the different branches will be classified and made known to them respectively You will then receive instructions more in detail for the particular Government of your conduct —

The Timber &c now in the yard you will receive by inventory as soon after the present Squadron Sails as it can be effected that which may hereafter be deposited there you will be charged with receiving — Until the Squadron shall sail and the timber now in the yard be delivered over to you by inventory you will make your requisitions for Timber required for the repairs of the Squadron going out, on Capⁿ Cassin —

For your Services you will receive 2000 Dollars Pr annum & the public will Supply you with a House —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803-1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 4 May 1804

At ½ past 7 saw a sail off the Weath^r Quarter exchanged Sig^{ls} with the U. S. Brig *Syren* wore Ship to the N, E, at 8 Strong gales and Clear Weather

[NDA photostat.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from John S. M. Matthiew, U. S. Consul,
Naples

Naples May 5th 1804

Sir,

Though I have not had the honor of a letter or any account from you this good while however I think it my duty to inform you that M^r Cathcart who departed about eight days ago for Leghorn has left with me at your disposal 14 Bales with clothing for our people in the hands of the Tripolines which with the consent of the Custom House directors, I keep in a Warehouse until I receive your orders about the same which I hope you will favour me with as soon as possible to save Magazine Rent

Enclosed I send you two billets I have rec^d from the Russian Agent General here, with my answers—with regard to the Russian Ship taken by a Brig [*Madona Catapoliana*] of the fleet under your command as she came out from Tripoly. I pray you will give me your instructions about this matter for my Governm^t

I must inform you that the strictest friendship passes between this court and that of Russia, and the Agent here is making his endeavours to have the King interfere that he may gain his point.

[LC. EPP, LB, April-Nov. 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Saturday, 5 May 1804

Light airs from the E N E—We are standing in for the N W point of Sicily. At 2 P. M. boarded three Imperial ships from Leghorn bound to Constantinople The E N E wind was light all the forenoon—Tacked as often as necessary.

At Sun down we were nearly 3 leagues N W b N from a small village situated at the bottom of the Mountains of Old Trapano—At 9 P. M. light airs from the W N W, which continued through the night Steered E N E by compass, which is parrallel to the shore At 10 P. M. the weather became overcast—Stowed the light sails—

At 7 A. M. Saw the Island of Ustico bearing E N E nearly 7 leagues, & Cape Galos which makes the starboard entrance to Palermo S E b E—9 or 10 Leagues At 9 A. M. the Haze cleared away to the Westw^d Saw three strange ships of war in that Quarter They stood for us—We fired a gun & shewed our colors—They then changed their course from E N E to S W & hoisted Neapolitan Colors—

Surgeons report 6 sick, 7 Convalesc^t—

Noon light from N b W

Steering N W b W by compass 5 leagues from Cape Galos; nearly the same distance S W from the Island of Ustica—Standing in for Cape Galos

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

To Robert E. Livingston, U. S. Minister to Paris, France, from Stephen Cathalan, Jr., U. S. Commercial Agent, Marseilles, France

MARSEILLES 6th May 1804

SIR I confirm you my respects of the 28th ult^e This is to advise you that by letters from Algiers of the Jew house of Bacery to their house here 36 days date via Tunis, late Consul General, OBrien had left Algiers as Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to treat for a peace with Tripoly; they giving me this intelligence before yes-

terday evening added that Consul OBrien had arrived at Tunis on his way to Tripoly — Yesterday evening, the Foreign Relations Agent in this place delivered me a packet containing a letter from my friend M^r Beaussier at Tripoly, whereof there inclosed a copy requesting you to forward it to the Secretary of State at Washington with the one also inclosed from Cap^t Bainbridge; after your perusal for your own private Government; as it would not be proper, that friendly confidential letters might be known by every body. —

On the moment of this mail's departure, I received a letter from Geo: Davis Esq^r charged with the U. S. Consulate at Tunis, dated 27 Ap^l with a heavy packet for the Frigate [sic] of State — he mentions me nothing about misintelligence between Tunis & U. S. only that Commodore Prebble is making preparations for a vigorous campaign against Tripoli, & trusts we shall obtain by balls what was supposed could not be procured with money. —

Consul OBrien was then with him —

[NA. SDA. Disp., France, Vol. 9, 1803-1805.]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from Captain Alexander Murray, U. S. Navy

WASHINGTON 6th May 1804

DEAR SIR Your much esteemed favor of the 8th Nov^r was this Day received, & be assured that you have not a friend that feels a more keen regret for your unhappy situation than myself, your observations are but too just in suposing that the unfortunate are ever liable to censure, but a man in conscious rectitude of conduct need have no fears from the Honest part of this World, your conduct will be investigated by Men who are your friends & justice done you under the clearest conviction of your whole official & officer like deportment having been such as to do you Honor, I have never heard you censured by any one, except a regret that the ship had not been left in such a state as to prevent her being serviceable to the Enemy, but it is evident you could not have supposed it possible for her to have been got off from the situation she was in, those Ideas I trust will have but little influence, & you will not find any aggravating circumstances to add to your present affliction but be recieved here with every consoling attention & I beg you will not suffer any reflections to corrode your peace of mind but look forward to a happier change of fortune, who hath been hitherto very niggardly in her distribution of favors towards you, I, my friend have had many bitter draughts in my life time, & some serious aggregations, yet to encounter from too much zeal in my Countrys service, but a conscious rectitude of mind supports me beyond dispair, & hope still inspires me I beg you will frequently let me hear from you & make my cordial & condoling respects to all your Officers with assurances of my perfect regard & believe me unfaindly

[NDA. A-4.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 6 May 1804

These 24 hours Commences with strong gales with a heavy sea —

At ½ past 6 sent down the main yard saw a brig [on] our lee Quarter which we supposed to be the *Syren* —

[NDA photostat.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t May 7. 1804 —

In consequence of the Capture of the *Philadelphia*, information of which we did not receive till the month of March last, we have put into Commission

The Frigate *President* —

The Frigate *Congress* —

The Frigate *Constellation*

The Frigate *Essex*

all of which will sail, we hope, in the course of the present month.

The *John Adams* armed *en flute* and carrying provisions for the Squadron will also sail in the course of the present Month. —

Your letters of the 17 & 20 January I received the 5th instant — they afford us high satisfaction and fully justify us in having reposed such high confidence in you, and it is with great pleasure that I repeat to you the assurance that your whole conduct has received the unqualified approbation of the President of the United States, and that his Confidence in you remain's unabated. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

To the Commanding Officer of any U. S. Ship of War to arrive at Syracuse from the United States, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*

off Palermo 7th May 1804 —

Sir, On your arrival at Syracuse, you will take on board as much provisions and water as you can conveniently stow; and as soon as your ship is ready for sea, you will sail for the coast of Tripoly to join the Squadron in the Blockade of that place. If you have any dispatches for me, leave them with M^r Dyson our Agent. I expect to be in Syracuse in ten days at farthest. You will find off Tripoly the *Syren*, *Argus*, & *Scourge* Brigs, with the *Vixen* and *Enterprize* Schooners. I shall stop but one day at Syracuse before I proceed to join the Squadron.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

To the Commanding Officer of U. S. Ship *John Adams*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*

off Palermo 7th May 1804

SIR On your arrival at Syracuse notwithstanding the order I left with M^r Dyson previous to my sailing from there you will remain in that port until my arrival which I expect will be about 10 days.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Monday, 7 May 1804

fresh breezes from the S E, round cape Galos, at 3 we weathered the Island & stood into Palermo Bay, at 4 took in sail & brought too off the Town, sent a boat on shore, we were at this time $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile east of the mole head in 35 fathoms water, at 6 the boat returned, M^r Gibbs our agent came off, delivered his Letters for the Squadron to be sent to Syracuse by a courier, at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 He returned on

shore in a shore boat Several of which came off with a supply of Vegetables, we made sail & steered to the N N E, at 8 took our departure from Cape Galos bearing W B S $\frac{1}{2}$ S 3 leagues, Bound to Naples, at 9 spoke a Ragusa Brig from Ragusa bound to the Levant, fresh breezes all night, at 10 A M saw the land of Ischia to the N E, at noon the Island of Ischia bore N b E $\frac{1}{2}$ E, variation corrected, distant 12 leagues

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from James Mackenzie and A. Glennie, London, England

LONDON 8th May 1804

SIR We have this day recieved your favor dated Harbor of Malta 7th March last.

A few days back we recieved an imperfect account from Mess^{rs} John Ross & C^o of Malta, that your name had been forged on Bills upon us which we did not credit, the bills in question having come through so very respectable a channel with original & duplicate of letters of advice from you, which being also forwarded by a very respectable house at Lisbon, and accompanied the same Post by the letter of Credit from M^r Robert Smith Secretary to the Navy in your favor, Indorsed by M^r John Gavino with a date at Gibraltar 17th Sep^r 1803, all these regular circumstances combining, and having never been favored with a letter from you, nor your Signature from the Secretary of the Navy, as in former Instances, we could not suspect that any forgery had been committed against you, and therefore very readily accepted your bills, being desirous of paying the respect due to the Signature of any Officer placed in so high a station by the Government of the United States: If you had favored us with a few lines inclosing the Secretary's letter of Credit in your favor, and saying from the circumstance you now communicate, of having brought specie out with you, that you would have no occasion, to make use of the Credit for some time, it would have prevented the fraud by enabling us to detect it in the first Instance: As the letters of advice accompanied by the Secretary's letter of Credit in your favor came forward through such regular channells, and the Bills were all presented by respectable houses we had no reason, whatever, for suspicion, and therefore could not detect it

We regret very much that such a fraud should have been committed on you and the Government of the United States, and shall do every thing in our power to trace it back to the Origin if possible: From the present appearance of the matter, as far as we can judge of it, the act must have been committed by some person who had access to know that you had the Secretary's letter of Credit on us and the time it was forwarded to us — We therefore suspect some person about yourself or in M^r Gavino's Office, or about him — What is most to be lamented, that so much time has been lost in finding out the fraud, that the money will be all dissipated The circumstance of your not knowing any person of the name of Laurent Brown, we could not know here. We are not even now informed of the name of your Purser or Secretary, and several Bills have been drawn upon us by the Commanders of United States Ships of War payable to their Purser —

Signed JA^s MACKENZIE & A GLENNIE

[LC. EPP, LB, April-Nov. 1804.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Wednesday, 9 May 1804

Calm at 1 P M a light breeze from W S W, stood in for Naples Bay passed between the Islands of Ischia & Capri, at 7 P M anchored one mile from the City of Naples in 25 fathoms water muddy Bottom the light house bearing N $\frac{1}{2}$ W one mile, Fort S^t Elma N W B N the north part of Capri Island S S W $\frac{1}{4}$ W, 8 leagues, calm all night in the morning the health Officer, and American Consul visited the ship, obtained Pratick, at 10 A M went on shore, I waited on General Acton the Neapolitan prime minister, and was favorably received, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 9 May 1804

$\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 low^d down the cutter, back'd the main topsail Lieu^t Stewart went on shore at Lampadoza. At 5 L^t Stewart return'd, run up the cutter fill'd away & boarded fore tack At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 the E. end of Lampadoza bore N by E 3 miles. — At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 squar'd the yards. At 9 sounded in 35 fathoms, grey sand & coral —

Latt: Obs 35° 6' N.

[NDA.]

[10 May 1804]

To Sir John Acton, Prime Minister of State, The Two Sicilies, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

To His Excellency General ACTON

His Sicilian Majesty's Minister of State

It being mutually the Interest of His Sicilian Majesty and the United States of America that the Corsairs of the Bashaw of Tripoly and the Sea Port Towns at which they are fitted out, and by which they are protected should be destroyed. I am induced in behalf of my Government, to request Your Excellency to grant me a supply from some of His Majesty's Ports in Sicily of eight Gun and two Mortar-Boats prepared for Sea with a sufficient stock of Powder, Shot Shells, Muskets Sabres &c^t. If those Boats could be loaned to the U S: to be returned in as good order as when received; or in case of their loss, to be paid for agreeable to a just estimation of their Value, or replaced with new ones to be built for that purpose, it would be agreeable to us, as such Boats could not be navigated to the United States We are also in want of eight long Brass Cannon 24 or 32 pounders with Ship Carriages for two Vessels to act as floating batteries to go into the Harbour of Tripoly with the Gun-Boats, and take a position so near the shore that the Guns from the Tripoline Batteries cannot be brought to bear on them, but from whence they will be able effectually to destroy the Bashaw's Castle, and also the Town. Those Vessels and Gun-Boats will enable us to enter the Harbour of Bengaza and totally destroy that Town; the destruction of which, is of importance, as the Bashaw intends building and equipping his light Cruisers at that place whilst Tripoly is blockaded. They will likewise enable us to destroy Derna, and all his other Sea Port Towns. As the season is now arriving when Gun Boats can be employed to most advantage — Your Excellency's order for a prompt supply of

the above requisition will insure to His Sicilian Majesty and Your Excellency the lasting gratitude of the U. S.

U S S *Constitution* — NAPLES

BAY — 10th May, 1804.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 10 May 1804

This day begins with light breezes and Pleasant Weather tacked and Wore ship as Necessary the town of Tripoli bore SE b S. distance 7 miles at 8 light breezes sounded in 75 fathoms Water —

At midnight light airs saw a light on shore sounded in 80 fathoms Water Current setting W b N about 3 fathoms per hour set and took in Sail Occasionally —

At Meridian light airs and Clear Weather Variously emp^d

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Thursday, 10 May 1804

ordered fresh Beef for the ships company while in port, I dined with the prime minister, and presented him with an application in writing for the loan of eight Gun boats, two bomb Vessels and eight brass guns, with amunition &c, — which he promised to lay before the King, and give me an answer as soon as possible, — at ½ past 8 P M on going to the mole to return on board, I found the Barge & Pinnace there, the Pinnace was waiting for Lieut^t Gordon & several other Officers who had been ordered to return on board at sun down, two of her men had deserted after that time in the absence of the Midshipman, Mr. Page who had charge of her and who contrary to orders had left the boat, and allowed the people to go on shore, for which I ordered him under an arrest to be tried by a court Martial, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 10 May 1804

Light breezes from the S W. At single Anchor in Naples bay — Ships company employed as Necessary Sail Makers employed in making a new sett of white hammock cloths — Liberty is granted to the Officers on shore — Towards Evening calm — Hove up & down to keep a clear Anchor —.

Mustered ships company at Watch & Watch — Calm during the night —

A. M. recieved 525 pounds fresh Beef — Ships company employed shifting the fore top gall^t rigging setting up the bobstays & cleaning ship — Carpenters repairing the Bill boards. —

Surg^t report 4 Sick, 7 Conv^{ts} —

At 10. A. M. moderate breezes from S W — Veered to 60 fath^t

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803–1804.]

92 NAVAL OPERATIONS, APRIL-SEPTEMBER 6, 1804

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Hampton Roads, Va., from Midshipman Johnston Blakely, U. S. Navy

NORFOLK 11th May 1804.

SIR The Ship being still deficient in two American Ensigns which the Agent says can be made here, you will be pleased to say if they shall be procur'd

The whole morning has been spent in endeavors to ship men for the *Congress* I am sorry to add without success. I have spoken to every landlord of this place who have promised to make use of all their exertions to procure them. The oak plank and scantling you were pleased to order will be sent to the ship tomorrow.

[F. D. Roosevelt Col.]

To Stephen Cathalan, Jr., U. S. Commercial Agent, Marseilles, France, from James Leander Cathcart, Leghorn

Copy

LEGHORN May 11th 1804 —

D^r SIR On my return from Naples I was honor'd with your esteem'd favors of the 29th of March & 6th & 20th of April with their enclosures a copy of the parts you desire shall be forwarded to the Department of State & to Commodore Preble by the first conveyance —

My motive for going to Naples was in consequence of a request from Commodore Preble to that purpose in order to proceed before Tripoly with him he having promised to be at Naples on the 30th of March but being prevented by the threats of the Bey of Tunis he was obliged to concentrate his little force & proceed before that place since said period I have received no farther information from him. —

The Government of Naples has sent to Sea two large Frigates & four corvettes to guard their coast & annoy the Tunisians should they put to Sea this summer, a Seventy four gun ship is a fitting out with all expedition & will be mann'd with the crews of the corvettes which are recalled for that purpose the Seventy four & two large Frigates will be kept continually at Sea: So that if the Tunitians do declare war against us this force will be of infinite Service to us untill a reinforcement arrives from the United States I have likewise procured from the Government of Naples the loan of four Bombardes & four large Gun boats Artillery Mortars Bombs ammunition & every apparatus compleat. the Boats are ready for sea at Messina & an order was forwarded to the Count Tourne or in his absence to the governor of Messina to deliver them to Commodore Preble upon demand before I left Naples, & to render him every service in his power thus you are inform'd that my Journey to Naples was not all together unproductive of good effects as it will prevent M^r Livingston & yourself from being put to any inconvenience in consequence of the Comodores or my letters on the subject of procuring Gun & Mortar Boats artillery &c. & I request you to forward a Copy of this letter to him & to render him by respects. — The destroying of the *Philad^a* reflects honor on Commodore Preble & the brave men that put his orders into execution a few more such gallant actions will establish our character in this Sea, & render the mediation of any government unnecessary.

I am happy to Inform you that I have received permission to return to the U. States & request you to inform me if in your port there is

any vessels bound to Baltimore with accomodations calculated for a family & if there are when they will be ready to Sail

True Copies MARSEILLES the 24th May 1804

STEPHEN CATHALAN JUN^r

[NA. SDA. CL, Marseilles, Vol. 2, March 1803–Nov. 1827.]

[11 May 1804]

To Midshipman Octavius A. Page, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble,
U. S. Navy

SIR You will consider yourself under arrest for neglect of duty in suffering two men to desert from a Boat under your charge when on shore at Naples last evening — You are therefore to answer for your conduct before a Court Martial

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*

Naples bay — May 11th 1804

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

To Secretary of State from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

N^o 14.

TUNIS May 11th 1804.

SIR, The letter you did me the honor to write on the 26th December 1803 — was handed me, with its enclosures, on the evening of the 24th ultimo by Rich^d O'Brien Esq^r, who came here in the U. S. Schooner *Enterprise*, at the request of the Consul Gen^l Lear, in order "to confer with me, and ascertain the precise expectations of the Bay of Tunis, and close our affairs with this Regency if it could be done on admissible terms" — (N^o 1, contains copies of M^r OBrien's communications to me.)

The President's letter was delivered to the Bey on the morning of the 27th, when M^r O'Brien was presented; *not as one authorized*, to enter into any negotiation with His Excellency; but as the ex-Consul of the U. S. for Algiers; who offer'd this mark of respect, to Hamouda Bashaw Bey of Tunis. — I have the honor to enclose you N^o 2, all that transpired during M^r O'Brien's stay; and as worded by himself. — On the evening of the 29th was sent for, by the Commercial Agent, who in the course of conversation, expatiated largely on the *advantages* resulting from our Peace with this Regency — and contrasting it with the insignificancy of the offers made for its retention — These were answered by *shewing*, that the advantages were mutual; and that his Master, had a greater commercial interest, in the preservation of the Peace with the U. S., than *Mine*; as *we* should be enabled, to continue our Commerce in those Seas, in case of a war, while all his Ports, would be placed, in the Situation that Tripoli now is — he gave me many assurances, of his friendly influence, (*which has been exercised on a former occasion*), and concluded with observing that nothing would be done, unless my visits were made alone — Altho' His Exc^t was much the friend of M^r OB., and sensible of his attention, he did not, wish him (M^r OB^r) to be informed of the manner Affairs were transacted in his Regency. — Commodore Preble, arrived on the evening of the 1st Inst., and Sailed with M^r OB. the following afternoon — On the 3^d visited the Sapatapa, at the Commercial Agents, where the discussion was again renewed — the Sapatapa, commenced with observing that, "his Master, had charged

"him to say, and me to make known to my Gov^t that Hamouda Bashaw, "was not a mendicant, nor even in distress — that he did not ask alms — "and considered the offers made him, rather as an indignity than "a mark of our friendship — With respect to the President's letter, "which had been read, it was most friendly and Satisfactory — he "stated, that his Master expected we would observe the rule, of all "Christian Nations, towards him, that his political existence, not "only urged him to repeat the request; but would force him to insist "on a compliance with the Demand, (to wit) of sending a Regalia of "Naval Stores, every two years — that we had made too great a "difference between him and the Dey of Algiers; *he was not inferior*, "and would be treated with the same respect — his Master asked no "more than we gave there, and would receive no less — that if (as "had been insinuated) we felt a disposition to change the System of "Barbary; we had only to continue the war with Tripoli, and with- "hold our Regalia from Algiers, and nothing would be expected from "his Master." — Much was said by me, on our strict and religious observance to Treaties; and which was offer'd as the sole reason for having sent any Naval Stores to Algiers — he simply answered, whatever may be the motives; the effect, with respect to my Master, is still the same —

I then repeated, the arguments before stated, and concluded with assuring him, that the expectations of the Bey, were most vain — that the U. States, would never send a Cargo of Naval Stores, to the Regency of Tunis, if war should be the consequence. — On the 6th was sent for by the Sapatapa, when the same conversation was repeated; but with less warmth *on his part* — he thus concluded — "a handsome consular Regalia will certainly be sent to the Prime Minister & Sapatapa — in addition to which something is expected for "Sidi Jussuph, the friend and advocate of Your Gov^t; a Biennial "Present in naval Stores to commence from this date, or their Value in "Cash, agreeable to what, they can be procured for in Trieste — on "these terms alone, we shall continue long, and lasting Friends" — I informed him that I would write — altho' I was well satisfied my Master, would never consent to any farther Sacrifices, than had been already offered —

The Bey, and his Ministers are too much occupied at this moment, with the movements of the Grand Signior, and Emperor of Russia, (from whom they have long expected an unpleasant visit) to determine immediately on our Affairs — They also wait the result of our measures now in prosecution against Tripoli — And rest assured Sir, unless a National Character, be established on the Ruins of that Pirate, we shall never remain in Security with this. — I send a Copy of this Dispatch by an express, to the Consul Gen^l Lear, whose advice on this, and every other occasion, will guide my Conduct.

The Tunisien Property is paid for to the amount of four thousand Six hundred & twenty three Dollars, including all demands for the Charter of a Vessel to Malta, Demurage &c &c — The Demoiselle Anne Porcile, has received her tiskara, the expences of which I have been compell'd to pay by order of the Bey — Altho' the Consulate of the U. States at this Regency, is placed far beneath that of any other Nation — I should feel no reluctance; but rather a sensible pleasure by a prompt compliance with your orders, relative to the dismissal of the Secretary; was I not well convinced it would prove an injury to

the interest of my Country — there is at all times, a great necessity for a Confidential Person, who is acquainted with the languages of the Country, but under existing circumstances, an indispensable one — I have therefore with the advice and consent of Commodore Preble, retained him untill your farther orders; N^o 3, is his letter on the Subject —

[NYHS. Geo. Davis LB, Vol. 1.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 11 May 1804

at 7 the town of Tripoli bore S E $\frac{1}{2}$ E at 8 spoke the U, S Schooner *Vixen* Cap^t Smith came on board sounded in 35 fathoms fine white sand

at 10 A M 3 strange sail in sight —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 11 May 1804

At 5 from the N W. At 6 saw 2 sail off[f] the Starb^d bow, turn'd the reefs out of the topsails, set top gall^t sails, royals, stay sails, steering sails, jib & flying jib, courses & after main sail in chace of the sail on our larb^d bow. At $\frac{1}{2}$ pas[t] 6 the chase prov^d to be one of the squadron, squar'd the yards, took in square & after main sails, jib, stay sails, steering sails, in chace of a brig on our lee beam. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 hoisted out the barge. L^t Caldwell went in her with the boats crew & 4 marines arm'd in chace of the above brig. At 9 discov^d her to be the U. S. Brig *Scourge*. $\frac{1}{4}$ past 9 took in royals & made signal for the barge to return. At 10 she return'd —

Latt 33° 24' N.

[NDA.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Congress*

Navy Yard May 12. 1804

SIR I have this day rec'd (by your directions) extract of a Letter from James Sim[p]son Esq^r, to the Secretary of State, stating complaints of Passengers, and Araiz or Cap^t Omar of the Tripoline Ship *Meshouda*, of losses sustain'd by them while in my custody, without mentioning any particulars, which can give me the least clue to what he means; — After I consented to give up the *Meshouda* to the Emperor, I had the precaution (in Gibraltar Bay) to send for the American & Moorish Consuls, and in their presence required the affirmation of both the Tripoline & Moorish Capt^s, relating to the treatment they received on board the *John Adams* during their Captivity; when these people declared in the presence of both the Consuls, that their treatment was such, in every respect, as to reflect honor on the American Nation. — This being confess'd, to convince them more plainly of American generosity, to people with whom they had but a few hours before, been at War, I made the *Mishouda* a present of a new Cable, to prevent her being wrick'd, after she was out of my possession. — The Tripoline & Moorish Capt^s lived in the Gun Room of the *John*

Adams, with the Lieutenants, and so far from suffering a loss by their Captivity; were supplied frequently with Clothes by the Gentlemen with whom they lived.—

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, Book A, 1804-1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS May 12th 1804

SIR I have the honor to enclose, for your information an extract, from my present dispatch to the Hon^{ble} The Secretary of State; by which you will learn, the result of our negociation with this Regency — recent letters from Constantinople, having advised his Excellency the Bey; that the Fleet of the Grand Signior is ordered to Sea, with all possible expedition — and a Russian Force being daily expected in those Seas; withdraws for the moment his attention from us — he has long expected, an unpleasant visit from these quarters — and altho the position of Europe, and probable movements of France, assign plausible reasons for these Armaments — His Excellency wishes to be fully prepared, for an immediate arrangement, of the greater evil; and take us at his leisure — There is also a strong motive, why His Excellency, should at this time, be indecisive, in treating with the U. States — *he waits the result of your summer campaign, against Tripoli* — and on your success there; be assured Sir depends our future respectability here — A National character is yet to be established, with these States — *it must be dreadful to Barbary* — or, we shall ever, bow the neck, and receive the tributary yoke, of half a dozen Pirates —

Your correct knowledge of the enemies position, and proposed manner of prosecuting the war; augurs Laurels, for yourself and new dignities for your Country — Wishing you that success, which your well digested plans, allows us to hope for

GEORGE DAVIS

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April-June 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 12 May 1804

all sail set in Chace at 3 P M hove to and spoke the U, S, Brig *Syren* with *Scourge* and *Enterprize* Cap^t Hull went on board the *Syren* At sundown Tripoli bore S W b W $\frac{1}{2}$ W distance 7 or 8 Miles sounded in 48 fathoms water Bottom fine Yellow sand and Shells tacked Occasionally

At Meridian fine Weather all the Squadron in Sight Tripoli bearing S $\frac{1}{2}$ E

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Saturday, 12 May 1804

moderate breezes and pleasant weather, — Mr Matthews our consul applied to me to receive 14 Bales & Boxes of clothing on board to be conveyed to Tripoli on account of James Leander Cathcart Esq^t for the use of the Prisoners captured in the *Philadelphia* which were accordingly taken on Board, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 12 May 1804

½ past 2 spoke the *Argus* L^t Hull the *Scourge* L^t Dent, the *Vixen* L^t Smith, the Lieut^{ts} came on board. At [space] spoke the *Enterprize* L^t Decatur came on b^d — At 6 finish'd blacking the bends, hoisted in the boats & stow'd them. At 7 the Commanders return'd on board their respective vessels. Tripoli bore South 3 leagues.

Midnight clear & pleas^t all the squadron in sight * * *

Latt: Obs: 33° 6' N.

[NDA.]

[13 May 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Archibald McMillan

HONORD SIR I presume the nature of my address, will in some measure plead my apology for the Liberty I take in thus troubling you —

Being Sir, a native of America & a number of Years from that Country and being anxious to return, I most humbly entreat you if possible, Sir, to endeavor to extricate me from this Service, on my entering — into that of the united States' — I never received any entering Money in the British. Service, as I was a prest-man — and that there is several men who knows me on board your Ship — that knows all my family & connections and the State that I am from, & the small Estate of my own, in the Town of Salem — the names are M^r Steel Sail-Maker; — Glover — Osborne — Camel — & Downs —
ARCH^d M^rMILLAN

On Board H: M: S: *Kent*
Naples Bay, May 13, 1804.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April-June 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Sir John Acton, Prime Minister of State, The Two Sicilies

NAPLES 13th May 1804

Having had the Pleasure to place under the eyes of the King my Sovereign Your Excellency's favor of the 10 Int with which you have been pleased to make known to me the Determinations of the Government of the United States of America which you are charged with against the Regency of Tripoli and your Desire to have for this Purpose Eight Gun Boats and Two bomb Vessels, with a discreet Quantity of Warlike ammunitions, and more over Eight brass Guns, of 24 or 32 Pounds Metal, with their Tackle or Carriages, So as to Serve for floating Batteries; I have the Satisfaction of being able to assure your Excellency, that his Majesty, always favorably inclined towards those States with which He is in Friendship, embraces very willingly this Opportunity of favoring the Government of the United States of America, by seconding its Operations against the Common Enemies. And he has in consequence given Orders that there be placed at your Disposal the Vessels, Tackle & Ammunition which you ask for, and that under the Title of a friendly Loan; reducing only to Six, the Number of the Gun boats, in case it should not be otherwise feasible. I am at the same time desirous of making known to your Excellency

that You may understand direct relative to this Affair, with the Commander of the Royal Navy, Brigadier Count di Thurn to whom the necessary Orders have been given, and in the meantime I have the Honor to Subscribe Myself &c

Signed GIOVANNI ACTON

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April-June 1804.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Brig *Argus*, 18 Guns, kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke, U. S. Navy, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 13 May 1804

These 24 hours Commence with mod.^e and Clear Weather standing in for Tripoli at 4 P M, close in with the town fired 2, 18 pound shot at it which done no damage immediately all the batterys were open'de on us but without effect the *Syren Enterprize* and *Vixen* firing at a small battery West of Tripoli dist^l about 1 league a Number of Gun-boats came out to the reef firing at us at sunset the town bore SE¼ E, sounded in 35 f^m fine White sand lay too —

At 10 P M filled away under easy sail to the NW, At 2 AM wore ship at sunrise Tripoli bore SE b S ½ S dist^l 3 leagues the other Cruizers in sight sent Henry Fleck, John Akerman, Rob^l Barney, Sam^l Blyth & James Roberts seamen and Pat. Lynch and Will^m Bonny marines on board the *Scourge* —

At Meridian Pleasant Weather emp^d as Necessary —

[LC. EPP, *Argus*, 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 13 May 1804

These 24 hours Commence with moderate Clear Weather standing in for Tripoli at 4 P, M, being Close in with the town fired 2 Eighteen Pound Shot which did no damage Immediately the Batterys were all open'd on us but without effect, the Squadron firing at a small Battery to the Westward of Tripoli fresh breezes at 10 AM sent Henry Fleck, John Akerman, Robert Barny, Sam^l Blyth, and James Roberts Seam^s Pat^s Lynch & W^m Bonny Mar^{es} on board the U, S, Brig *Scourge*

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Sunday, 13 May 1804

pleasant weather, — Received a letter from General Acton the prime minister with an order from the King to supply me with six cannon for floating Batteries with Powder & shott, for them, six Gun Boats & two Bomb Vessels, armed & equipped with military & Naval Stores to operate against Tripoly, the order expressed that this supply was to be considered as a friendly loan from the King of the Sicilies to the United States, entered 5 seamen who said they were Americans & did not belong to any ship

[LC. EPP, *Diary*, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 13 May 1804

At 4 took in after main sail & stood in for the small fort to the Westward of Tripoli At ½ past fore commenced a heavy fire on the

fort, which they return'd assisted by a small battery on the beach — Same time the remainder of the squadron commenc'd a fire on the town, immediately after 10 gun boats stood out & attacked them assisted by the batteries of the Town — At 5 hove about & made all sail to attack the gun boats — $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 the gun boats hove about & stood in for the town took in sail & bore down for the squadron. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 hove too L^t Stewart went on b^d the *Enterprise*. 11 he return'd fill'd away & made sail — Midnight light airs & pleas^t At 4 wore to the S. W. 7 made all sail in chace of 2 sail off[f] our lee bow At 8 the chace prov^d to be the *Argus* & *Enterprise* — At 10 took in sail — Meridian fresh breezes & pleas^t carried away the fore & sprung the main top gall^t masts & yards, three men from the *Vixen* & *Enterprise* assisting the carpenter & Armourer. —

Latt: Obs: 33° 8' N.

[NDA.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, Washington, D. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t May 14, 1804 —

In all cases where Apprentices are entered for the Navy Service and claimed by their Masters, they must be given up. If they should have any of the Advances made them by the Public, it must be delivered up to the Recruiting Officer. Be pleased to give directions accordingly.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from James Leander Cathcart, Leghorn

LEGHORN May 14th 1804.

D^r SIR. By my letters of the 17th 22^d & 24th Ult^o & enclosures you will be inform'd of my operations at Naples copys of the whole I forwarded to you by M^r Spence which I hope you will receive in due season. —

A few days after my arrival at Leghorn I receiv'd leave from the President to return to the United States which I intend to benefit by immediately & again beg leave to renew my request that you would if compatible with the service permit one of our small vessels to convey myself & family to Gibraltar this request includes more than my personal safety for should I be captured, the United States in honor would be bound to redeem me if you cannot grant my request I must run the risk as I have been so little the favorite of Mammon since I have been in the Service that I can't stay here above six or eight weeks without going in debt which I dont contemplate. —

I should be happy to hear from you as soon as possible & remain very respectfully. —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April-June 1804.]

[14 May 1804]

To Sir John Acton, Prime Minister of State, The Two Sicilies, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

His Excellency General ACTON

His Sicilian Majesty's Minister of State &c^t

In addition to what I had the honor to represent to your Excellency a few days since relative to the extraordinary Quarantine to which the

vessels of the United States are subjected in this Port, I herewith take the liberty agreeable to your Excellency's permission to transmit to you the memorandum enclosed [*] — setting forth a precise statement of facts, and the disadvantages which result from it to the commerce of the United States with this Country fully persuaded of the friendly disposition of Your Excellency towards the Government of the U. S. and of your inclination to favour its interest. I beg leave to request that you will be pleased to give the matter its just consideration, and to cause such orders to be given as will tend to do away the grievance in question; and that the American Vessels may be as favorably rec^d in this port as they are in the other ports of the Mediterranean. If your Excellency can consistently allow me to make an early report to my Government of the successful issue of this application, I should consider it as a peculiar favour, and be happy in remembering it with those sentiments of gratitude with which I have the honor to subscribe myself

14th MAY 1804

[*To be found in below-mentioned source, on pp 234-236.]

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Brig *Argus*, 18 Guns, kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke, U. S. Navy, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 14 May 1804

This day begins with light breezes and Pleasant Weather the *Enterprize* in C^o standing in for Tripoli at 2 made sail the Schooner *Astern* at 4 old Tripoli bore E $\frac{1}{2}$ S dist^s 3 or 4 leagues at 5 the *Enterprize* N^o 361 & 434 saw 5 sail at anchor under the land sent a boat on board the *Enterprize* the land bore south dist^s 3 leagues

Lat^s Obs^d 33° 05' N.

[LC. EPP, *Argus*, 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 14 May 1804

First part of these 24 hours pleasant Weather *Enterprize* in Company standing in for Tripoli at 4 old Tripoli bore E $\frac{1}{2}$ S Dist^s 3 or 4 Miles at 5 the *Enterprize* made the Sig^l 361 and 434 saw 5 small sail at anchor under the land —

Middle part fresh Breezes and Cloudy Standing off Shore sound^d frequently as per log and tacked when Necessary at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9 AM Captain Decatur Came on board sent a Kedge anchor and hauser on Board the *Enterprize*

At Meridian pleasant Weather the *Enterprize* in C^o Variously Emp^d

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Monday, 14 May 1804

Pleasant weather received an order from the Prime Minister on Count de Thurn commander in cheif of the Neapolitan Navy to deliver me six peices of 24 pound Cannon with carriages & compleat, and a quantity of Match Rope, Powder, Ball & grape shott sufficient for one hundred rounds to each Gun, and likewise an order for Six

Gun Boats & two Bomb Vessels compleatly fitted with Guns, Mortars, Powder, Shott, Shells &c to be delivered at Massina, the whole to be considered as a friendly loan from the King of Naples to the United States for the reduction of Tripoly

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 Guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 14 May 1804

½ past 3 sent the cutter on board the *Vixen* with a Kedge Anchor &c. At 4 took in fore sail & fore top mast stay sail, hoisted out the barge. sent the boats crew & 4 marines well arm'd in Co: with the *Vixen's* boats on board the *Vixen* the Cap^t went in the barge ashore with the *Vixen's* 20 miles to the Eastw^d of Tripoli in order to plunder, a few minutes Previous to their landing the turks on shore saluted them with a few musket-shot, which was return'd by the boats & the turks were obliged to retreat in the bushes. At 7 finding the Inhabitants gathering very numerous & night approaching thought it most prudent to return to the boats & return on board. At 10 the barge return'd fill'd away & stood to the N^d The *Scourge* in Co.

[NDA.]

[15 May 1804]

Clothing for U. S. Prisoners in Tripoli

INVOICE OF CLOATHING PREPARED FOR TRIPOLY

NCN — N ^o 1 @ 3	628 Shirts	} 9 Bales
4 — 7	300 cloth Jackets & Trowsers	
8 — 9	300 duck D ^o D ^o	
10	300 P ^r Shoes — a box	
11	300 p ^r D ^o — a box	
12 — 13	320 Sailors Hats — 2 boxes	
14	Officers Cloathing 2 D ^o .	

NAPLES May 15th 1804

Recieved on board the U. S. Ship *Constitution* (from John Matthiew Esquire U. S. Consul at Naples fourteen bales, in boxes, of cloathing, on acc^t & risk of Ja^s L. Cathcart Esq^r to be delivered to Keith Spence, purser of the late U. S. Frigate *Philadelphia*, in Tripoly, for the American Officers & Crew Prisoners there, if willing to recieve them, If not, to be delivered to W^m Higgins Esq^r U. S. Naval Agent in Malta at the disposition of the said Ja^s L Cathcart —

Signed EDW^d PREBLE

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

To James Leander Cathcart, Leghorn, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*

Naples Bay 15th May 1804.

SIR. I arrived here the 7th ins^{nt} & have not been able to effect any thing with this Government until this day, notwithstanding promises, I found that nothing could be done without a memorial to the King, which I accordingly sent in, & have at length obtained what I asked for,

& shall leave this tomorrow. I regret that you had left here previous to my arrival, & that you did not leave me a few lines respecting the clothing. M^r Spence the Purser of the late Frigate *Philadelphia* has been supplied by me with six months clothing for all the crew of that ship, and the Officers have been furnished with what they wanted. I shall however endeavour to prevail on them to take from your supply what they may want in future; but as they must pay for what they receive, it will depend on the price whether the Officers will receive any of the clothing provided for them: nothing can be done until an Invoice is furnished. —

It will be well to write to M^r Higgins and authorise him to dispose of the clothing to the Pursers of the Squadron, who will readily purchase it, if it is laid in as reasonably as they can procure it at Malta. I shall do all in my power that it may be expended in the Squadron. —

M^r O'Brien is with me; we have been at Tunis, & I believe we are in no danger of a War with that Regency at present. — Doctor Davis is confirmed by our government & his Salary &c establish'd the same as the former Consul. I am in momentary expectation of the arrival of three frigates from the United States, & with the assistance of the gun & mortar boats I hope to be able to give a good account of our affairs with Tripoly before the summer closes. I understand you left some money here at my disposal but as you have left me no advice respecting the business, I cannot with propriety take it. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol. 2, 1801-1805.]

To Robert R. Livingston, U. S. Minister to Paris, France, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*

Naples Bay May 15th 1804.

SIR, Since last I had the honor to write you, I have again visited Tripoly, and I find nothing can be done with that Regency without a sum of money which it would be mortifying and disgraceful to the United States to pay. I have therefore come here to obtain the loan of some Gun Boats and Bomb Vessels which owing to the situation of the harbour of Tripoly are absolutely necessary to enable me to bring the Bashaw of Tripoly to our own terms. His Sicilian Majesty sensible that we are fighting his battles as well as our own, has readily granted me whatever I have required, and I sail immediately to commence my operations. On my way here I touched at Tunis, and from the information I rec^d from our Consular Agent, I believe the Bey will consider it more for his interest to keep in peace with us, than to declare War, whilst we have a Squadron in these Seas, and I am now confident that we have nothing to fear from that quarter at present. The Barbary Powers are waiting the issue of our attack on Tripoly, and will be governed by it in their conduct towards us, I hope it may be such as to make them fear and respect us. No addition to my little Squadron has yet arrived.

His Excellency ROB^t R: LIVINGSTON

*Minister Plenipotentiary from
the United States of America*

To the French Republic, Paris

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U S. SHIP *Constitution*
Naples Bay May 15th 1804

SIR, I was in Tunis Bay a few days since where M^r OBrien again joined me. I enclose for your information a detail [29 April 1804] of what passed between him, M^r Davis, and the Bey. His Highness is dissatisfied with our refusing to give him a Frigate, and pretends that the ten thousand dollars p^r Annum offered him by our Government is too trifling a consideration for his friendship. I believe it would have been for our Interest not to have given him a cent; his ports are all so exposed, that I do not believe he will dare to declare War, and if he does, I am convinced he will repent it, However much will depend on our success with Tripoly. it has become absolutely necessary to our National and Naval Character in the Eastern World, that we humble that Regency and bring the Bashaw to our own terms this cannot be done without the assistance of Gun Boats and Bomb Vessels &c^t I therefore came here to obtain them, and have succeeded. I enclose you a copy of my application, and the answer. His Sicilian Majesty considering that it is asmuch for the interest of his Kingdom as for the United States that the Corsairs of Tripoly should be destroyed, has loaned us Six Gun Boats and two Bomb Vessels, with Arms and Ammunition &c^t they are to be immediately got ready at Messina, for which place I shall sail this evening with the Royal order for them. The absolute necessity that something prompt and decisive should be done in order to make us respected in these seas I hope will plead my apology with the President for the measures, I have adopted to procure the means. Tripoly is at present effectually blockaded by all the Vessels of the Squadron excepting this Ship, and the *Nautilus* whose repairs are not yet finished. I have not yet heard of the arrival of the *John Adams* in these seas, but hope I soon shall as we will be in great want of men in our attack on the Barbarians I hope ere long to be able to advise you of a successful termination of the War with Tripoly.

A favourable opportunity to draw on you for 5000 dollars for the use of the Squadron at 2½ p^r Cent advance, has induced me to do so in favor of Frederick Degen & C^o This is the only Bill I have drawn excepting the one at Cadiz for 3500 dollars in November last.

The rigorous quarantine our Merchant Vessels are obliged to perform here, has induced me to represent to this Government the injury our Mercantile Interest sustains in consequence thereof, General Acton the prime Minister has assured me that something favorable shall be immediately done with respect to this business.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

[15 May 1804]

To Signore Maresciallo Marchese Espluga, Messina, from General Bartolommeo Forteguerra, Naples

Copy

The King having been pleased to accede to the demands made by M^r Preble Commander in chief of the Sea forces of the United States of America in the Mediterranean has ordered that the Department of

Messina deliver to him by way of Loan Six Gunboats and two Bomb ketches to be employed in an hostile expedition against the Barbary powers, and it is his pleasure that the same be furnished with a complete inventory, manned with not less than five nor more than 15 Seamen besides their respective Masters. — and that over and above said equipment two Cannoneers most skilled in the use of the mortar be embarked on board the said Bomb ketches And for this purpose the Brigadier General Thurn is to come to an understanding personally with the said American Commander according to the orders received — It is his Majestys intention that the consignment of the said boats be made with Duplicate Inventories signed by the American Commander and by the Commander of the Department of Messina with whom they may serve as Documents on the restitution And that the men who shall serve on board the said vessels to the number indicated shall be at the charge & expence of the Americans from the moment the boats shall be consigned until their restitution — It is his Majesty's intention that Six Cannons of the Calibre of 24 furnished with their Carriages, implements, and ammunition for 150 shot with ball be provided by the said Department according to the wishes manifested by the said Commander — I communicate this to you in his Majestys name for your information and execution on your part

BARTOLOMMES FORTEGUERRA

NAPLES 15th May 1804

Sig^o MARESCIALLO MARCHESE ESPLUGA — *Messina*

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April-June 1804.]

Guns and Ammunition Received by Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Naples

GUNNERS STORES REC'D FROM THE ARSENAL AT NAPLES

Six guns.....	24 P. ^{dr}	
Six carriages....	24 lynch pins — 12 forelocks	
Six Beds		
Twelve Coins		
Seventy four bbls powder —	24 Cantar & 48 Rottolo	
Three hundred & 75 Parch ^t Cartridges.....	24 P. ^{dr}	} 600
Two hundred & 25 flant ^l D ^o	D ^o	
Six hundred round shot.....	D ^o	
Sixty Grape.....	D ^o	
Two Ladles.....	D ^o	
Two Worms.....	D ^o	
Six Spunges & rammers.....	D ^o	
One hundred & 47 lb Match rope		
Six Cannon Cartridge boxes —		

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 15 May 1804

These 24 hours Commence with Moderate breezes and Clear Weather *Enterprize* in C^o at 4 P, M, saw a Sail off our lee bow made sail in Chace at $\frac{1}{2}$ past came up with the Chace she proved to be a Spanish Ketch from Tunis bound to Tripoli with a pass from the American

Consul at Tunis tacked Ship as Necessary the Schooner and Ketch in Company at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 made the land at 9 AM saw a small Latteen boat under the land hove too and sent the boats on Shore under the orders of Lieu^t Vansc[h]aick at 10 the boats returned p^r Sig^l without the boat fired three Shot on Shore fine pleas^t Weather

[NDA phosostat.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Brig *Argus*, 18 Guns, kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke, U. S. Navy, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 15 May 1804

These 24 hours Commence with fine Weather the *Enterprize* in Company at 4 P M saw a sail off the lee bow made sail and gave chase at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 came up with her she proved to be a Ketch from Tunis bound to Tripoli with a pass from the american Consul at Tunis at $\frac{1}{2}$ past tack^d ship at 8 in T. G sails and tacked —

At midnight light airs and Clear wore ship to the S. E. the Schooner in sight —

A, M, At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 saw the land ahead hauled the foresail up the Schooner out of sight at 9 saw a Small latteen boat under the land bore away sent the boats under the Command of Lieu^t Vanscaick on shore at 10 they returned without the boat fired 3 Shot at some Turks on shore filled away at Meridian fine Weather

[LC. EPP, *Argus*, 1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 15 May 1804

At 9 AM discov^d a brig & Ketch bore away & made all sail in chase $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11 came up with the Ketch, she prov^d to be spanish from Tunis bound to Tripoli — Meridian Lying bye the Ketch to leward Tripoli bearing S E 3 leagues —

Latt: Obs: 33° 00' N.

[NDA.]

To Richard V. Morris, former Captain, U. S. Navy, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t May 16, 1804: —

With my Letter to you of the 2^d instant I transmitted to you a copy of the opinion of the Court appointed to enquire into your Conduct as Commanding Officer of the late Squadron of armed Vessels of the United States, in the Mediterranean. This opinion having satisfied the President that it is not the public Interest that you should be longer continued in command in the Navy of the United States, I have it in charge from him to inform you, that he has revoked your Commission. — [See 31 August 1803.]

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Wednesday, 16 May 1804

Pleasant weather, Received on board the six cannon before mentioned with ammunition &c for them, from the Neapolitan arsenal, Ships draft 22 feet 9 aft 21.5 forward 6 sick, 5 convalescent.

[LC. EPP, *Diary*, 1803-1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 16 May 1804

Moderate breezes from the West^d — At Single Anchor in Naples bay — Towards evening recieved by a flota from shore 6, 24 pounders — 624 round shot — 73½ bbls powder 4406 lbs The Six guns were complete with carriages, rammers & Ladles — Charles Smith Seaman attempted to desert. He was detected and confined. A. M. rec'd 523 lb fresh beef Ships draft 22 ft 9 In & 21 ft 5 In — Ships company employed as necessary —

Surgeons report 6 sick 5 convalesc^t

Noon light airs from the Westward —

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Lieutenant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 16 May 1804

Light airs & pleas^t At 1 dismiss'd the Ketch & permitted her to Enter the harbour of Tripoli ½ past 1 fill'd away & wore to the S^d & E^d Single reef'd the topsails boarded fore & Main tacks & set after main sail — 2 TK^d to the N E & spoke the *Argus* L^t Stewart went on board of her At ½ past 5 TK^d to the S. E^d At ½ past 7 TK^d to the N E. At 8 took in courses, top gall^t sails, fore top mast stay sail & hove too L^t Stewart ret^d Midnight light airs & clear fill'd away — At 4 TK^d to the S. E^d At 6 discov^d a sail on our lee bow made sail & gave chace. At ½ past 6 hauld our wind again. took in fore sail & top gall^t sails —

At 7 wore to the N E, the *Argus* & *Scourge* in sight hove too. At 9 fill'd away. 11 brail'd after main sail — Meridian wore to the S E — Light airs & pleas^t —

Latt Obs 33° 16' N.

[NDA.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Lieutenant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 17 May 1804

the *Scourge* to Windward bore down & Joined us Capⁿ Hull went on board Tripoli bore S W b W ½ W at 6 hove too under Topsails head to the Northward & Eastw^d *Syren* and *Scourge* in Sight at 4 AM filled away the head S W set and took in sail Occasionally —

[NDA photostat.]

[18 May 1804]

To Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, Washington, D. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t May 21, 1804 —

The President of the United States having been pleased to raise you to the Station of Master Commandant in the Navy, I have the pleasure herewith to transmit to you your Commission bearing date 18th May 1804 — to rank N^o 4 of the Masters Commandants commissioned on that day. —

Similar Letter to Cap^t G^o Cox. Care of Commre Barron — To rank N^o 8. —

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

[18 May 1804]

Appointments to rank of Master Commandant

NAVY DEPM^t

May 29: 1804 —

To Ch ^s Stewart esquire.	Commander of the <i>Siren</i>
Isaac Hull esquire	Commander of the <i>Argus</i>
John Smith esquire	Commander of the <i>Vixen</i>
R ^d Somers esquire	Commander of the <i>Nautilus</i>

Care of COMM^r
Mediterranean

SIR, The President of the United States having been pleased to raise you to the rank of Master Commandant, I herewith enclose you your Commission.

R^t SMITH

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

[18 May 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from P. d'Karpow, Russian Chargé d'Affaires, The Two Sicilies

SIR Having been informed by the Consul General appointed by my august Sovereign at Messina, that a Brig belonging to your Squadron had at the distance of 80 miles from Tripoli, captured a Merchant Vessel named the *Virgin of Catapolaghi* [*Madona Catapoliana*], commanded by George Morfino, under Russian Colours, which port she had left freighted for Malta; and that the above mentioned Vessel having been carried into Syracuse was there declared a lawful prize; I in consequence directed the Agent belonging to my Court here, to make the necessary representations on the subject to the American Consul General.

These representations were made in three notes bearing date the 3^d 4th & 10th instants, which were communicated to you.

In answer to these notes you produced through the channel of the American Consul General the copies of certain Documents, on the strength of which you considered yourself authorised to seize the said Vessel, and to dismiss Her crew — These documents consist of the copy of a Convention agreed on between the Master & his Pilot; and of two simple attestations of the latter declaring. First. That on the 5th of November, the day of the Vessels departure from Smyrna, it was already notorious that the Port of Tripoli was blockaded by an American Naval Force.

Secondly. That in consequence of his knowing this circumstance, the Master, whose Vessel was freighted to Tripoli, had taken the precaution to clear her for Gerba —

These then Sir, are the only grounds on which you found your reasons for considering the above mentioned Vessel a lawful prize: But I must object to them.

First. That the official Communication of the Blockade of Tripoli having been made by the American Consul Gen^l on the 14th of December 1803, in consequence of a letter he received from you dated from Gibraltar the 12th of the preceding November, it is not possible, that on the 5th of that month, the day on which the Vessel sailed from Smyrna your dispositions should have been known there. Besides,

on the supposition that they were, allow me to observe to you, that Towns & Ports should be blockaded, not by Manifestoes only, but by a military force; and at the period alluded to, there can have been none, as the Vessel in Entering the port of Tripoli met with no opposition. — With regard to the second point, had the Vessel being freighted any where but at Smyrna, I am ready to admit the possibility of the Captains having had the precaution to frame two contracts, one real, the other simulated, but as all Contracts are drawn up in the Consular Chancellors Office at Smyrna, I can not for a moment suppose that the Russian Consular Chancellors Office can have been guilty of such an irregularity.

Independent of these objections, do you imagine Sir, that the simple deposition of a Mercenary Pilot, either guided by the motives of revenge or venality, is sufficient to justify your measures? It would be the height of justice, as well as pregnant with many inconveniences —

I must in addition to these remarks, observe, that though the Maritime Laws of all Nations Forbid in case of Blockade, the Entrance of Vessels into the Blockaded ports, they do not prevent their leaving them. This is a point universally known, & which cannot be controverted —

I flatter myself Sir, that in consequence of what I have had the honor to represent to you, you will not resist the just demand I here make that the Vessel in question with her Cargo be restored, & the master of her indemnified for the Injury sustained by his detainer. —

The Government to which I belong having never submitted to the arbitrary measures of any power, can not see her flag insulted, with indifference, & I trust Sir that a proper regard for the harmony subsisting between my August Sovereign & your Government, will induce you to avoid the risk of interrupting that good understanding, by persisting in considering the Vessel I claim as a just prize; and that you will Enable me to make a satisfactory report of the affair to my Court.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 9, Jan.-Feb. 1804.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

Nº 9. (Copy)

TUNIS May 18th 1804.

Rec^d June 1st

SIR, An express for the Bey of Constantine, allows me to inform you, that on the 15th inst. I had the pleasure to forward you by a Courier express, a dispatch containing the result of our negociation, with this Regency; copies of my accounts, and triplicates of my former Communications; all of which I trust have come safe to hand. The Courier is to bring your answer in 26 days from the day he left Tunis, and receives one hundred and sixty Piastres; if latter one hundred & fifty; and if in less time a trifling present.

It is with pain I announce to you a return of difficulties; the Bey yesterday ordered me to leave his Regency, having been inform'd, that my Passport for the Spanish Bombard to enter Tripoli, with a Choux of the Grand Signior, had not been respected; the Vessel being forced into the Island of Jerba, where she now is — As also that several Sandals of the Island Jerba, had been captured by the Americans —

Some conversation with the Minister rendered him less violent; when he directed me to write to the Commodore, & inform him, that

unless the said Sandals were returned without delay, and ample Justice rendered for all injuries sustained, that he would without hesitation adopt such measures as would enable him to pay himself; and in case his Subjects were again molested in any one instance; he would not even allow me time, to make a statement to any Person — It is very certain that as long as our difficulty continues with Tripoli, we shall never be free'd from these complaints — A Statement shall be made to the Commodore, without delay; and you will be pleased to direct the measures which are to be taken by me. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Algiers, Vol. 7, Part 1, Jan. 1804–Nov. 1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Charge d'Affaires,
Tunis

TUNIS May 18th 1804.

SIR, It is to be regretted, that unforeseen, and incalculable occurrences so happily combine with the Policy of these States, as ever to coincide & support their views — (to wit) that a Nation shall never be free'd from a demand — one difficulty is no sooner settled than another presents itself. — On the 17th was sent for by the Bey, whom I met passing from the hall of Justice to the audience chamber — he stopped, and in a peremptory & menacing tone demanded if the American Consul was present. — I offered him the usual mark of submissive respect — when he thus addressed me — *Go — leave instantly my regency — You wish war with all the world, and since You have resolved to force me into, I am contented.* — These words were frequently repeated; and without allowing me time to demand the cause of his displeasure, retired to his chamber. — I addressed myself to the Sapatapa; who informed me, that two Sandals, belonging to the Island of Jerba, had been captured by our Cruisers; and that I had deceived his Master, in the Passport given for the Chaoux of the Grand Signor to enter Tripoli — that the Vessel had been boarded by an American Brig & Schooner, and detained three hours, when one of the Commanders informed the Capt. of the Bombard, that the Passport was not valid — that he might enter Tripoli; but if he attempted to come out, the Vessel would be captured; and all on board without distinction considered as enemies, and made prisoners of war — in consequence of which the Commander desisted from his voyage, & put into Jerba, where he now is — I informed the Sapatapa, that these difficulties should be corrected — that with respect to the Capture, I would be fully informed by the Commodore, and ample Justice should be rendered without any delay — that the Passport should be renewed, and no future difficulties would arise; assuring him that so conscious was I of its being respected, that I had placed on board that Vessel one thousand Dollars, for the use of the Americans at Tripoli. — Some time after, was called for by the Bey; who directed me to write You, that the Vessel should be immediately returned with a just recompense, for all damages sustained by the Claimants — that unless this was acquiesced to immediately, *he should be compelled to pay himself* — that he would receive no excuses for delays in aranging the affair — he also desired me to state, that if his Subjects, were again molested by any of our Cruisers, he would drive me from his Regency, without a hearing.

It is very certain, that we shall never be freed from similar complaints, and outrages on the laws of Nations, as long as our difficulty continues with Tripoli — *these are evils without a remedy*; for where one party alone, has the right to accuse, adjudge, & condemn — there is but a partial field for reasoning or argument; on this point you will be pleased not only to instruct me fully, but inform me of the measures you wish taken — I can only say, that procrastination is ever attended with serious evils; and that the usual interest for delays with this Regency, in similar transactions, is more than Cent per Cent.

I cannot omit expressing my surprize at the non respect shewn to my Passport; and which circumstance I am satisfied is not only without Your knowledge; but will meet Your earnest disapprobation. Such occurrences not only tend to lessen my respectability with this Gov^t as a public character; but involve me personally.

You are too well convinced of my desire, to see crown'd with success Your unceasing exertions; to suppose that any measures of mine shall ever tend to lessen the effect of Your projected plans —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April-June 1804.]

To Brigadier Count d'Thurn, Commander in Chief of His Sicilian Majesty's Navy,
from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

MAY 18th 1804

I have the honor to enclose you a set of private Signals between the ships of War of His Sicilian Majesty and those of the United States.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy,
on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Friday, 18 May 1804

Moderate breezes from the W. S. W — At Single Anchor in Naples — Recieved this afternoon — Rec'd this afternoon 70 boxes candles part mould & part not — Supposed to contain nearly 11000 lb W^t. Departed this life Jacob Hendrickson, killed by a fall from the fore Catharpins — In the evening his body was committed to the deep — Discharged three Seamen who had entered three days ago — They were deserters from a ship in the Harbor — Towards evening made ready for weighing — At Sundown calm which continued till midnight when a light breeze sprang up from S W b S which is right into the Harbour — At 8 A. M. it had encreased to a gale Veered to 80 fath^s let go the small bower — Veered to a cable & half on the best bower & unslung the lower Yards

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

To P. d'Karpow, Russian Chargé d'Affaires, The Two Sicilies, from Captain
Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*

Under sail NAPLES BAY

May 19th. 1804.

SIR, I have this morning rec^d a letter from you of yesterday's date, which was brought on board at a late hour last night and after I had retired to rest. The papers respecting the Polackre in question which I desired the Consul of the U S to present to you are not the

only documents which I have to confirm me in my opinion of the legality of the detention of that Vessel. But those papers alone I supposed would have been satisfactory to you. I shall however write you more fully from Malta on my arrival there: At present I shall only observe that Captain Marfino has made many misrepresentations, and that you must know that the Vessel detained cannot be declared a good prize until legally condemned by the Court of Admiralty of the United States. The Boat by which I send you this, is passing towards the shore, and only leaves me time to subscribe myself.

P. D'KARPOW Esq^r

*Charge d'Affairs from His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia, to His Majesty the King of the two Sicilies &c**

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803–April 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 19 May 1804

These 24 hours Commence with moderate Breezes and pleasant Weather at 4 P, M, the Town of Tripoli bore SSE $\frac{1}{2}$ E the *Syren* and *Enterprize* in Company —

At Midnight moderate breezes and pleasant Weather tacked Ship Occasionally made and Shortened Sail as Necessary

At 8 AM, both brigs and Schooner *Enterprize* in Sight.

At Meridian Tripoli bore SWbS dist^y 4 Leagues —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Saturday, 19 May 1804

At anchor in Naples Bay, the Gale from the S W B W blowing into the Bay still continues which Keeps us here, at 3 P M the gale abated unmoored, in the Night calm, at 1 A M a light Breeze from the E N E, weighed and made sail out of the Bay, at day light becalmed 3 leagues from the City, — Boarded the Schooner *Betsey*, Wellman master from Boston 60 days out received some Letters and Newspapers, stood for the Island of Capri, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803–1804.]

[20 May 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Midshipman Octavius A. Page, U. S. Navy

SIR I take the liberty notwithstanding your declaration at the time you arrested me to Solicit a release. When you deliberate coolly on my conduct and hear my defence you will I am confident acknowledge it not so culpable as you at first thought it — But release me from a confinement which is particularly distressing at this time on the Eve of our Expedition to Tripoli the only opportunity for a long time an officer in our service will probably have of distinguishing himself. When you Consider that a Court Martial is at all times disagreeable and in very few Instances honorable you will I am Induced to believe overlook the imprudence (I can call it by no harsher name) I was guilty of without bringing me to trial

MAY 20th 1804 —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April–June 1804.]

112 NAVAL OPERATIONS, APRIL-SEPTEMBER 6, 1804

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from John Gavino, U. S. Consul,
Gibraltar

GIBRALTER *May 20th 1804.*

DEAR SIR My last to you was the 25th Ult^o: P^r Duplicate on the subject of the Bills order Laurent Roberts, on which subject I could not get the least information either regarding the bills or the person, which am sorry for, but hope Mackenzie & Glennie will be able to clear it up, to whom & Sec^y of the Navy have written several letters thereon.

On the 4th Inst. M^r Lewis delivered me your duplicate of 7th March & by post I recieved that of 19th D^c, informing me of your apprehensions regarding the Tunisians &^e which will lay before the Comm^t of such State Vessels as may drop in here: the report from the U. S. is, that five frigates were preparing for these seas Viz^t *United States, Congress, President, John Adams & Constellation* with two Brigs, two Schooners and a Gun Boat, but have not learned the names of the Commanders excep^t Cap^t Ja^s Barron who, they say, has the first — If this force joins you, I hope you will bring the Barbarians to terms — All quiet with the Emp^r of Morrocco —

As to News, have none; —

* * * * *

[LC. EPP, LB, April-Nov. 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S.
Navy

TRIPOLI *20th May 1804*

DEAR SIR Since you was off here on the 26th of March I have done myself the honor of writing to you at the following dates. 27, 29, 30th of March, 30th of April and 9th of May in all of which I have expressed the great want of Cloathing for our Seamen — I have made every exertion in my power to procure a supply in this place, but am only able to get a few shirts and trowsers made in the course of many days; not near adequate to their constant demands — I sincerely wish that you may be enabled to send us a supply immediately.

Since my last letters nothing particular has transpired.

I enclose you an answer to your letter which you did me the honor to write conveying the the thanks of the President of the United States and the Secretary of the Navy respecting the capture of the Moorish ship *Mirboka*.

We are all extremely anxious to hear from you.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April-June 1804.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Captain William Bainbridge,
U. S. Navy

TRIPOLI BARBARY *20th May 1804*

(rec^d 19th Aug^t —)

DEAR SIR, I this day received your much esteemed letter of the 24th of February, — yours of the 12th of the same month came to hand on the 5th ult^o. I done myself the pleasure of writing to you on the 3^d, 5th, & 30th ult^o and hope they will reach you. The long detention and uncertainty of letters between this place and Algiers may leave you a length of time without letters from me; if this should be the

case, I pray that you will not attribute it to neglect or want of attention in keeping you informed of our situation; for exclusive of conceiving it my duty, I always feel pleasure in addressing a Friend. To my letters of last month I refer you for our situation, — no change since has taken place. Our people are much in want of cloathing, which I have daily expected for these two months past from Commodore Preble: I do every thing in my power to procure cloathing in this place, but with difficulty can only get a small supply, not near sufficient for their constant demand. I trust that you will do me the justice to believe that no exertions of mine will be wanting to render the unfortunate seamens situation as comfortable as lays in my power.

I am happy to say, owing to your attention in so early placing funds in the hands of M^r Davis at Tunis, whose attention claims my thanks for his frequent remittances, we are provided with sufficient funds: Articles, and not money are our wants.

I received a letter from my friend Consul Kirkpatrick at Malaga, which you notice in yours; I am very much obliged to him for his generous attention, and well know it proceeds from real friendship; but until I have reason to believe (which God forbid I ever should) that I have forfeited the protection of my government I shall not want other resources than through that channel; and if I did, believe me my dear friend that I should most readily have called on you. It was entirely unnecessary for you to have offered yourself personally to me, the sympathy which you took in my misfortune was sufficient to convince me that I was at liberty to demand your services as a friend.

We are waiting with the greatest anxiety for news from our Country.

My best respects to M^r Lear and believe me D^r Col^o to be truly yours

W^m BAINBRIDGE

[Stephen Decatur Col.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 20 May 1804

at ½ past 4 hove to and spoke the Schooner Captain Decatur came on board at 6 the town of Tripoli bore S b E distance 2 leagues set and took in sail as Necessary — * * * at ½ past 9 AM, heard the report of 6 Guns to the Westward

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Sunday, 20 May 1804

Moderate breezes from the West^d We are nearly 7 Miles to the West^d of the City of Naples — At ½ past 12 the shore boat left us — We filled and made all plain sail for the passage between Cape Campinella and the East end of the Island of Capri. By 3 P. M. we were thro — This passage is nearly 4 miles broad clear of danger and has anchorage all the way across — In the middle 60 or 70 fath^s. — On the Island side it is defended by a Castle, and on the other side by a nine gun battery — At ½ past 3 P. M. We set the Starboard Studd^e Sails and steered by compass S b E. in order to make the Island of Stromboli which is situated nearly S E b S ½ S, 95 Miles —

The Wind was light and Variable till sundown, when it fell calm — At Sundown we are 12 Miles S E b S from the Island of Capri, nearly 6 leagues W B N from Cape Livosa which is the Eastern point of the Gulf of Salerno At 8 in the Evening a light breeze sprang up from the West^d which continued veering to the South^d —

At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 1 A. M. tacked to the South West. —

At 6 A. M. the Island of Capri bore by compass N b W $\frac{1}{2}$ W nearly 9 leagues. At 8 it bore by compass N $\frac{1}{4}$ E. 12 leagues At 9 fresh breezes from the S E — Stowed the light sails & steered S W by Compass —

On our leaving Naples, our intended passage for Saragosa was through the Straits of Messina, but the Easterly winds prevailing makes this passage hazardous, in consequence of which the ship was ordered on a S W Cource, in order to pass round the Western part of Sicily. At 11 mustered at Quarters

Surgeons report 5 sick & 7 convalescent —

At noon fresh breezes from S E b S. Overcast weather

Latitude Observed $39^{\circ} 27'$ No:

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Midshipman Edward N. Cox, U. S. Navy, prize master of *St. Crucifisso*

MALTA May 21st 1804

SIR The day I left Syracuse I met with a severe gale of wind which did me so much damage that I thought it prudent to run into Malta; the necessary expences that would attend her being refitted here would be more than I thought proper to incur without the approbation of Cap^t Somers I have therefore Sir with your consent landed every thing in Charge of M^r Higgins and taken my passage in the Store Ship Permit me Sir to thank you for the Politeness I have recieved from you, and that you may be attended with success the ensuing Summer is the sincere wish of

Signed Edw^d N Cox

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT^t 22 May 1804.

Commodore Ed^d PREBLE.

Mediterranean.

Your Dispatches bearing date the 10th of December 1803, conveying to us the unpleasant information of the accidental Loss of the *Philadelphia*, were not received till late in the month of March last. The President immediately determined to put in Commission and to send to the Mediterranean a force which would be able beyond the possibility of a doubt, to coerce the Enemy to a peace upon Terms compatible with our Honor and our Interest. A due regard to our situation with Tripoli and precautionary considerations in relation to the other Barbary Powers, demanded that our forces in that quarter should be so far augmented as to leave no doubt of our compelling the existing Enemy to submit to our own terms, and of effectually checking any hostile dispositions that might be entertained towards us by any of the other Barbary Powers.

M E D I T E R R A N E A N S E A



The following Frigates have accordingly been put in Commission and will soon proceed to the Mediterranean. —

<i>President</i>	Commodore Barron.
<i>Congress</i>	Captain Rodgers
<i>Essex</i>	Cap ^t Ja ^s Barron.
<i>Constellation</i>	Cap ^t Campbell. —

Your good sense will perceive that we have thus been unavoidably constrained to supersede you in a Command in which you have acquitted yourself in a manner honorable to yourself and useful to your Country and in all respects perfectly satisfactory to us. The only Captains in the Navy now in the U. States junior to yourself are Captains James Barron and Campbell, and as the Frigates cannot be commanded but by Captains, we of necessity have been obliged to send out two Gentlemen senior to yourself in Commission. —

Be assured, Sir, that no want of confidence in you has been mingled with the Considerations which have imposed upon us the necessity of this measure. You have fulfilled our highest expectations and The President has given it in an especial charge to me, to declare that he has the highest Confidence in your Activity, Judgment and Valour. Through me he desires to convey to you his Thanks for the very important services which you have rendered to your Country, and I beg you to be assured, Sir, that it affords me great personal satisfaction to be the medium of conveying to you his sentiments in relation to your Conduct. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 22 May 1804

* * * * *

Latter part at 6 Saw 2 Strange sail ahead set and took in Sail Occas^y at 8 Exchanged Sig^{ls} with the U. S. Brig *Syren* — People Variously Emp^d Both Brigs in Sight —

[NDA photostat.]

[23 May 1804]

Circular to Collectors of Customs from Secretary of State

Notice is hereby given, that it has been deemed expedient to change the form of the Mediterranean passport issued to Vessels of the United States; that from the eighth day of July next, those of the new form will be issued at the Custom-houses to every Vessel, for which application may be made on a compliance with the terms prescribed by law and surrendering the former passport of which she may be possessed, if any, in which latter case no fees will be required for the exchange; and that by an arrangement agreed upon with the Barbary powers, with whom we are at peace, either the old or the new form of passport will be sufficient to protect the Vessels of the United States from capture until the 1st of July 1805, after which the old form of passport will be unavailable and the new one alone in use.

JAMES MADISON.

DEP^t OF STATE, 23^d May 1804.

NOTE — The Printers of the laws of the U. States, were requested to insert the above in their Gazettes twice a week, for the space of

six months — and the Collectors of the Customs, to keep a copy of it posted up in their offices.

[NA. SDA. Dom. L., Vol. 14, May 1802–May 1805.]

To Secretary of State from Joseph Pulis, U. S. Consul, Malta

MALTA 23rd May 1804.

HONOR'D SIR I have the honour to inform your honour that few days since has pass'd this Island five Russian Frigates who have arrived at Corfu, landed their Troops, and lodged them in the respective Forts & Castels. —

And are daily expected According to the Levant News about fifteen Russian Men of War. — The Grand Caire after a very sanguine Battle has been restored to the Grand Signor. — Commodore Preble days past has entered this port with Consul O'Brien on board who proceeded for Tunis, and are daily expected, We have no intelligence of any Tripoline Cruisers being at Sea, of which I strickly inform the Commodore, and other of our Cruisers by every Conveyance. —

[NA. SDA. CL, Malta, Vol. 1, 1801–1834.]

[24 May 1804]

[NOTE: A document dated 24 May 1804 indicates that Stephen Cathalan, Jr., was appointed U. S. Vice Consul, 17 June 1790; U. S. Commercial Agent, 8 July 1801; that he was a native of France but was recognized as a Citizen of the United States although he had not received Certificate of Naturalization.]

[NA. SDA. CL, Marseilles, Vol. 2, March 1803–Nov. 1827.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t 24: May 1804 —

Herewith you will receive your authority to subdue, seize and make prize of all vessels, goods, and effects belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoli or to his Subjects & also the Statute upon which that Authority is founded.

In executing the duties arising out of this Commission you will attend to the following regulations and Instructions.

Your Commission extending only to the vessels, goods, and effects belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoli or to his Subjects, you will bear in mind that the Rights of all other Nations are to be duly respected; that we are at peace and wish to continue at peace with them, and that an American Commander ought to be as much distinguished for his attention and adherence to all the rights of humanity and hospitality as by his firmness in support of the Honor of his Country. —

You are to refrain from exercising the powers of capturing or of re-capturing in waters within the jurisdictional limits and under the protection of any other nation, in order that their peace and Sovereignty may remain unviolated. We shall scrupulously and without Indulgence examine that Conduct which shall bring us into collision with any other power.

All Vessels, Goods and Effects captured in virtue of your Commission, are, if practicable, to be sent into some port in the United States to be proceeded against & distributed according to Law and you will keep in mind that a Vessel captured by you cannot be adjudi-

cated by any of our Courts unless she be brought into some Port of the United States. —

All prizes sent into port must be accompanied by all passes, Charter-Parties, Commissions, Bills of Lading, Invoices, Letters and other Documents and Writings found on Board which are to be directed to the Judge of the District to which such prize may be ordered to proceed.

You are as far as may be in your power to aid and free any public or private American Vessel attacked by the Enemy or in their possession.

On your return home Convoy must be given to our Merchant Vessels. You will not suffer your ship to be detained in port for any unreasonable length of time. Give as much previous notice at The places where you may intend giving Convoy as may be in your power, and state the time of your Sailing and in no instance will you delay sailing longer than 48 hours after the time you shall fix on for sailing.

However on the subject of Convoy and with respect to the disposition of any Prisoners you may take and on all other Subjects not herein expressly provided for, you will receive particular Instructions from the Commodore.

Should any other of the Barbary Powers declare War against us, it is The Command of the President that you protect our Commerce by all the means in your power.

John Gavino Esquire is our Agent at Gibraltar and Degen, Purviance & C^o are our Agents at Leghorn. We shall also have Agents at Naples, Syracuse and Malta, all of whom will render you every assistance that may be necessary.

The Seamen, Ordinary Seamen and Boys of your present Crew are to be transferred to the *Enterprise* or to such other of the public vessels now in the Mediterranean as may be directed by the Commodore, who will take measures to furnish you with a Crew for your return. However I have written to Commodore Preble particularly on this subject and you will take his orders. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Monsieur Beaussier, French Chargé d'Affaires and Commissary General, Tripoli

TRIPOLI in BARBARY 24th May 1804

Sir, Not having had the honor of hearing from you since the 28th March last as you quitted these coasts in a Gale of wind I could not find an opportunity of letting you hear from me I this day profit of a Speronare returning to Malta to transmit you the Letter which I wrote you the day after I left the Frigate & which I have kept sealed by me in hopes of seeing you soon return. I have learnt that you went to Tunis from which place you saild on the 9th April & arriving at Malta you receiv'd on Board M^r O'Brien ex-consul of the U S at Algiers He arrived at Tunis on the 24 of said Month in the S[c]hooner *Enterprise*

They write from Leghorn that M^r Cathcart ex Consul in this Regency is gone by land to Naples from whence He intends going to Syracuse or Malta —

The Treatment of prisoners & slaves far from being worse is better by Intrest with Sidi Mahomet Dghies I procure them all the in-

dulgences which depend on my perseverance to claim to alleviate their unhappy situation

I have the honor to salute you

BEAUSSIER

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April-June 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 24 May 1804

These 24 hours Commence with fresh breezes and Clear Weather at 4 the town of Tripoli bore SbW dist^t about 4 leagues set and took in sail Occasionally

At Midnight fresh breezes and Clear wore Ship to the S^d & W^d made and Shortened Sail frequently as Occasion required at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 Spoke the *Scourge* Captain Dent Came on board —

At Meridian d^o Weather people Variously Employed —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Thursday, 24 May 1804

Light breezes from the Northward standing in for the Straits of Messina the entrance bearing S S E, 2 leagues, at 3 Calm made signal for a Pilot, a boat from a Greek ship was spoken with from Constantinople & Messina, at 5 P M a Pilot Boat came off & left a Pilot who informed us that we must wait untill morning to pass the straits the wind and current being contrary at present, Spoke an Imperial Brig from Triest for Barcelona, and the American Ship *General Waine* from Messina for Christiana in Norway a Strong Current setting us to the Northward & westward, a light Breeze through the night & calm all the morning, Entrance of the Straits bears S $\frac{1}{2}$ E, 4 leagues, Scaled the six new 24 pounders and loaded them for service, at noon a light breeze from the westward made sail for the Straits, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 24 May 1804

Fresh breezes & a heavy sea the *Scourge* on our weather bow At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 saw 2 sail to leeward, turn'd the reef out of the fore sail, set top gall^t sails & square m^a sail At 10 haul'd up square main sail. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 exchanged signals. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11 back'd the m^a top sail spoke the *Enterprise*. L^t Decatur came on board made the land ahead. —

Latt Obs 33° 6' N.

[NDA.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t 25, May 1804 —

Presuming that The *John Adams* is now nearly completed for Sea, I have to direct that you weigh Anchor without any avoidable delay and proceed immediately to Gibraltar where if necessary you will water your Ship and where you may probably gain information with respect to the dispositions entertained towards us by Morocco and

other powers which may be useful to yourself and to the Commodore aloft. You may also know where the Squadron may be.

From Gibraltar you will proceed to Algiers where you will see the Consul General of the United States, M^r Lear, to whom you will communicate the number of Vessels we have sent out to re-inforce the Squadron and from whom you may also receive much information useful to yourself and to the Commodore aloft. Without waiting at Algiers any longer than cannot be avoided, you will proceed to Syracuse, Malta, or such other of the neighbouring Islands or Places as may have been fixed on by the Commodore of the Squadron for a Deposit of the provisions, and deliver the Provisions at such place to such person, or persons and under such arrangements as may be prescribed by The Commodore. of all which M^r Gavino Consul at Gibraltar, can, I presume, give you particular information. —

After delivering all the provisions you may have on Board excepting such as you may want for the use of the Ship, you will receive your further orders from the Commodore of the Squadron who will direct you to return immediately to the United States unless your Services in the Mediterranean should be imperatively required. If you should receive no orders from the Commodore either before or after you land the provisions and should not have heard from him or have seen him, you will, after landing your Provisions, proceed in search of him, and when you shall fall in with him, communicate your orders to him and also what you may have done under them. —

Be pleased to deliver the enclosed Letters directed to Commodore Preble and to John Gavino Esq^r Gibraltar. You have on board six thousand Dollars in specie which you will deliver to John Gavino Esquire at Gibraltar, taking his receipt therefor. I have also advanced to your Purser 2000 Dollars to pay for small Expences at the ports you may touch at.

You will write to me on leaving Hampton, on your arrival at and leaving Gibraltar, and on your arrival at and leaving Algiers, and by all convenient opportunities you will keep me informed of your proceedings. —

As you have already been furnished with all the Instructions and Authorizations requisite for the government of your conduct on a Cruise I have only to subjoin my best wishes for your prosperity. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 25 May 1804

These 24 hours Commence with mod^e Breezes and Clear pleasant Weather the *Syren Scourge* and *Enterprize* in C^o at 4 Tripoli bore SSE Dist^e 3 leagues Set and took in sail Occasionally —

At 1 AM hove too at 6 filled away to the Southw^d and Eastw^d Tripoli bearing SbW ½ W dist^e 9 or 10 Miles at 11 made the Sig^l 995 to the Brig and Schooner in Sight At Meridian Tripoli bore SWbS dist^e 4 leagues Emp^d as Necessary

[NDA photostat.]

120 NAVAL OPERATIONS, APRIL-SEPTEMBER 6, 1804

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Friday, 25 May 1804

A Gentle breeze from the Northward & Westward, at 4 P M entered the Straits of Messina, this passage is about 3 miles wide at the Faro and is considered dangerous on account of the violence of the current High water at 9 OClock full & change, steered from the entrance of the Straits for the Port of Massina, which is situated S W, about 3 leagues distance, — at 6 P M anchored at the entrance of the Port in 24 fathoms water and moored with a Hawser fast to the shore, the light house bears S E B S, half a mile from the tower of Faro N E B E 8 miles, three Neapolitan Frigates sailed on a Cruize, established guard boats to prevent surprize, found here the *Nautilus* new coppered, but the repairs of her upper works not yet finished Visited Six Gun boats which are ready for sea intended for our service, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

[26 May 1804]

To William Eaton, appointed U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies,
from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^t
May 30, 1804

Herewith you will receive an appointment as navy agent for the several Barbary Regencies —

You will receive instructions from and obey the Orders of Commodore Barron and will render to our Squadron in the mediterranean every assistance in your power.

As a compensation for your services you will be allowed at the rate of 1200 Dollars P^r annum and the Rations of a Lieutenant in the Navy of the United States

[Enclosure]

[26 May 1804]

COMMISSION

To all who shall see these presents GREETING

Know ye that reposing special trust and confidence in the Zeal fidelity and Abilities of William Eaton I do hereby appoint him agent of the navy Department of the United States of America for the Several Barbary Regencies —

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto Subscribed my name and affixed the Seal of the Navy Dep^t of the U. S of America at the City of Washington this 26. May 1804.

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803-1805.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr.,
U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SCHOONER *Enterprize*
Off Tripoli May 26th 1804

SIR, I proceeded agreeable to orders with Consul Obrian to Tunis, where I arrived in Eight and Forty hours; the day after my arrival was informed by our Charge de Affairs that he had no dispatches for

you when I got under way, in heaving up I parted my cable and lost my anchor, — I left at Tunis a Tunisian Frigate of 32 Guns, and four Xebecs, the Xebecs appeared ready for sea; The day after I left the roads I boarded a Tunisian Tartan loaded with Cannon & bound to Ferrina, the same day spoke a spanish ship from Tunis bound to Susa, on the Twenty Eighth boarded an Imperial Brig from Sphaxa bound to Triest, on the 29th Boarded a Spanish Ketch from Tunis, bound to Tripoli with an Ambassadors of the Grand Seniors on board, this Ketch had Mr Davis passport on board she had also one thousand dollars on board for Cap^t Bainbridge and a package for the Danish Consul, the Passport is directed to you and all commanders of American Cruizers that might fall in with her, a Copy of which passport with the Manifest I inclose you, conceiving that Mr Davis would not give a passport of this nature without your permission, & the inconvenience The stopping her would occasion to our prissoners, I suffered her to pass After Assertaining she had nothing more on board than the permission specified, — The same day I Joined Lieu^t Hull to the westward of Tripoli where I have continued to Cruize up to this period, — We have had a great deal of Bad weather and I am sorry to inform you we are very sickly, since my being on the station I have lost one man, and have had one third of the Crew sick with fever, —

I have now six days provissions on Board & shall leave the station this Evening or tommorrow morning

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April-June 1804.]

To Robert R. Livingston, U. S. Minister to Paris, France, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Messina Harbour 26th May 1804

SIR, I have the honor to enclose you duplicate of my letter from Naples of the 15th instant, since which time nothing material has transpired. I arrived here yesterday and find that the Gun Boats which the King of Naples has loaned us are all ready for Sea, but the Bomb Vessels require repairs to make them serviceable which it will take two or three weeks to effect; as soon as they are finished I shall commence my operations against Tripoly.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 26 May 1804

Cruising on and off Tripoli

This day begins with light breezes and Clear Weather at 3 Captains Stewart Decatur and Dent came on board set and took in sail Occas^y

At 10 the Captains returned on board their Respective Ship at sunrise the town of Tripoli bore W S W dist^y 8 miles at ½ past 10 filled away standing in for the town in Company with the *Syren* —

[NDA photostat.]

122 NAVAL OPERATIONS, APRIL-SEPTEMBER 6, 1804

To John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina, from Captain Edward Preble
U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP *Constitution*
Messina harbor May 27th 1804

SIR I do hereby appoint you Agent for the Squadron of the U. S. under my command in the Mediterranean, Authorizing you to purchase supplies as may be wanted for the use of the Said Squadron, to issue the same and to transact all such business as is generally transacted by Agents.

You will at all times supply the ships & vessels of the Squadron with such articles as they may want, on the requisition of their respective commanders, taking Duplicate Receipts for the same —.

From the representation I have made to the Navy Department, I have no doubt that the President of the U. S. will confirm you as Navy Agent for this place

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé
d'Affaires, Tunis

TUNIS *May 27th 1804.*

SIR, A Vessel sailed for Tripoli with my Passport on the 24th ultimo, having on board one thousand Dollars for the use of the Officers & Seamen, at which period I offer'd you a line, forwarding at the same time several letters from the Commodore, Consul Lear &c &c — all of which I trust have come safe to hand.

The reports relative to the Situation of our Officers & Seamen, are very different; all however combine in speaking much of the humane and kind attention of the Prime Minister Mahomed Dghies. — It is most certain, that the restrictions under which you are placed, with respect to receiving communications from your friends; and a prevention of seeing the Consuls, are unprecedented severities; but as sound Policy on the part of His Excellency, urges a mitigation of this rigour; I trust, interested motives, (if *humane ones, are unknown*) have ere this relaxed the Galling chain.

The incalculable movements of all Europe, predict a *new era, big with the fate of Kingdoms, States, Empires, & Worlds.* — An epocha, more replete, with the destiny of Governments, than any period since the downfall of Rome. Recent arrivals from Marseilles inform us, that *Bonaparte*, is actually declared *Emperor of the Gauls, King of Navarre & Italy*, to be continued in his descendants. Private letters to various characters, state, that he is to be divorced, and marries the Sister of Alexander the Emperor of Russia. — his brother also forms some Royal connection, to provide against the failure of issue on the part of the first. — What w^d be the probable result? *The fate of the Northern Powers, the commercial existence of Great Britain, the Ottoman Empire, are all involved in such an event.*

A Russian fleet is daily expected in these Seas, consisting of thirty Sail — the fleet of the Grand Signior, is ordered to Sea with all possible expedition — even FERDINAND of NAPLES, has now, a Maritime force cruising in two divisions—Charles of Spain, seems also to have taken a decisive part against that Power, whom he ought most to dread: in a word each Power, seems preparing for self defence; and in such a way, as wholly leaves in the field of conjecture, the shallow

politicians of Tunis. — I much regret that your immediate position does not allow me to offer any comments on the picture before us.

Commodore Preble, sailed from this Port, on the 2^d Inst. with M^r O'Brien; from whom I have the pleasure to enclose you a letter. — I have recently received several packages from my friends in the U. States, with letters from Government of 26th December, and fancy that Cathcart, is now biting with Sorrow the dust of his folly. — I have reason to Suppose that Commode^s Morris, has resign'd; the motives for which, are unknown to me; or at least offered in such a way as does not authorize me to enter into a detail —

[NYHS. Geo. Davis LB, Vol. 1.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Sunday, 27 May 1804

The General of the marine department, Admiral Espluger informed me I might take possession of the six Gun boats, and that the two Bomb Vessels would be ready in three weeks, received a supply of six hundred rounds of Powder & Shott for the Gun Boats, the Neapolitan Powder is not so strong by one third as the American, arrived and sailed his Britanic majestys Ship *Maidstone*, Surgeons report 5 sick, 7 convalescent

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 27 May 1804

Cruizing on and off Tripoli

at 1 P M, Cap^t Hull went on board the *Syren* & returned at ½ past 6 filled away and wore Ship to the S W,

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Siren* of 18 guns, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 27 May 1804

Light breezes & pleasant, the *Argus* in Co: At 1 hove too. Lieu^t Hull came on board. At 5 L^t Hull return'd fill'd away. At 7 Tripoli bore S ½ W 4 leagues. At 8 reef'd the topsails — The *Argus* in Co:

Latt: Obs: 33° 4' N

[NDA.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, Washington, D. C., from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t — May 28, 1804 —

I enclose letters directed to —

Frederick Degen esq^r Naples —

Will^m Higgins esq^r Malta —

George Dyson esq^r Syracuse —

containing their Appointments as Navy Agents at the places of their respective residencies. Be pleased to forward them by the earliest conveyance.

[NDA. OSW, Vol. 6, 1802-1805.]

To Degen, Purviance & Co., Leghorn, from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^t May 28th 1804

The following Gentlemen are appointed navy agents for this Department Viz —

Frederick Degen Esq for Naples
George Dyson Esq — for Syracuse
William Higgins Esq for Malta

They are empowered to draw on you for the amount of the Supplies that may be furnished by them respectively to our Squadron their bills must be Countersigned by the Officer Commanding the Ship that receives the Supplies

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803-1805.]

To James Monroe, U. S. Minister to London, England, from James Mackenzie and A. Glennie, London, England

NEW BROAD STREET, May 28th 1804

SIR We beg leave to lay before your Excellency the enclosed copy of correspondence by which it will appear that a fraud to the extent of £4000. Sterling has been committed on the United States of America and Comm^{rs} Edward Preble commanding their Squadron in the Mediterranean — Your Excell^y will find that as agents to the Navy department of the U. S. we received a letter of the 14th July 1803 from Rob^t Smith Esq^t the Secretary of that department advising us of the Squadron & that the commanding Officers would draw on us for the Disbursements of their Vessels — This letter was received by us on the 9th of November last; it was forwarded by M^r Jn^o Gavino the Agent of the United States at Gibraltar and its authenticity is not questioned — . By the same post we received the letter purporting to be from Comm^{rs} Edw. Preble under date of 27th of Septem^r and Stated in the correspondence advising his having drawn upon us six setts of Bills of Exchange, making in the whole £4000. Sterling, which bills were presented for acceptance by respectable merchants on the 9th & 15th of November, were imm^d accepted by us & paid the 2^d & 8th December following — . On the 15th of Novem^r we wrote Comm^{rs} Edw. Preble acknowledging the receipt of his letter & of the Honor paid to his drafts — On the 8th of Decem^r following we wrote to Rob^t Smith Esq^t Secretary acknowledging the receipt of his letter of credit and with advice of our having honored the Bills of Comm^{rs} Preble for £4000. and placed the same to the debit of the Navy Department, & on the 27th Feb^r we forwarded the Original bills to Rob^t Smith Esq^t the Secretary in America which we are directed in all cases to do — We could not be aware of any irregularity and were therefore much surprized to receive a letter from Comm^{rs} Preble under date of the 7th March last, a copy of which & our reply thereto, your Excell^y will find in the correspondence and we trust your Exc^y will see that it was not in our power to act in any other manner than we did — The letter of credit from the Secretary came by the same post with the letter of Advice of the Bills; the latter was forwarded by the respectable house of Mayne & Brown of Lisbon & who superscribed the letter as having forwarded it, and the respect that was due to the Bills of an Officer placed in so high a station by the United States made us imm^d honor them — The respectable hands

through which the bills had passed & by whom they were presented together with the letter of credit from the Secretary that accompanied them made it impossible to suspect, & the want of being furnished with the Commodore's Signature made it equally impossible to detect, as he had not before drawn any bills upon us — Under these circumstances we have to hope that your Excellency will be satisfied that no possible blame can attach to us, that we had not the means of prevention and that you will represent it to the government of the United States accordingly — It is impossible for us to suggest by what means the fraud has been committed; but it must be obvious that it has been done by some person in the confidence of the Commodore & well acquainted with his Authority — By our enquiries here we have reason to think that the bills came through Cadiz to Lisbon, and as the Original bills were sent to America before any suspicion arose, and what occurred has taken place in a foreign country, there does not appear any act which we as individuals can do, to unravel the mystery — But you Exc^y in your official capacity may do more, & we beg to submit to you the Propriety of your writing to the Minister or Consul of the U. S. at Lisbon to ascertain from the House of Mayne & Brown there, the means by which & the Person at Cadiz from whom they received the same, and to furnish the Minister or Consul at the latter place with information from which & what your Excellency may write him, he must not only be able to trace the fraud to its Original source, but may be able to obtain that redress through the means of a public minister which Individuals resident here could not do in a distant country —

If your Excellency should approve the measure we beg leave to offer our assistance in any way that we can to furnish the means of enquiry and shall with much pleasure wait on you at any time you will be pleased to appoint —

[LC. EPP, LB, April-Nov. 1804.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

Copy —

TANGIER 28th May 1804. —

DEAR SIR My last respects to you was the 22^d Feb^y since when I have not been favoured with any from you. — The Emperours new Ship *Maimona* of 30 Guns and Seventy Men is about to sail from Salle for Lisbon, to be there Coppered and her equipment completed — the two Ships at Larach are getting ready for Sea, but no time has yet been fixed upon for their departure. — The Galleys will no doubt also Cruize as usual. — The Mother and Family of a young Man named Mohamet Ben Ally Ben Seid, who was on board the Vessel you captured some time since coming from Tripoly, have applied to me for his enlargement, and as I can vouch for his being a Native of this place, and that his Family and connections are all here, I doubt not but you will give him his liberty, in conformity to the engagements to that effect in the Treaty of 1786. — Your speedy answer on this point will be very acceptable. —

The Emperour expressed himself highly satisfied with the Present of the Gun Carriages — but I am sorry to say they are all for Sea and not land Service. — I have however told them they will answer for both; my chief fear is that they will be found short for the Guns when they come to make use of them. —

Your Navy Agent to whose care the shipment was trusted sent but one handspike for each Carriage, which has obliged me to have a hundred made at Cadiz, that the want might not be reported to the Emperour. —

M^{rs} Simpson joins me in every good wish to you, and I beg you will be assured I am

[LC. EPP, Vol. 11, April-June 1804.]

To James L. Cathcart, Leghorn, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Messina H^t May 28th 1804.

DEAR SIR I am hon^d with your esteemed favor of the 14th instant but have not yet received either of the letters you mention to have written me last month. I think it probable they may have been sent to Malta.

I sail from this in a few hours with six sail of Gun Boats, and shall have two Bomb-Vessels ready in 20 days. The Gun Boats are in fine order; if I can reach Tripoly with this force added to our own Vessels, I think it probable the Bashaw's Gun Boats and Cruisers may meet the fate they long since ought to have met with; and his old walls rattle about his ears.

I am obliged to lay up two of our Schooners in order to man the Gun Boats, as no reinforcement has yet arrived, which makes it impossible for me to send a Vessel to Leghorn. It would afford me pleasure if I could do it, but I must first have a look at Tripoly. I do not apprehend you will be in any danger from the Barbary Cruisers in going to Gibraltar

I beg you to accept my best wishes for a pleasant and safe passage, and to believe me respectfully

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

To John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*
Messina Harbour 28th May 1804.

SIR You are requested to pay Monthly to the families of the Ninety six Neapolitans employed in the service of the United States on board the Gun Boats loaned to us by the King of Naples one half their monthly pay as it becomes due — Their pay is to be double what they at present receive from the Neapolitan Government.

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

To Lieutenant Richard Somers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner *Nautilus*, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Constitution*
May 28th 1804

SIR You will proceed from this port direct for Syracuse with the Gun boats of the U. S. N^o 1, N^o 2, N^o 3, N^o 4, N^o 5, & N^o 6 placed under your command, and on your arrival there, wait my farther Orders — You will leave the *Nautilus* under the direction of L^t Reid untill her repairs are completed, & leave with him the Sail^r Master,

Boatswain, Gunner, Cook, 6 or 8 Seamen & a guard of Marines — You will give M^r Reid orders to prepare the *Nautilus* for Sea, as soon as possible

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 28 May 1804

At 8 AM Tripoli bore SSE $\frac{1}{2}$ E dist^t 8 Miles

At Meridian Spoke the U. S Brig *Syren* the *Scourge* and *Vixen* in Company

[NDA photostat.]

To Lieutenant John Cassin, U. S. Navy, Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *Congress* One Mile
above Maryland Point May 29th 1804

SIR I left Alex^s yesterday morning about 9 O'Clock, and anchor'd here at 5 the same Evening, Twenty one feet was the least Water I had coming over Matta Woman Shoal, altho I cross'd it in the last quarter of the Ebb. I am now filling up all my Water, but will not venture to take my Guns on board, untill I pass Maryland Point, so soon as the Wind changes, which is now at S. E. I shall proceed a few Miles down for that purpose, — If the Wind shifts in our favour I am in hopes yet to be in Hampton Rhoads, with all our Guns & the Schooners Cargo of Beef & Pork, which accompanied me here, *on board*, in 3 or 4 days — Nothing shall prevent me from getting out of the Potomack as soon as possible, on many accounts, It appears to me impossible that a crew can be healthy, while drinking this water in an unfermented state. A number of our people have got a Cursed Desuntary already —

I send you two small lists which I beg your attendance to forwarding as soon as possible — King, has got the dimentions of every thing in the Iron way, inserted in the list, as also the Block maker, I think it advisable that you put the Powder & such provision as you have to send down into good Craft, in case they have to follow me to Hamton Roads — be pleased to send three looking Glasses by some conveyance which were shipped round from Balto. in the Schoo. *Polly & Sally*, Keith master which I have not yet recieved. —

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, Book A, 1804–1805.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate *Congress*, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t 29th May 1804 —

Herewith you will receive your authority to subdue, seize and make prize of all vessels, goods, and effects belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoli or to his Subjects, and also the Statute upon which that Authority is founded.

You will place yourself under the command of Commodore Samuel Barron and obey such orders as you may receive from him.

[Similar letters sent to Captain James Barron of the *Essex* and Captain Hugh G. Campbell of the *Constellation*, dated 29 May 1804.]

[NDA. LB, 1799–1807.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t 29 May 1804 —

Cap^t Chauncey is the Bearer of this Letter. He commands the Store-Ship *John Adams*, having on board for the use of our public Ships, Bread, Beef, Pork &c per Invoice which he will hand to you.

Should you have an Expedition on foot in which you may require immediately the services of the *John Adams*, you will detain her for such an Enterprize. If you should not require the services of the *John Adams*, you will order Cap^t Chauncey to return immediately to the Eastern Branch touching however on his way out of the Mediterranean at such ports for Convoy as you may direct. It is intended to keep the *John Adams* constantly employed as a Provision Vessel, therefore you will perceive that it will not be proper to detain her longer than is absolutely necessary. —

I enclose Letters to M^r Stewart, M^r Hull, M^r Smith and M^r Somers, containing their Commissions as Masters Commandants in the Navy. I also enclose a letter for M^r Dent, containing his Commission as a Lieutenant Commandant, and a letter to M^r Morris with his Warrant as a Purser, all of which be pleased to deliver. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 29 May 1804

Cruizing on and off Tripoli

at 3 Cap^t Dent Came on board and returned to the *Scourge* at 8, Wore Ship to the Northw^d Tripoli bearing S, S, W,

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Tuesday, 29 May 1804

Moderate breezes from the N & E and pleasant weather, I this day ordered Lieutenant Somers to take command of the Gun Boats for the present with all of the Officers and Crew of the *Nautilus* to man them, except one Lieutenant, the master, Boatswain, Clerk, and a few petty officers and twelve or fifteen men to take care of her and prepare her for sea as soon as her repairs are finished, I also agreed with the General of Marines to ship Fifteen Neapolitans to serve in each Boat under our flag, sent two Midshipman on board each Boat from this ship to assist in sailing them to Syracuse, — The boats are all Sloop Rigged with a latteen sail & Jib, they are about 25 tons and one long 24 pounder in the Bow, I have engaged two Bombardiers here for the mortar boats, —

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Tuesday, 29 May 1804

Moderate breezes from the N E. — At Single Anchor in Messina — The Commodore has selected from a number; 6 Gun boats & 2 Mortar Boats which are to be employed against Tripoly — The Bombards are under repair & will not be ready for some time — This day Cap^t Somers with all the crew of the *Nautilus* (a few excepted who are left to take care of her) was ordered on board the Six Gun boats which

are now under American colors The following Mates & Midshipmen were appointed to them from the *Constitution* Viz Mess^r Reid & Deacon Mates — Mess^{rs} Brown, Ridgely, Laws, Nicholson, Hall, Casey & Marcellin Midshipmen.

These Gun boats are about 25 Tons, Sloop rigged with a Lateen sail carrying One 24 P^{dr} — Fifteen Sicilians are attached to each besides the *Nautilus's* men — Supplied them this day (for which the Purser of the *Nautilus* receipts) with 6 Barr^r beef, 1029 lb bread — lent them also 14 bags. A Bombardier is also employed by the Commodore to attend the repair of the Bombards We also supplied the Gun boats with 46 bbls of Naples powder, 41½ rottolo each make 1903 rottolo deduct 8 rottolo p^r bbl leaves 1535 rottolo

One hundred Rottolo is equal to 180 English lb, which makes the powder supplied the gun boats 2763 lb. — Surgeons report same as yesterday

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE *John Adams* 30th MAY 1804

SIR I herewith transmit you a Copy of the Muster Roll of this day, by which you will perceive that I have the whole Number of Men and Boys contemplated for this Ship, but not of that Description ordered; We have sixteen Ordinary Seamen and Nine Boys instead of that Number of Seamen; We also have four Quarter Masters and four Boatswains Mates more than we are entitled to, but can be made to do Duty as Seamen, and rated on the Books as such

I also have the honor of informing You, that the *John Adams* is now ready to proceed for Hampton Roads the first fair Wind, I have the Honor to be

[NDA. MC LB, 1804-5.]

[About 30 May 1804?]

Concerning "Free Flags" and "Subject Flags"

Memo.

There are various Countries who in their commercial arrangements with the court of Naples have stipulated peculiar and very advantageous privileges for their Merchant Vessels such as England, France, Holland, the Ottoman Empire & some others, in consequence of which the flags of these Nations are here deemed *free flags*. The advantages arising to these Nations are, that their Vessels are not subject to visit of the Custom House. They are relieved from the necessity of manifesting their Cargoes within a limited period after their arrival need only manifest their respective Packages as they wish to land them. everything when once on board the Vessels is free from search, and their sides are sacred even from the approach of an armed force of the Country. The Vessels of the Nations not having a commercial treaty are deemed *Subject flags*, among which are the Americans, Danes Swedes &c^t and are obliged to give in a manifest of their whole Cargoes within 24 Hours after they receive prattique to make known thus the exact contents of the Cargoes they bring to enter into Bonds to produce certificates of landing of any goods which once manifested they may wish to carry elsewhere to produce these Bonds from the

place for which they clear them out they are subject on their arrival, at their departure, and even at any intermediate period to the search of the Custom House and the slightest irregularity or disagreement with the manifest or clearance subjects them to the most serious consequences, even to the forfeiture of Vessel and Cargo. The many advantages in favor of the former are too obvious to need comment, and it is no less so, how beneficial it would be to the United States, if by some arrangement with the Neapolitan Government their Vessels could be placed on the footing of the most favored Nations —

[LC. EPP, LB, Dec. 1803-April 1804.]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP *Constitution*

Syracuse Harbour 30th May 1804

SIR I had the honor to enclose you triplicate dispatches from Naples Bay the 15th instant. I left that Bay on the 20th and arrived at Messina the 25th where the *Nautilus* was still repairing. I regret that it has been found necessary to give her a thorough repair, and new copper her. She has been coppered with the copper brought out in this Ship. Her repairs will be finished in three weeks. At Messina I rec^d six Gun Boats, each carrying a long 24 pounder with a sufficient quantity of Shot, Powder, Small Arms &c* — and arrived here this morning with them. I have taken the principal part of the Officers and Crew of the *Nautilus* to bring them round to this Harbour leaving however the 1st Lieu^t and a sufficient number of the crew to get her in readiness for sea when her repairs are finished. The two Bomb Vessels which we are to have are repairing with great expedition and will be ready for sea in 12 or 14 days at farthest; as soon as they are compleated for service they will sail for Tripoly with the Gun Boats. I have been obliged to discharge a part of the Crew of the *Enterprise*, and with the remainder of them and the crew of the *Nautilus* I shall man the Gun & Mortar Boats. It is to be hoped some reinforcement to the Squadron will shortly arrive, otherwise we shall attack Tripoly under many disadvantages, but as the season for Action will soon pass away we must make an attempt which if it succeeds will be the more glorious to the Officers and Seamen of the Squadron. The Bashaw has encreased his Batteries and Gun Boats, and considers himself so safe as to defy our utmost exertions against him, a short time will determine how far he is right

I have just received intelligence of the sailing of twelve sail of Tunisian Cruisers from their Bay, and shall sail immediately for it to learn their object. The Officers prisoners at Tripoly continue to be close confined and well treated. the Seamen and Marines are obliged to work hard, fare hard, and are badly treated. — I shall go from Tunis Bay off Tripoly.

Our Brigs and Schooners have had several spats with the Enemy's Gun Boats and Batteries, but little damage has been done — I have borrowed from the King of Naples six long 24 pounders which I intend to put on the deck of some Merchant Vessel to be hired for the purpose as a floating Battery, but have mounted them on the upper deck of this Ship. They are fine Battering Cannon, and I expect will do good service —

[LC. EPP, LB, April-Nov. 1804.]

Extract from Diary of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, Wednesday, 30 May 1804

At anchor in Massina, Gave a receipt to the General of Marines for the Six Gun Boats and their military & Naval Stores, appointed Mr Broadbent Naval Agent for the Squadron, and left orders with him to pay the families of those Neapolitans in our service half their monthly pay as it becomes due, hoisted the United States Flag on each of the Boats, at 10 A M weighed & sailed with the six Gun boats in company, they are distinguished by numbers Viz^t N^os 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6, at noon we were about 3 leagues S W from Massina

[LC. EPP, Diary, 1803-1804.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Wednesday, 30 May 1804

Moderate breezes from the Eastward. At Single Anchor in Messina — clearing Ship for Sea — At 6 P. M. made the Signal to the Gun boats to prepare to Sail — Supplied them with an Ensign & pendant each, exclusive of 22 signal flags made from the Old signals belonging to the *Constitution* — Moderate breezes from N E during the night. At 7 A. M. the wind shifted to N N W — ran a Kedge out to the Eastward, two hundred fath^s At 9 A. M. a shore boat came alongside with 9 hands as assistants or Pilots — At 10 A. M. weighed, slipped the Hawsters, and came to sail — At this time our 6 gun boats were under weigh & running out in the Offing One of our cutters was left with the shore boat in order to bring off the Hawser & Kedge which they did by 11 A. M. Bore up and made sail thro' the Straits to the South^d in Order to proceed to Saragosa, bearing from us S b W $\frac{1}{4}$ W 66 Miles — The Squadron of Gun Boats S W near 6 Miles L^t Somers of the *Nautilus* is Commanding Officer of the Gun boats

The direct course thro' the Straits of Messina is S W nearly 20 Miles — There is no danger 50 fath^s from shore on either side — These Streights should never be attempted in a gale of Wind — There are two low points on Sicily side & one the other side — The Ebb which runs to the North^d will bring you home on Sicily side; and the Flood which runs to the South^d will bring you home on the other side. There is Anchorage on either side In some places One cable's length & in other places two, from the shore

Surgeons report 5 sick, 6 convalescent.

We are 9 Miles S W from Messina — The Squadron of Gun boats S W — 2 Miles —

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

To John Randolph, Jr., Farmville, Va., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^t May 31. 1804

I have received your letter of the 27th inst^t —

I enclose a letter to Commodore Barron which your friend will deliver at Hampton — the Squadron will probably sail from Hampton in the course of two weeks from this date — the Commodore will give Orders for your friend to be received on board of such ship as can most conveniently afford him room — The ships will all go in the first instance to Gibraltar thence proceed to Syracuse — The *John Adams*

a Provision ship armed *enflute* will return immediately touching probably at Naples & Leghorn on her way out of the Mediterranean to afford convoy to our merchant Vessels — If your Friend pleases he may return in the *John Adams* he could join her at Naples or Leghorn
[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803-1805.]

[31 May 1804]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from President Thomas Jefferson

THOMAS JEFFERSON —
*President of the United States of
America*

INSTRUCTIONS —

(Seal)

*To Commodore Samuel Barron Commanding a Squadron of Armed
Vessels belonging to the United States: —*

Given at the City of Washington in the District of Columbia this 31st. Day of May, in the Year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and four, and in the 28th Year of our Independence —

WHEREAS, it is declared by the Act entitled “an Act for the protection of the Commerce and Seamen of the United States, against the Tripolitan Cruisers” That it Shall be lawful fully to equip, Officer, Man and employ, Such of the Armed Vessels of the United States, as may be judged requisite by the President of the United States, for protecting effectually the Commerce and Seamen thereof, on the Atlantic Ocean, the Mediterranean and adjoining Seas: and also, that it shall be lawful for the President of the United States to instruct the Commanders of the respective public Vessels, to subdue, seize, and make prize, of all vessels, goods and effects, belonging to the Bey of Tripoli or to his Subjects —

WHEREFORE, and in pursuance of the said Statute, You are hereby authorized and directed to subdue, seize, and make prize, of all vessels, goods and effects, belonging to the Bey of Tripoli, or to his subjects, and to bring or send the same into port, to be proceeded against and distributed according to Law —

AND in virtue of the Act of Congress entitled. “an Act further to protect the Commerce and Seamen of the United States, against the Barbary powers”. You will consider Yourself hereby further authorised and directed to proceed against any other of the Barbary Powers which may commit hostilities against the United States, in the same manner, and to the same extent, as You have been Authorized and directed to proceed against the Vessels, goods, and effects belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoli or to his Subjects —

Sign^d — TH. JEFFERSON
President of the United States of America

(Seal)

By command of the President of the United States of America
Sign^d R^t SMITH
Secretary of the Navy

[Mrs. James S. Barron original, and NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT^y May 31, 1804 —

Sensible as you must be that it is the interest as well as the disposition of the United States to maintain the rights of Neutral nations, you will, I trust, cautiously avoid whatever may appear to you to be incompatible with those rights. It is, however, deemed necessary and I am charged by the President to state to you what, in his opinion, characterizes a Blockade. I have therefore to inform you that the Trade of a neutral nation in articles not contraband, cannot be rightfully obstructed to any Port not actually blockaded by a force so disposed before it as to create an evident danger of entering it. Whenever therefore you shall have thus formed a Blockade of the port of Tripoli, you will have a right to prevent any vessel from entering it and to capture for adjudication any vessel that shall attempt to enter the same with a knowledge of the existence of the Blockade. You will however not take as prize any vessel attempting to enter the port of Tripoli without such knowledge; but in every case of an attempt to enter without a previous knowledge of the existence of the Blockade, you will give the Commanding Officer of such vessel notice of such Blockade and forewarn him from entering. And if after such a notification such vessel should again attempt to enter the same port, you will be justifiable in sending her into port for adjudication.

You will, Sir, hence perceive that you are to consider circular communications to the neutral powers not as evidences that every person attempting to enter had previous knowledge of the Blockade, but merely as friendly notifications to them of the Blockade in order that they might make the necessary arrangements for the dis-continuance of all commerce with such Blockaded port. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT^y May 31, 1804 —

Herewith you will receive your Authority to subdue, seize, and make prize of all Vessels, Goods, and Effects belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoli or to his subjects, which likewise comprehends your Authority to subdue, seize, and make prize of all Vessels, Goods, and Effects belonging to any other of the Barbary Powers, which may commit hostilities against the United States.

In executing the duties arising out of your Commission, you will attend to the following regulations & instructions.

Your Commission extending only to the Vessels, Goods, and Effects belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoli or to his Subjects, and to the vessels, goods and effects of any other of the Barbary Powers which may commit hostilities against the United States, you will bear in mind that the rights of all other nations are to be duly respected: that we are at peace and wish to continue at peace with them and that we are desirous of being distinguished for our attention and adherence to all the Rights of humanity and hospitality, as well as for firmness in support of the honor of our Country. —

You are to refrain from exercising the powers of capturing, or of re-capturing in waters within the jurisdictional Limits of any nation at peace with us. The Marine League is the distance from the Shores

on which our Government acts. We must respect their Sovereignty. We shall scrupulously and without Indulgence examine that conduct which shall bring us into Collision with any other power.

All vessels, goods, and effects captured in virtue of your Commission, must, if practicable, be sent into some port of the United States, and to be proceeded against and distributed according to Law. They must be accompanied by all passes, charter-parties, commissions, Bills of Lading, Invoices, Letters and other Documents and writings found on Board, which are to be directed to the Judge of the District to which such prize may be ordered to proceed. You will keep in mind that a Vessel captured by you cannot be adjudicated by any of our Courts unless she be brought into some port of the United States.

In all Cases of re-capture you will endeavour to accommodate the owner or owners of the Vessels re-captured, by making such Arrangements with them as will permit them to prosecute their voyages.

With respect to Prisoners, it will be desirable if a cartel can be established to effect an exchange. If this should be found impracticable, you will then dispose of the Prisoners to any of the powers at war with their respective Countries with a reservation that they shall be restored to the United States in the event of their demanding them on an adjustment of their differences. If this plan should also be found impracticable, you will dispose of the Prisoners at your discretion, so as not to be at any Expence to the United States if it can be properly avoided. —

All the Officers under your Command will receive their Instructions from you for the general as well as for The particular government of their Conduct. They are all clothed with Commissions to subdue, seize, and make prize of all vessels, goods and effects belonging to The Bashaw of Tripoli or to his Subjects. They will take their orders from you with respect to their conduct towards any other of The Barbary Powers that may Commit hostilities, against the United States. —

As the Officers of the Squadron will occasionally require advances of small sums of money to procure Clothing suitable to their stations, and other Articles, they may be indulged; care however must be taken that the sums advanced do not exceed the amounts due.

With respect to payments to Marines abroad, you may make occasional advances to the Officers Commanding the Marines on board of the respective Ships, to make small payments to the privates— But these advances must not exceed one third of the Sums due.

[NDA. LB. 1799-1807.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t May 31. 1804 —

With respect to the Crew of the late frigate *Philadelphia*, now Captives in Tripoli, it becomes us to alleviate their sufferings as far as we can consistently do it. With this view we think it will be expedient to transmit to M^r Keith Spence small sums of money from time to time, to be by him applied to the purchase of such Clothing and Provisions as Captain Bainbridge or in his absence L^t Porter may deem necessary for the comfort of the crew. — M^r Keith Spence was the purser of the *Philadelphia* and Has the accounts of the crew

and knows what is due each individual, and the component parts of the ration. It will be well for you to require of him a due roll of the Crew, and you will instruct him in the issues of provisions not to exceed the rations allowed by Law, and in the purchase and issues of Clothing he must be governed entirely by Captain Bainbridge or in his absence by L^t Porter. He must keep the original Bills of purchase upon which he may charge for his Trouble and responsibility 10 p^t Cent. These Bills must be signed by Cap^t Bainbridge or Lieu^t Porter, and must be exhibited to this department in the settlement of The Accounts of M^r Spence. Upon the purchase of provisions, which must be under the same restrictions, he is to charge nothing for his Trouble.

I am not certain that Clothing can be purchased in Tripoli. You will be better able to ascertain on your arrival in that quarter, and will use your discretion either to send to M^r Spence funds for purchasing them in Tripoli, or send the Clothing itself to M^r Spence. You will judge which will be most expedient, and you will also judge as to the manner of furnishing the Supplies. Probably it will be the better plan to send them to some foreign Agent in that Regency, of friendly dispositions towards us, with directions to deliver them as they may be required. I commit the Subject, however, entirely to your discretion.

We do not conceive that it would be proper to advance any money to the privates of the Crew. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t May 31, 1804 —

The Establishment of an Hospital for the Sick and Disabled Seamen of the Squadron, has been heretofore allowed, but no such establishment has as yet, I believe, been made. Care must be taken of our Seamen and great advantages will result from their being made sensible that we regard them as an useful Class of Citizens and in all respects deserving of our Care and Attention. I deem it therefore proper to invest you with a discretionary power to establish an Hospital in Syracuse, if permitted, or in some other of the most healthy ports in the vicinity of Tripoli. You may commit the Superintendency of it to one of the Surgeons of the Fleet and if necessary allow him a Mate. A Chest of Medicines was sent out to Gibraltar to be used in such an establishment. Should you find it there, you will take it with you and use it if you find it necessary, and another will go out in the present Squadron.

P. S. Doctor Cutbush being the oldest Surgeon in the Squadron, you will appoint him to the Hospital. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEP^t May 31, 1804 —

Captain W^m Bainbridge having solicited an investigation of his conduct with respect to the loss of the late frigate *Philadelphia*, I have to direct that should Cap^t Bainbridge be released from Captivity, you

will take some convenient opportunity while in the Mediterranean, and call a court of enquiry upon him. You will appoint Cap^t John Rodgers, Captain Ja^s Barron, & Cap^t Hugh G. Campbell members of The Court, with directions to enquire into the circumstances, and to report to you their opinion thereon, which you will transmit to me. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPT^y May 31, 1804 —

The *John Adams* carries out a Crew entered for two years. This Crew you must put on Board of The *Enterprize*, if you cannot re-enter the present Crew of the *Enterprize* which however it is hoped you will be able to do. You may offer to the Able Seamen 12 — to the ordinary Seamen 8, and to the Boys 6 Dollars. If you cannot re-enter them they must be put on Board of The *John Adams* and sent to this Country with her.

The Subject is submitted to your discretion. —

[NDA. LB, 1799-1807.]

To Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig *Stren*, from Midshipman Thomas O. Anderson, U. S. Navy

Siren MAY 31st 1804

SIR — I have to inform you of the desertion of five of the men under my charge from on board the Polacre Ship *Madona* [*Catapoliana*] lying in the harbor of Malta — On the 9th of May George Brown and W^m Hays ran from the Ship in the night and went on board an English Privateer in the harbor under Quarantine — The Moment I found out that they had deserted, I went alongside of the Privateer and demanded them The Captain at first denied having them on board but at length acknowledged they were on board, that it was impossible for him to deliver them up, he having recieved Orders from Governor Ball not to deliver up any man who called himself an Englishman & put himself under his protection

May 15th William Van Dyke, John Bennett and W^m Due were taken out of the ship by Lieut Parker of the British frigate *Narcissus* while I was on Shore — I went on board the Frigate and demanded them of the Captain as American Seamen, but was preremptorily refused — The reason he assigned was that they called themselves Englishmen, and had applied to him to take them out of the Ship — I expostulated with him on the Impropriety of taking American Seamen out of a Prize belonging to a cruizer of the U. S. — He shewed me an act that had passed for every Commander in the British Navy to take his Majesty's Subjects where they found them — I told them they were not Englishmen, but Americans — He said they Called themselves Englishmen that they had placed themselves under his protection and that it was more than his Commission was Worth to give them up —

You may be assured Sir that no endeavors were neglected by me to recover them and I am Sorry to say there were ineffectual —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803-June 1805.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES BRIG *Argus*
off Tripoli 31st May 1804

SIR, I take the liberty to send to your care the Ketch *Virgine Del Rosario*, Prize to the United States Brig *Argus*, taken leaving the Port of Tripoli, I have given M^r Stewart Orders to follow your directions concerning her, and any other difficulties that may happen him, you will learn by the enclosed passport from Consul Davis, and other Papers, that this Vessel has been suffered to enter the Port of Tripoli with an Ambassador of the Grand Signior and his Suite, but we now find her leaving that Port with a number of Slaves on board, which I have no^doubt belongs to the Bashaw of Tripoli I am in hopes to be in Malta before the Ketch gets Pratique but should I not, I wish you to use your own judgment as respects the Ambassador and his Suite, but all, except such as entered the port of Tripoli with him, I wish to have remain on board until further Orders. — I shall be thankful to you for any services rendered M^r Stewart, and your attention to the Prize. M^r Blake left this some days since for Malta, should he be there he may be of service in searching the Vessel, and attending to the Crew & ^e —

Your obed^t Serv^t

(Signed) ISAAC HULL

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803-1804.]

Extract from log book of U. S. Brig *Argus*, 18 Guns, kept by Sailing Master Samuel B. Brooke, U. S. Navy, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 31 May 1804

These 24 hours Commence with Calm and Sultry Weather —

At 6 wore ship to the S & E Tripoli bore S E 3 Leagues —

At midnight fine Weather

At 4 AM light breezes —

At sunrise wore ship and backed the maintopsail Tripoli S W b S 4 leagues at 8 filled away saw a strange sail under the land standing towards at 11 boarded her she proved to be a Ketch from Tripoli bound to with an Ambisador and Presents to the Grand Signor took possession of her and sent M^r Stewart M^r Pettigrew and the following men on board of her Viz Livingston Barns, Mathew Pease Jos^b Murray Geo^s Thorn Ja^s Hoyt Seam^s & Fred^t Smith John Wilton & Ja^s Edlin Marines ordered her for Malta

[LC. EPP, *Argus*, 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 31 May 1804

Cruizing on and off Tripoli

This day begins with Calm and Sultry Weather Wore Ship to the N E Tripoli bearing S $\frac{1}{2}$ E 3 leagues set and took in sail as Necessary At 8 AM, saw a Sail under the land Stand^t towards us at 11 boarded her she proved to be a Ketch from Tripoli bound to Malta with an Ambassador and presents for for the Grand Signior took possession of her and Sent her to Malta The *Syren Scourge* and *Vixen* in company — * * *

[NDA photostat.]

138 NAVAL OPERATIONS, APRIL-SEPTEMBER 6, 1804

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution*, Thursday, 31 May 1804

Moderate breezes from N E & pleasant weather. Running along the side of Sicily between the Gulf of Catania and the Port of Augusta with an Offing of 7 Miles — Towards evening it fell calm.

At 8 P. M. Augusta light house bore N W b W $\frac{1}{2}$ W 6 miles At Sundown Saragosa in sight from the mast head bearing by compass S $\frac{1}{2}$ E nearly 8 leagues —

From this time till 2 A. M. light breezes from the E. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 A. M. being dark & hazy & supposing the ship to have ran her distance we brought to, till day light, when we made sail for Saragosa bearing W b N. 4 leagues Unstowed the two bowers —

Light airs or calms till $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11 A. M. at which time we came to in Saragosa in 8 fath^s $\frac{1}{4}$ of a Mile W b N from the Light house

Veered to 20 fathoms on the small bower & furled sails. Found here the U. S. Schooner *Enterprize* L^t Decatur and L^t Somers with the 6 gun boats which parted company from us at 10 last evening — On anchoring made the necessary arrangements for watering ship — 20,000 Gallons are wanted to compleat our water — Noon light

Airs from E S E.

Surgeons report 5 sick, 4 convalesc^t

[LC. EPP, Log *Constitution*, 1803-1804.]

To Accountant of the Navy from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP^t June 1st 1804

Surgeons and Surgeons mates in the Army being allowed Quarters and to draw Wood at the rate of One Cord P^t month from the 1st October to the 1st April and half that Quantity for the other months of the year and the Surgeons and Surgeons mates of the Navy Stationed at the navy yard at Washington being allowed by Law the same pay and Emoluments; and as I can see no good reason why an equivalent in money should not be allowed, in lieu of the Quarters and Wood, especially as by allowing it the Commission to the Contractor for the Rent and Purchases will be saved — You will therefore allow to these officers at the rate of ten dollars P^t month in lieu of Quarters and the Value of Wood they may be entitled to draw estimated at the Contract Price or Price paid for Wood Supplied at the Marine Barracks —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803-1805.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPM^t June 1, 1804.

Commodore S. BARRON.

I enclose Commissions for

M^r H. I. Reed

S. Vanschaick

C. Gadsden.

J. T. Leonard.

J. Maxwell

J. Trippe

E. N. Cox

O. H. Perry.

M^r J. Bainbridge } Same date.

R. Henley

J. M. Gardner

W. Crane

S. G. Blodget } Same date

J. Gibbon

A. C. Harrison

D. T. Patterson

D^t Murray,

to be Lieutenants in the Navy of the United States. —