NAVAL OPERATIONS
FROM SEPTEMBER 7, 1804 TO APRIL 1805
WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS
THE EXPLOSION OF THE U. S. KETCH INTREPID.
NAVAL DOCUMENTS
RELATED TO THE
UNITED STATES WARS
WITH THE BARBARY POWERS
VOLUME V

NAVAL OPERATIONS
INCLUDING DIPLOMATIC BACKGROUND
FROM SEPTEMBER 7, 1804 THROUGH APRIL 1805

PUBLISHED UNDER DIRECTION OF
The Honorable Frank Knox
Secretary of the Navy

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

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PREFACE

This fifth volume of naval documents on our wars with the Barbary Powers covers operations in the Mediterranean from the end of summer in 1804 until the following spring. The period coincides with the command of Commodore Samuel Barron, and forms a phase contrasting sharply with the preceding combat operations under Commodore Edward Preble.

The latter had developed the campaign along very aggressive lines, culminating in a series of bombardments of Tripoli in the summer of 1804 (Volume IV). He had urgently requested the dispatch of a more powerful force from the United States as being necessary to gain a decisive victory, and accordingly four more frigates were sent to the Mediterranean. Since only two captains junior to Preble were available for service he was necessarily superseded in command of the squadron by another Captain senior to him. (The title of "Commodore" was then merely ex-officio to indicate the officer commanding a squadron.) Thus, ironically, the reinforcing frigates which stood into Malta in September 1804, brought Commodore Preble's successor, denying him the opportunity to carry out his own plans with the ships sent for that purpose.

The combined squadron under Commodore Barron was the most powerful American force yet assembled and appeared to be admirably suited to the task of carrying the war to a successful conclusion. Initially the onset of winter weather prevented more than blockading operations, but with the coming of spring, the proposed attack on Tripoli in force failed to pass the discussion stage. A blockade was maintained off Tripoli, and naval support was given to the American land expedition against Derne under General Eaton, but most of the squadron normally remained in its bases at Malta and Syracuse. The blockade was regularly maintained with from two to five ships on station. In addition, occasional demonstrations were made off Tunis, Algiers and Tangier in order to dissuade the other Barbary rulers from interfering with our effort against Tripoli.

The disappointing naval inaction of this period seems to have been principally due to the ill-health of the new commodore. When he assumed command of the squadron, Barron was ill and much of his subsequent time was spent ashore. For days at a time he was unable to transact business, and seemed never really physically fit for active command at sea. For this reason, the promising plans of Preble fell by the wayside, and lacking sufficient direction the squadron carried on mainly in routine fashion. Barron's condition also probably caused him to listen sympathetically to proposals for a negotiated peace, and hence had a direct bearing on the rather inconclusive outcome of the war.

The American squadron was operating in waters far from home and in the theatre of Napoleonic Wars. At this time the British Navy was dominant in the Mediterranean, although Trafalgar remained to be fought. The documents indicate friendly relations between the
British and Americans, and the American squadron used the base at Malta extensively, receiving there the support and assistance of the British officials. The same spirit of cooperation is shown by the documents relating to American action in Egypt, where also British officers were helpful and cordial. On the other hand, there is considerable evidence that French officials were unfriendly, particularly in the attitude of the consul at Alexandria, and the pressure brought to bear upon the King of Naples to dissuade him from furnishing gunboats to operate with the American ships as he had done in 1804.

Gunboats had played an important part in the actions off Tripoli in 1804. Six of these vessels had been loaned to Preble by the Kingdom of Naples, and three more captured from Tripolitans and utilized as a part of our squadron. When in 1805 the government of Naples declined to lend gunboats again, steps were taken to fill their places from the United States. The Navy was already building gunboats for purely coast-defense purposes. Now the design and rig of ten of these were altered with a view to sending them across the Atlantic for service in the Mediterranean, and the first of them had sailed before the conclusion of peace.

Although naval activity languished somewhat under Barron, another aspect of the campaign against Tripoli came to fruition in the period covered by this volume. William Eaton, who had been at Tunis as United States Consular Agent from 1799 to 1803 had returned to the Mediterranean with Barron, prepared to carry out an ambitious plan to bring American victory in the war. Yusuf Caramanli, the reigning Bashaw of Tripoli had usurped the throne of his elder brother, Hamet Caramanli. During his sojourn in Tunis, Eaton had conceived the plan of backing the cause of Hamet, and by aiding him in regaining his throne placing the United States in a highly favorable position. In the United States, he had been able to convince President Jefferson of the soundness of his plan, and he was appointed United States Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies. From Malta, Eaton was taken in the U.S. Brig Argus to Alexandria, whence he continued to Cairo, in search of Hamet.

Egypt was then in a state of extreme disorder. The troops of Napoleon had been driven out in 1801 by a combination of British and Turks. Nominally Egypt was a part of the Ottoman Empire, and once the French were gone, friction between the British and Turks had developed. When the British withdrew in 1803, the viceroy from Constantinople was left in nominal control. Actually Albanian troops imported by the Turks and the native military oligarchy known as Mamelukes were struggling for ascendancy. By the time Eaton reached Egypt, the Mamelukes were in open revolt against the Turkish viceroy, and the leader of the Albanians, Mohammed Ali was about to make himself the real ruler of Egypt. Since Hamet Caramanli was then serving with the Mameluke army, it was with some difficulty that Eaton gained permission from the Turkish viceroy for the Tripolitan to pass safely through his lines in order to head the march on Tripoli with the Americans.

Eventually a motley army of American sailors and marines, Greek cannoneers, and Arabs was assembled outside Alexandria. The story of the march to Derne and of its support at coastal points by our naval units is recounted in the documents. After a multitude of trials and hardships, Derne fell before a combined land and sea attack, and the American flag was raised over its walls on April 27, 1805.
Eaton's plan contemplated a continuation of the advance along the coast, and a siege of Tripoli from the rear. Meantime, however, Tobias Lear, United States Consul General at Algiers, endeavored to persuade Barron to withdraw his support of the military operations. When Yusuf, the reigning Bashaw of Tripoli, showed signs of interest in negotiating a peace with the United States, Lear urged that efforts be made to come to terms. The Commodore's illness probably contributed to his willingness to accede to Lear's proposals, and he showed increasing coolness toward Eaton. Ill-health finally forced Commodore Barron to relinquish command of the squadron to Captain John Rodgers, on May 22, 1805. By this time, the opportunity for an aggressive naval campaign in 1805 had been largely wasted and peace negotiations were well under way. Peace was subsequently concluded in June, 1805, before Eaton could move westward from Derne.

Thus the period from September 1804, to April 1805, was filled with cross currents of colorful action, marked by diplomatic intrigue as well as a land campaign and routine blockading operations.

As the title of this volume indicates, it is a collection of documents primarily related to naval operations, and in no sense a compendium of all naval material for the period. Logistic and administrative papers have been largely excluded except as they bear directly on operations. Although most of the material published here has been drawn from originals in the Office of Naval Records and Library, a careful search has been made in other government collections, and in public and private archives both in the United States and abroad. All possible sources have not been completely examined, but every effort has been made to gather a well rounded and representative collection of papers bearing on the operations. About twenty per cent of available operational documents have been omitted because of substantial duplication of contents. The collections of the Navy Department, Library of Congress (Porter, Preble, Rodgers papers) and the Huntington Library (Eaton papers) have been included almost complete. No extensive file of Barron papers, aside from those in the Navy Department, was found. This has resulted in less material on Barron's plans and actions during the time of his command than was desired. Commodore Barron's house at Hampton, Virginia, burned and it is probable that many of his personal papers were destroyed at that time.

The current World War has caused some collections to be unavailable so that relevant materials from these may have to be included in a supplementary volume to be published later.

As in previous volumes of this series, the documents have been arranged in strictly chronological order. It will be found, however, that the extensive index is designed to serve as an analytical guide. By its use, subjects or individuals may be easily traced.

In using the published material, the reader should note that nautical time and civil time were both in use, and complicated chronology in many cases. When at sea, a ship's log was kept according to nautical time, with the day beginning at noon rather than at midnight. The nautical day opened twelve hours earlier than the civil day. Thus, the nautical day of March 12, would begin at noon of civil day March 11, and close at noon of civil day March 12. When in port, the log would be shifted to civil time for the duration of her stay. Corre-
spondence was generally dated according to civil time, whether written at sea or in port.

In addition to the individuals, private organizations and government activities, mentioned in previous volumes as aiding in this work, special acknowledgment is made to the American Neptune Lieutenant Commander E. Breed, U. S. N. R., Lieutenant M. V. Brewington, U. S. N. R., Mr. H. Clifford Campion, Robert A. Potts, and Lieutenant W. M. Whitehill, U. S. N. R.

The detailed preparation of this volume was principally the work of Miss Loretta I. MacCrindle. Others who gave valuable assistance were Miss Catherine MacDonnell and Miss Georgia Freese. In its later stages, the work was under the general supervision of Lieutenant J. H. Kemble, U. S. N. R.

The publication of these documents was made possible by the Acts of Congress approved March 15, 1934 and February 7, 1942, 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, $100, together with the unobligated balance of the appropriation under this head for the fiscal year 1942: 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

The Explosion of the U. S. Ketch *Intrepid*. 
From an engraving in *The Port Folio* (December 1810). Reproduced through the courtesy of Mr. Sargent Bradlee.

William Eaton 
From an engraving by Charles Balthazar Julien Fevret de Saint Memin. Reproduced through the courtesy of the Corcoran Gallery of Art.

The U. S. Brig *Argus* 
A detail from the painting by M. F. Cornè of Commodore Preble's Squadron attacking Tripoli on 3 August 1804. Reproduced through the kindness of the United States Naval Academy Museum.

"Part of the new City of Alexandria, with the light house". 

The U. S. Schooner *Nautilus* 
A detail from the painting by M. F. Cornè of Commodore Preble's Squadron attacking Tripoli on 3 August 1804. Reproduced through the kindness of the United States Naval Academy Museum.

Invisible ink postscript on a letter from Captain William Bainbridge to Col. Tobias Lear. (See page 311)

From a photograph made by a new process, under the direction of Dr. Vernon D. Tate, in The National Archives.

Route of William Eaton's Army from Alexandria to Derne, 8 March–25 April 1805 

Gen. William Eaton and Hamet Caramanli, on the Desert of Barca, approaching Derne 
From a reproduction of an old mezzotint in Edward Everett Hale's *Memories of a Hundred Years* (New York, 1902). By kind permission of The MacMillan Company and Mr. Frank A. Tichenor.

Lieutenant Presley Neville O'Bannon, U. S. M. C. 
From a miniature owned by Mrs. Moorman of Frankfort, Kentucky. Reproduced from a copy kindly furnished by Mr. John Presley Cain.

Map of Bomba and Derne 

Map of the Mediterranean Region 
Movements of United States Naval Vessels in the Mediterranean, Sept. 1804–May 1805
Prepared by the Office of Naval Records and Library. Based entirely on the documentary materials in this volume. It will be noted that the records extant do not make possible a complete coverage of ship movements in this period.

vii
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A-4</td>
<td>Archivist's symbol, Navy Department Archives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Accession number, Manuscripts Division, Library of Congress.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Accountant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Am</td>
<td>American.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Appts</td>
<td>Appointments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bk</td>
<td>Book.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>&quot;The Life and Services of Commodore William Bainbridge&quot; by Thomas Harris.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CI</td>
<td>Consular Letters, State Department Records.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMR</td>
<td>Court Martial Record.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Collection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cong</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cor</td>
<td>Correspondence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decatur, Stephen, Col</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dip. Cor.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disp.</td>
<td>Dispatches, State Department Records.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Dispatches to Consuls, State Department Records.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Doc.</td>
<td>Document or Documents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dom. L.</td>
<td>Domestic Letters, State Department Records.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<td>Fox, J., Papers</td>
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</tr>
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</tr>
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</tr>
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</tr>
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<td>Invalid.</td>
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<td>Library of Congress.</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
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</tr>
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</tr>
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<td>Nav</td>
<td>Naval.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**ABBREVIATIONS INDEX TO SOURCES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Naval Chronicle</td>
<td>&quot;United States Naval Chronicle&quot; by Charles Washington Goldsborough, 1824.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>&quot;Life of Stephen Decatur&quot; by Alexander Slidell MacKenzie.</td>
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</tr>
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<td>NYHS</td>
<td>Courtesy of The New York Historical Society, New York, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officers LB</td>
<td>Officers Letter Book, Navy Department Archives.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSW</td>
<td>Letters to Officers of Ships of War, Navy Department Archives.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Public Library.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Pres</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Private Collection of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
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</tr>
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<td>United States Marine Corps.</td>
</tr>
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<td>United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.</td>
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<td>VA</td>
<td>Veterans Administration, Pensions, Washington, D.C.</td>
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NAVAL OPERATIONS

FROM SEPTEMBER 7, 1804 TO APRIL 1805

WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS
NAVAL OPERATIONS
FROM SEPTEMBER 7, 1804 THROUGH APRIL 1805
WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS

To Sir Alexander John Ball, Governor of Malta, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

U. S. States Ship President
Malta 7. Sep. 1804

Sir, I regret extremely that the circumstance of my having spoken a Barbary cruiser on my passage from Gibraltar bars the pleasure of offering you my personal respects previously to leaving this port; at the same time I feel a pleasure in expressing a grateful sentiment for the hospitality and tenders of friendly offices you have manifested —

I cannot, Sir, give you any interesting intelligence from America; nor any thing European so late as you will have received through more distinct channels — But a circumstance occurred on the passage which cannot be altogether uninteresting to a naval Commander; as it may, perhaps, account for some of the innumerable dangers marked on the charts of the Mediterranean —

On the 24. ult. at ½ past 3. p.m. the W. point of Almaria bay bearing N. about six leagues distant, and the small Island of Alboran S. about eleven leagues — the ships President and Constellation sailing in Company, with a light westerly wind and uncommonly smooth sea, having about three knots way, were alarmed by a violent shock like striking on an uneven, rocky bottom, which at every stroke seemed to lift & let fall the ship about one foot — We were then at dinner in the cabin; and, supposing the ship aground, ran immediately upon deck; but we discovered no appearance of a shoal, nor had the ship lost her way — At the same instant the people of the cutter, which was towing a stern, cried out in great consternation, that The boat had struck something!

The weather had been so remarkably fine, Captain Campbell of the Constellation had visited us, and was still on board — His ship, being about a mile distance, made signal to speak us — On coming along side — On coming along side, she reported that she had struck upon rocks — It appeared from enquiry, however, that she felt the same shock, at the same instant, and in the same manner as above described — I soon spoke a Spanish ship, then a league and an half distant, whose master informed that he had felt the shock at the same time —

At ½ past 8. a.m. the next day, at least five leagues distant from the place where this shock was felt, both ships, being distant from each other 1½ mile, experienced another similar shock, attended with a rumbling noise resembling a vessel running over a shoal — The
continuation of the first shock was about 40 seconds — that of the second a minute —

The effect which these singular occurrences seemed to have on the feelings of the ship's people was also remarkable: the alarm, agitation, and amazement appeared much greater than would have been created, I believe, had the ship been actually aground.

(Signed) SAM: BARRON

His Ex' Sir ALEXANDER J. BALL, BART: &c. &c. &c.


To James Leander Cathcart, Leghorn, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy
MALTA Sept' 7th 1804.

DEAR SIR Having arrived in those seas with an additional force to the Squadron here before me I cannot deny myself the pleasure of addressing you ever grateful for the polite and hospitable attention I experienced at your house while in Leghorn, I hope in the course of the winter to pay you my personal respects. —

I have been mortified extremely by the contrary winds which has lengthen'd our passage in an uncommon degree, it being now two months since we left the United States, this has compel'd me to call here for a supply of water, I shall this day proceed with the President & Constellation for Tripoli but fear the season is too far advanced to bring the Bashaw to terms before the arrival of the Congress and Essex which I left at Gibraltar until the views of the Emperor of Morocco are ascertain'd in equipping for sea his whole marine force: this circumstance threatens hostility somewhere, & if the commerce of the United States should be his object great indeed would be the havock if left unprotected, he has again demanded a free passage for a vessel loaded with wheat for (as he says) the poor of Tripoli, this has been refused in the most unequivocal terms, & it is thought that this will be a pretext for war. I have no news being quarantined here in consequence of having examined a Tunisian Corsair on my passage up the mediterranean. — I assure you it will give me pleasure to hear from you, & if I can in any way serve you command me freely; be so good as to present my respects to Mr Wathcart & your charming children & believe me to be with much esteem. —


To James Leander Cathcart, Leghorn, from William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies
MALTA 7th Sept' 1804.

DEAR SIR, I am on board the Squadron in Character of Navy Agent of the United States for the several Barbary Regencies. — but for the special purpose of reviving & giving effect to the plan of operation formed yourself & me in conjunction with Hamet Bashaw. — I candidly confess I entertained an individual wish that we should find affairs at Tunis in such a situation as to afford me an opportunity of gratifying a righteous resentment against that Regency. — But that Bashaw is as wise as wicked; & times his measures by too certain a calculation to commit himself; there is now no prospect that he will provoke chastisement while the means of giving it himself are so convenient. — I regret that he could not be prevailed on to accredit
you at his court, and more particularly since I have taken an agency in an affair of enterprize which could be materially assisted by your light.

Morris is dismissed the service. — Murray is supported by a mighty phalanx of mighty friends; but they have wisdom enough to keep him out of sight. He ought to have been cashiered for disobedience of orders. — During the storm which has broken around me, I have suffered a wreck of fortune; but don't know that my reputation bears any marks of the shafts which were aimed at it. I have certainly had the gratification to see all the measures adopted which you & I had so long recommended concerning the intercourse of the United States with the Barbary Regencies — And I am satisfied with the expression of the national opinion of my conduct as their representative at Tunis. — Thus far I have sketched my story. — and hope it will induce you to reciprocate yours. —

With very sincere respects to M'r Cathcart your lady, believe me to remain,


To Lieutenant George W. Reed, U. S. Navy, of U. S. Schooner Nautilus, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

_Constitution Off Tripoly Septem't 7th 1804 —_

Sir You will proceed to Syracuse with the U. S. Schooner Nautilus & two bomb Vessels in tow. On your arrival you will deliver the letter for Lieut Comm' Dent which authorizes him to take command of the Nautilus —

An exact inventory must be taken of every article on board the Bomb vessels & the receipts of the Officers & principal gunners in charge of them taken for the same & lodged with M'r Dyson.

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

Extract from journal of Surgeon Jonathan Cowdery, U. S. Navy, 7 September 1804

John M'Donah died of a consumption, with which he had long been ill.

[LC. Rare Books, American Captives in Tripoli or Dr. Cowdery's Journal, Boston, 1806.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 7 September 1804

Laying too [off Tripoli] at 3 PM took the Officers and men out of gunboat No. 3 & 7 with their arms & cast off Gunboat No. 3 At 6 the Commodore made Sig'l No 805 the John Adams, Syren, Nautilus and Enterprize sailed for Syracuse with the Gun and bomb Vessels in tow Cap'l Hull came on board from the Commodore

[NDA photostat.]

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

Gun boats sailed for Syracuse.

[LC original.]
Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate Constitution, Friday, 7 September 1804

Moderate breezes from N E — We are laying by with the Squadron in Company 5 leagues N W b N from Tripoly.

The two brass guns which, on Wednesday last, we took out of the two Tripoline boats were, this afternoon transported to the J. Adams.

Employed with the Squadron till sundown in receiving the remainder of the Military Stores from the Gun boat & Bombards.

At 6½ P.M. Tripoly bore by compass S E 5 leagues.

Parted company for Saragosa, the J. Adams, Capt Chauncey Syren, Cap' Stewart, The Enterprise Lieut' Robinson, & the Nautilus Lieut' Reid — The Nautilus on her arrival at Saragosa, will be commanded by Cap' Dent of the Scourge. Our light Gun boats & two Bombards went with the above vessels —

Rec'd from the Syren 452 Galls Rum in 4 puncheons On Wednesday last we supplied the Enterprise with a kedge marked 4C. — 3Q. — 22 lb. — Supplied the Nautilus with a 7 Inch Hawser, half worn, 120 fath —

Off the Spye Glasses supplied the Gun boats & Bombards two have been lost overboard, two blown up & One broken. From our Evening bearings till day light, we continued working to windward under Easy Sail with moderate breezes from E S E —

We have now in company the Argus & Vixen only.

At 6 A. M. made all plain sail for the coast with fresh breezes from S E. — At 10 A. M. we saw the Town of Tripoly bearing by compass South —

As we drew in with the land the wind veered to the E. Continued standing in for Tripoly till noon when we tacked to the North, Tripoly bearing S W b S, 4 miles Argus & Vixen in company. —

Employed this forenoon re-stationing the Officers & Seamen who were attached to the Officers & Gun boats —

Water on hand — 53 leagurs & 27 Butts which contain about 17,000 Gall —

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

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 7 September 1804

We are now bound for Syracuse & have three Gun boats in tow. the Brig Syren. Schooner Enterprise and Nautilus has has 6 Gun boats & 2 Bumbards in tow. We learn that we are to proceed to Syracuse deliver up the Gun boats & Bumbards which we borrowed from the King of Naples and are to proceed from there to Malta and there wait the arrival of Commodore Barron and in case he shou[d not] arrive in some short time. the further orders of Commodore Preble we have left off Tripoli the Constitution Brig Argus & Schooner Vixen. it is said they intend to continue the Blockade untill they have some news of commodore Barron or as long as the season of the year will permit them to remain in safty. — The Bumbardment & attack by Gun boats being entirely given over for this season it being considered not safe for them to remain off[fl] the station any longer.

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]
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, Friday, 7 September 1804

(On a passage from Tripoli to Syracuse with gun boats &c.)

Fresh breezes from N E\textdegree & pleasant lying bye with the squadron. At 3 took gun boat N° 3 in tow, At 4 took one of the Prize gun boats in tow. \(\frac{3}{2}\) past 6 wore ship & made sail, Sunset Tripoli bore S S E 4 leagues.

Midnight light breezes & pleasant At 6 made all drawing sail, the \textit{Nautilus, Enterprise, In° Adams} & gunboats in company —

Latt Obs: 33° 56\textdegree N.

NDA.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 8 September 1804

[Off Tripoli] the Commodore and Vixen to leward

[\textit{NDA photostat.}]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate \textit{Constitution}, Saturday, 8 September 1804

Moderate Breezes from EbN — Cruising off Tripoly — Argus & Vixen in company —

At 1 P. M. we brought to, & sent a boat to the Vixen By two fresh Breezes — double reefed the Topsails and down Royal Yards —

The wind was fresh all the afternoon —

Tacked as necessary to hold our own & keep Tripoly in sight —

Employed this afternoon in quartering the ship's company & clearing away the birth deck, which has been necessarily lumbered during the operations against Tripoly —

At sun set Tripoly bore SbW\frac{1}{2} W 4 leagues; We stood in till 8 in the evening when we tacked to the Northward — Sounded in Stays 39 fath\textdegree At 8\frac{1}{4} P.M. in third reef in the Topsails —

We stood off till 6 A. M, 20 miles per log, heading N N E & at times N E b E.

At 6\frac{1}{4} A. M. we tacked to the South\textdegree — Out all reefs except one in each topsail & set top gall\textsuperscript{t} sails — By 9 A. M. we saw Tripoly bearing S\frac{1}{2} E —

Stood in for Tripoly till noon when we tacked to the North\textdegree, Tripoly bearing S \frac{3}{4} E. 4 leagues, Wind fresh from N E b E — In top gall\textsuperscript{t} sails & double reefed the Topsails —

The Gunner with his crew employed surveying his stores — He reports, Expended in the actions with the Tripoline Batteries, Gun boats & Gallies 641 Round Shot — 573 Strand of Grape & Cannister & 30 double head Shot — of powder, 4028 lb — The double head was fired when we were within musket shot of the Bashaw's Castle, mole head, and half moon batteries — The Cannister was fired when we were within two cables length of 19 of the Enemy's boats & three gallies —

[\textit{LC. EPP Log Constitution, 1803-1804.}]}
At 6. Oclock this morning the breeze very light and Variable and so much ahead as not to be able to lay our course. all the squadron in sight this morning at Meridian light air and pleasant the Syren Nautalus & Enterprize in company — Nothing particular Occurred this day. —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]
Extract from journal of Surgeon Jonathan Cowdery, U. S. Navy, 9 September 1804

The Bashaw took me with him, and his suit to his country seat where we spent the most of the day. About 5 o'clock P. M. we went to see the great Marabewt, or Mahometan priest, in whom the Bashaw had great faith, and thought he could foretell events. It was said by the Turks, that he foretold the stranding and capture of the Philadelphia; and that he got offended with the Bashaw and caused and foretold her being burnt. But I had heard nothing of these mysteries until a little previous to this. He now said that the commodore's ship, the Constitution, would never return to America; that she would either be blown up, or run on shore; and that the Bashaw would have success in his warfare with America.

[L.C. Rare Books, American Captives in Tripoli or Dr. Cowdery's Journal, Boston, 1806.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 9 September 1804

At 3½ past the Commodore made Sig1 792 bore away and made Sail

[NDa photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate Constitution, Sunday, 9 September 1804

Fresh breezes from ENE. Cruizing off Tripoly — Argus & Vixen in company.

Fresh breezes all the afternoon. Tacked as necessary to keep Tripoly in sight —

By 5 P. M. we had three reefs in each topsail — Our principal object is to keep up a Strict Blockade. In the day time we extend the Argus to the Eastward & Vixen to the Westward to the very extreme of signal distance. In the close of the Evening they are called in pS Signal.

At 6½ P. M. tacked off shore for the night — Tripoly bears SSW, 4 leagues —

By 1 A. M. we had stood off 22 miles under easy sail heading NNW & NNE — At 1½ A. M. tacked to S E b E winds moderate from N E b N.

By day light the wind [weather] became overcast & cloudy wind NNE — Out all reefs except one in Each topsail and set top gall. Sails.

Continued on a wind to the E S E till 8 A. M. at which time the Weather had cleared away with pleasant breezes from N b W.

At 8½ A. M. bore up to the South & set Royals in order to make the Town of Tripoly which we ran for till noon when we answered the Argus Signals for strange sails in the N E, Tripoly, at this time S W b S 5 leagues.

Hauled on a wind, tacked towards the Argus & gave chase under all plain Sail.

As the Haze cleared away we saw two of the Strange Sail which are running for us.

Noon Moderate Breezes from N b E.

Surgeons Report. 10 sick, 7 conv"
This forenoon the ships company were cleaned & mustered in divisions —

Latitude Observed 33° 10' N.

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

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 9 September 1804

We have this morning a perfect calm. not a breath of air sturing and very warm. at Meridian a light breeze at 3. P. M. the Brig Syren made the signal to speak us. hauled up the courses backed the Main Topsail. at 4 the Syrens boat came along side at ½ past 4 Capt Chauncey went on board the Brig Syren in the Gig — at 7 the Captain returned at Midnight clear & pleasant with moderate Breezes.

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

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, 9 September 1804

(On a passage from Tripoli to Syracuse with gun boats &c.)

Light airs & variable, our consort all in sight. At 2 made a signal for the J. Adams to heave too. At 3 shorten'd sail & back'd the main top sail. ½ past 3 sent the barge on board the J. Adams. At 5 fill'd away & made sail. At 8 back'd the main topsail the barge return'd with bread. ½ past 8 hoisted in the barge & fill'd away. At 11 brac'd about the yards, — Midnight moderate breezes & pleas. At 1 tack'd ship —

Meridian fresh breezes & pleasant, the Consort all in sight —

Latt: Obs: 34° 42' N.

[NDA.]

[10 September 1804]

U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean

[Résumé, presumably prepared in Navy Department about 1806 or 1807, concerning the U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean.]

The Squadron of Commodore Sam'l Barron:

On the Capture of the Philadelphia, Congress passed Act of 25th March 1804. — The President was authorized to employ such of the armed vessels as he might deem requisite for protecting the Commerce and Seamen of the United States and for carrying on warlike operations against the Regency of Tripoli, and any other of the Barbary Powers which might commit hostilities against the United States. Whereupon the President directed to be put in Commission, to be under the Command of Comm't S. Barron, the following Vessels, Viz:

President
Congress
Essex
Constellation
J. Adams — Store Ship, armed en Flute.

The President further directed that the United States' Vessels of War in the Mediterranean under Commodore Preble, consisting of,
WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS

**Constitution, Siren Brig, Argus Brig, Vixen Schooner, Nautilus Schooner, Enterprise Schooner,** should be under the Command of Commodore Samuel Barron.

On the 26 June 1804 the *John Adams* left the Capes and on the 5 July was followed by the Squadron which appeared off Tripoli the beginning of September. On the 10th Commodore Preble resigned to Com'\textsuperscript{s} Barron the Command of the joint Squadron and returned to the United States in the *John Adams*.

The Season being too far advanced for another attack on Tripoli the Squadron was detached different ways to protect our Commerce.

The Government having received information of the probable advantages of a co-operation with Hamet the Ex-Bashaw of Tripoli appointed William Eaton Esq\textsuperscript{r} Agent for the Barbary Powers, to be under the orders of Commodore Barron. M\textsuperscript{r} Eaton took passage for the Mediterranean on board the *President,* & in Nov\textsuperscript{r} Sailed for Alexandria in Egypt in search of Hamet, who had joined the fortunes of the Beys. Having proved successful in discovering & extricating the Ex-Bashaw from Egypt, M\textsuperscript{r} Eaton with Lt OBannon of the Marines, Mids\textsuperscript{r} Mann & Peck and some few other Americans, traversed the Deserts of Lybia and on 15 Ap\textsuperscript{r} (1805) arrived at Bomba a Town about 120 Miles to the Eastward of the East Cape of the Gulf of Sidra and there made a stand for the purpose of making arrangements with the Squadron and collecting the Adherents of Hamet. Having collected 500 Arabs, M\textsuperscript{r} Eaton with 10 Marines, a Company of Greek Christians, Lieu\textsuperscript{r} OBannon & Mids\textsuperscript{r} Mann advanced with Hamet and on 27 April 1805 attacked and took, in conjunction with the *Argus, Nautilus,* and *Hornet,* the Town of Derne in the Province of the same Name. In this action M\textsuperscript{r} Eaton was shot through the wrist, & Lt OBannon & M\textsuperscript{r} Mann planted the American Colours on the Walls. Jussuf the Reigning Bashaw of Tripoli having received Information of M\textsuperscript{r} Eaton's movements dispatched a force against him which arriving after the surrender of Derne, attacked & drove the Troops of Hamet posted before the place but were finally repulsed from works thrown up by the Americans. Several other Skirmishes took place alike unfortunate to the Tripolitans. M\textsuperscript{r} Eaton and his party were then preparing to advance to Bengazi, but the Bashaw alarmed at the ill fortune of his Arms, threatened by the Squadron in front, and dreading the progress of M\textsuperscript{r} Eaton, made overtures of peace through the Spanish Consul at Tripoli.

On the 22\textsuperscript{d} May 1805 Commodore Barron resigned to Cap\textsuperscript{r} John Rodgers the Command of the Squadron, his Ill Health having incapacitated him from the duties of the Station.

In May, the Government dispatched to the support of the Squadron, Gun Boats N\textsuperscript{o} 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, & 10, which were soon followed by the *Spitfire* and *Vengeance,* Bomb-Ketches.

The overtures of Peace having been received from the Bashaw of Tripoli, Consul General Lear was sent from Malta to Tripoli, to adjust the terms of pacification. After a short time spent in discussion, M\textsuperscript{r} Lear offered his ultimatum which was accepted by the Bashaw and on the 3\textsuperscript{r} June 1805, Peace was made and signed. The following are the preliminary articles,

I. There shall be a firm and lasting Peace upon Principles of reciprocal advantage.

II. The Exchange of Prisoners, man for man, and the payment of Sixty thousand dollars to Tripoli for the balance in their hands.
III. The evacuation of Derne by the Americans, and their using all means in their power to persuade Hamet to withdraw from the Territory of the Bashaw, in this case the Bashaw to give up the wife and Children of Hamet.

Signed by TOBIAS LEAR. —
& JUSSUF — BASHAW. —

These Articles being carried into effect, the Frigate President, Capt. Ja$n Barron, having Com$r Barron on board sailed for the United States and the Remainder of the Squadron in the Beg$ of July Rendez-voused at Syracuse under the command of Com$r John Rodgers.

[Résumé, presumably prepared in Navy Department about 1806 or 1807, concerning the U. S. Frigate President, 2 April 1804 to 22 September 1805.]

THE FRIGATE President:

Put in Commission ——— 2: April 1804.
Sailed from Washington ——— 25$ May "

" " Capes ——— 5$ July "
Arrived at Gibraltar ——— 12$ August "
Sailed from Gibraltar ——— 15$ " "
Arrived at Malta ——— 5 Sept" "


OFFICERS WHO RETURNED AS PASSENGERS IN THE President:

Com$r S. Barron
Capt Wn Bainbridge
LIEUT$n Jacob Jones
D. T. Patterson
Jn$ Biddle
Jn$ Gibbon
Ben: F. Read
Sloss H. Grenell
Tho$t O. Anderson
J. Blakeley

MARINE OFFICERS.

Capt Hall
LIEUT$n Greenleaf
Osborne
Howard.
PURSER Spence
BNS Gt Hodge
GUN R. Stephenson
S MR Jo Douglass
S MATES Cowdery & N Harwood
MID R Renshaw
W Cutbush
W Wormleyn
R Gamble
SMR M M. Dove
CARP Moore
GUNNER Prime.

[Résumé, presumably prepared in Navy Department about 1806 or 1807, concerning the U.S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U.S. Navy, commanding; 2 April 1804 to 9 November 1804.]

THE FRIGATE Congress:

Put in Commission 2: April 1804.
Sailed from Washington 21: May "
Arrived at Gibraltar 12: Aug" "1

Ordered by Commodore Barron to watch the conduct of the Ships of War of the Emperor of Morocco, and if appearances were not suspicious, to repair off the Coast of Tripoli. The Congress accordingly appeared before Salle and other Moorish Ports on the Ocean and not finding indications of hostility, returned to Gibraltar Bay.

Sailed from Gibraltar 2; Sep" Arrived at Syracuse ab' Sep' 18 — & repaired off the Coast of Tripoli. Relieved by the Constellation & repaired to Syracuse & there taken Command of by Capt Stephen Decatur Nov' 9, 1804. —

[Résumé, presumably prepared in Navy Department about 1806 or 1807, concerning the U.S. Frigate Essex, Captain James Barron, U.S. Navy, commanding; 2 April 1804 to 22 August 1805]

THE FRIGATE Essex —

Put in Commission 2: April 1804
Sailed from Washington 27: May "
Arrived at Gibraltar 13 Aug" "

Ordered by Commodore Barron to remain and watch the Conduct of the Vessels of War of the Emperor of Morocco. — Cai'diz Bay 19 Sep' — Tagus River 29th — Sailed ab' 18th Oct' arrived at Syracuse 30th Malta 7 Feb' 1805. Sailed from Syracuse for Venice 9 March. Trieste 20th — Sailed May 2d Malta 12th — Sailed 25th — off Tripoli to 11 June then at Syracuse. Sailed 13th — Tunis Bay 19th — Sailed 22d Syracuse 26th. July 2d M. Cmd' Ch Stewart took Command. Sailed for Tunis Bay in Company with the Squadron 14th — Malta 16th — Sailed 24th — Off Tunis Aug' 1. to 22d. During this interval the Bey of Tunis agreed to send an Ambassador to the United States. Aug' 22d M. C. Stewart exchanged Ships with Cap' H. G. Campbell of the Constellation.
THE FRIGATE Constellation —

Put in Commission — 2 April 1804
Sailed from Washington — 12 June
" " Capes — 5 July
Arrived at Gibraltar — 12 Aug
Sailed from Gibraltar — 15 "
Arrived at Malta — 5 Sept

Off Tripoli 28th. — At Malta ab 1 Oct Sent to Tunis Bay Latter part of Oct. Returned about 1 Dec Malta 7 Feb 1805. In Company with the Nautilus in vicinity of Tunis Bay between 7 Feb & latter part of same month. From 28 Feb to the beg April, off Tripoli. Returned to Syracuse middle of April to stop a Leak. Sailed May 10 — Malta 11th — Sailed 18th — Off Cape Bon 20th — Off Tunis 21st — Tunis Bay 22d Sailed 31st — Tripoli 5 June receiving a Part of the Crew of the late Frigate Philadelphia. — Derne 12th — for the purpose of bringing off the ExBashaw Hamet & Mr Eaton who had taken that place by Assault but who by the Treaty with Jussuf Bashaw were to abandon it. Sailed from Derne 14th — Syracuse 22d — During the time the Constellation went to Syracuse in Ap until 22d she made from 6 to 8 & 10 Inches water per hour. Sailed July 14th — Malta 16th — Sailed 23d — in company with the Squadron. Tunis Bay 30th — to August 22d — During this interval the Bey of Tunis agreed to send an Ambassador to U States to adjust all differences being compelled to this measure by the Squadron which blocked up the Bay. On 22d August Capt Campbell exchanged Commands with M. Cmdt Ch Stewart of the Essex. Sailed from Tunis Bay 23d Aug Malta 24 — Sailed 26th — 28th Ship made 2 feet water per hour. Off Pantelaria 30th — In sight of Alicant Sep 8 — Malaga for water 14th — Sailed 15 — Gibraltar Bay 17th — Sailed 21st — Batteries at Cabaretta Point fired at the Ship — Cape Henry Nov 9 — Off S Mary’s 10th Navy Yard Washington 29 Nov 1805

Laid up in Ordinary

THE FRIGATE John Adams —

Put in Commission — 8 March 1804 —
Sailed from Washington — 23 May "
" " Capes — 26 June "
Arrived at Gibraltar — 22 July "
" " Malta — 4 Aug and Off Tripoli 7th —


[NDA. Ships’ Service, 1801-1809.]
To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution Off Tripoli Septem' 10th 1804

Sir I am honored with a letter from the Secretary of the Navy dated the 22d May, notifying me that you have been sent into these seas to supersede me in the command of the U. S. Squadron — I have therefore to request your permission to return to the United States in such ship as you may think proper to allow me for that purpose —

The State & condition of this ship is such as to make it necessary that she should go into Port to be thoroughly recaulked & her rigging refitted — This ought to be done as soon as possible: in her present situation she ought not to be exposed to the hazard of a heavy gale of wind, which we have good reason soon to expect —

If not inconsistent with your plans of operation I wish your permission to go to Messina, Syracuse & Malta in her, to settle the accounts of the Squadron & deposit the military stores loaned by the Neapolitan Government — It will also be necessary that I visit Palermo & Naples in the Ship in which I return home to settle the accounts of the Squadron at those places —

If you will please to appoint an officer to command this Ship, the arrangements for delivering her up can be made either at Syracuse, Messina or Malta & in the mean time the necessary repairs can be made about the Hull & rigging — I wish you health, Success & Honor

& am with sentiments of Esteem & respect

Sir Your Most obed' Hb's Serv'

(Signed) EDWARD PREBLE

Commodore SAMUEL BARRON
Commander of &c

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

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d’Affaires, Tunis

Tunis Sep. 10th 1804 —

DEAR SIR, I had this pleasure on the 6th ult. enclosing a Duplicate of the 16th July, by a Spanish Vessel bearing my Passport, and presumed that they have come safe to hand. — All the Consuls here, have rec'd letters from Tripoli but myself; and am still ignorant whether my communication of the 23d June with enclosures was received: It is more than two months, since I have been favored with a line from Col. Lear.

Letters from America, give no intelligence, which can interest you; but refer me to others in the Squadron. — The movements of Europe, are still unknown to us; and can only repeat my best wishes for your health and tranquillity.

Sympathetic ink [Written in lime juice.]

Write me I pray you without delay; and if you have suffered any material change in your situation request “Your friend” N. to send me a Courier express. — I am still ignorant as to the decision of Gov’t with respect to yourselves. Letters from two or three Public Officers, imagine the war will be of some duration: I know not on what basis, their opinions are founded — if so, the arrangement already spoken of, should be immediately made — I conceived it as the most
necessary measure, that can be taken — all is quiet with me here — no news of, or from M't Russel — write me I pray you as speedily as possible, and still consider me,

Y't Sincere friend

G. D.

Capt. Wm BAINBRIDGE, Tripoli —

[NYHS. Geo. Davis LB, Vol. 1.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 10 September 1804

At 2 PM the U. S frigates President and Constellation arrived hove to and spoke Commodore Barron shortened sail to Keep Company found that we Could Spare the Commodore all Staysails studding sails and Royals at ½ past 9 filled away —

Light airs through the night from NE the Squadron in Company at 7 the Commod's made Sigl N° 571 wore and stood before the wind Cap't Hull went on board the Commodore and returned at 9 —

[NYHS photostat.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate Constitution, 10 September 1804

Comm. Barron arrived with the President and Constellation and took command.

[LC original.]

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

Moderate breezes from NbE.
In chase to the NNE of Tripoly — Tacking as necessary to chase to windward.

At 2 P. M. the Argus exchanged Signals with the chase —
At 4 P. M. joined company [with] the U. S. Ship President — Commodore S: Barron & the Constellation Cap't Campbell —
Commodore Preble hauled down his broad Pendant & waited on Commodore Barron —
Continued laying to till 7 P. M. when Comm't Preble came on board & filled with the Squadron to NWbW.

Sunset Moderate breezes from NNE Tripoly in Sight bearing SWbS\(\frac{1}{4}\) S. 5 leagues.

Moderate through the night during which we continued standing to NW & NWbN under easy sail
At 7 A. M. wore & brought to with the Squadron four or five leagues NWbN from Tripoly.
A[t] 8 A. M. Comm't Preble waited on Comm't Barron
Forenoon Moderate breezes veering between N N E & N N W, with cloudy overcast weather —
Continued laying by all forenoon, ships head N E. Tripoly in sight bearing S b E, 4 leagues.

Our Squadron now off Tripoly consists of the President, Constellation, Argus & Vixen —

[LC. EPP, Log Constitution, 1803–1804.]
Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 10 September 1804

At 5 this morning pleasant weather the Syren Nautalus and Enterprise in sight at Meridian moderate breezes & pleasant. at Midnight cloudy with a heavy sea —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

U. S. FRIGATE President
Off Tripoly — Septemb' 11th 1804

Sir, I cannot withhold my acquiescence to your wishes to return to America; — I have to lament the want of your aid on this station; but as there is an officer now here to fill up the vacancy & from some circumstances with which I have become acquainted since my arrival in the Mediterranean, I am persuaded your presence will be very acceptable to the Secretary of the Navy, there being at present but few officers of rank in America —

The Frigate John Adams Cap't Chauncey, as soon as she deposits her stores &c. &c. and is otherwise ready can accomodate you not only with your passage to America, but you will also please to use this ship for the purpose of conveying you to Palermo & Naples to settle the accounts of the Squadron whilst under your command.

The State & condition of the Constitution make it necessary that she should go immediately into port to refit — I conceive it Hazardous to risk a gale of wind with her & as the season is particularly dangerous you will do well to take the first opportunity of going to Port for this purpose after having called at Malta, Syracuse & Messina to settle your accounts, & deposit the stores loaned by the Neapolitan Government.

You will please to give the command of the ship to Cap't Stephen Decatur & direct him as soon as she is in readiness for sea to join the Squadron off Tripoly —

Wishing you a safe arrival after a pleasant passage to your country & friends, I remain with sentiments of respect & esteem

Sir Yr Mo Obvi Serv' (Signed) SAM'l BARRON

Commodore EDWARD PREBLE
U. S. Ship Constitution

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. Essex, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

Copy TANGIER 11 Sept' 1804 —

Dear Sir! You will receive by Lieut Woolsey a letter I had prepared before your boat came — I have now to Acknowledge your favour of this day, and altho' I cannot say the Services are really necessary longer on this station, still considering the uncertainty you will See by my letter of yesterday we are yet in, on the destination of the Empereours frigates, I think you will be of my opinion that it will be extremely proper to ascertain that before you leave us — I shall hope it may be speedily accomplished to satisfaction and then
you will be able to join the Commodore with the fullest confidence of that measure meeting his approbation — It cannot be long I should suppose ere we shall see one or more of the smaller vessels of the Squadron this way — if you get up before that happens it will be very prudent to take measures for its not being known either here or at Gibraltar.

Since I wrote you this morning I have been assured a person arrived on Saturday at Tetuan from the Empereur with One hundred & forty five Thousand dollars to be employed under the direction of Alcayde Hashash in the purchase of Naval stores for building & equiping Galleys and other Vessels of War. if this be true its a strong proof of a sudden determination to augment his Marine, but the whole of the plan has not yet been developed —

[Mrs. James S. Barron original.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 11 September 1804

This day Commences with light airs and pleasant at 2 P. M, hove too Commodore Barron with all the Captains of the Squadron came onboard at ½ past 2 they went on board the President set and took in sail Occas! Tacked when Necessary

At Midnight moderate and Pleasant At 11 AM sent the two 18 Pounders with their apparatus on board the President

At meridian Pleasant laying too Tripoli bearing SWbS

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Hareden, U. S. Navy on board U. S. Frigate Constitution, Tuesday, 11 September 1804

Light airs from NNE. Cruizing off Tripoly; the President, Constellation, Argus & Vixen in company.

Commrs Barron with the Captains of the Squadron visited the Constitution —

Wind light and variable from the Northward, all the afternoon —

At sun set Tripoly bore SW b S nearly 4 leagues. Night moderate & cloudy with light airs from N E b E. Sounded as necessary.

At 1 A. M. the Vixen parted company for Malta & Saragossa — She has orders for the John Adams the Syren, Enterprize & Nautilus to rejoin the Commodore.

As the wind was light she was in sight at day light. from which time till day light we had light airs or calms.

Employed setting up the Bobstays & staying the foremast.

Carpenters repairing the Boats — Sail Makers mending the Main Sail—

Noon light airs from WNW — Tripoli bears SWbS, 4 leagues, Squadron in company.

Surgeons report 15 sick & 7 conv*st —

Water now remaining 47 leaguers & 25 butts — 14,750 Gall* —

Ship's supposed draft is

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1 — 7 Difference

[LC. EPP, Log Constitution, 1803-1804.]
WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Navy, commanding Tuesday, 11 September 1804

At 6 this morning saw the Island of Malta bearing N by E. distance 8 or 9 Leagues — at Meridian Malta bore North 6. Leagues. the Schooner in sight from the mast head to Wind & & the Brig to Leward. at sunset the N E. point of Malta bore N Distance 5 or 6 leagues the S E. Point N. by W. ½ W. 4 or 5 leagues. the Island N W. by N ¾ N. distance 4 Leagues. —

NDA original Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 12 September 1804

This day Commences with light breezes and Clear Pleasant Weather at ½ past 3 the Commod made Sig No 571 made all sail by the wind 3 strange sail in sight two were brought too by the Commod at 4 he made Sig No 276 at ½ past we made Sig No 330 to the Commodore he made sig No 154 made sail in chase at 8 TK to the N & E the Chace in sight bearing NNE at ½ past 8 lost sight of her Tacked Occas set and took in sail as Necessary light winds inclinable to Calm through the Night supposed the chace to bear NE of us at ½ past 5 AM saw the Chace bearing north ends fresh breezes all drawing Sail set the [chase] bore North by Compass Hull down Fleet in Sight

[NDA photostat.]

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

Captured 2 Greek ships in sight of Tripoly for breach of blockade.

[LC original.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate Constitution, Wednesday, 12 September 1804

Moderate breezes from NbE, and pleasant-Cruizing in comp? with the Squadron 7 or 8 miles NNE from Tripoly — At 2 P. M. we gave chase to three strange sails in the ESE which were running along the Coast, in for Tripoly — Continued chasing them till 5½ P. M. when we shortened sail & boarded two of them — The third escaped by hauling on a wind to the NW — The Argus was ordered to chase her — These two vessels are under imperial colours loaded with wheat & we suppose them bound for Tripoly as we took them in sight of the town bearing W ¾ S — 4 leagues & about 5 miles distant from the Coast — Sent officers & men on board them with directions to proceed to Malta for adjudication — Rec’d 28 Greeks from one & 26 from the other — Both Ships are armed — On the close of the Evening the Argus was permitted by signal to part company & go in chase — Moderate breezes from NE & NbE till Midnight, from which time till day light calms or light baffling winds veering between NE & NNW — At 4½ A. M. being taken aback from the wind from NbW, the President & Constitution fell foul of each other — Lt Cha Gordon was at this time officer of the Watch — Before we got foul of each other or were taken aback we were heading NNE with the wind from NW — the President was standing to the West — The Constitution fell stem on the Presidents larboard bow — Our damages
are, The flying & standing Jib booms with the Sprit Sail yard carried away — Our cutwater within the two principal bobstays broken entirely off & our figure head broken to pieces — Employed all forenoon in bridling the Bowsprit into the Hawse holes with a 9 & an 8 Inch: Hawser — cut an additional hole in the cutwater for another bobstay — The President being full & continuing her head way, paid the Constitution off while we were aback & unable to brace about, which brought the two ships alongside each other. Our sheet anchor & her spare anchor hooked each other — It was a fortunate circumstance for the President that the anchors hung the ships otherwise she must have lost her lower yards — Her sails being full & ours a back it was impossible to clear the ships & save the lower yards by any other method than running a Spring Hawser from her lee bow to our quarter deck capstern which we hove taut, & a bow fast from ship to ship — After the Head way became sufficient to give effect to the rudder we cast off the Bow fast & cleared without farther damage —

The Argus & her chase were in sight from the Mast head all forenoon — The Constellation was ordered p'r signal to chase and keep the Argus in sight —

Forenoon — fresh breezes from NNW.

Noon the land to the E. of Tripoly in sight from the Mast head, bearing S. nearly 8 Leagues — Tripoly we suppose to bear S W 12 Leagues.

The President & two Greek prizes in company — The Constellation & Argus in sight from the Top in chase to the Westward.

Latitude observed 33° 19' N.

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

Extract from log, presumably of U. S. Frigate Constitution, Wednesday, 12 September 1804

Moderate breezes from N b E with pleasant weather — We are cruising off Tripoli — The President, Constellation and Argus in company — 7 or 8 miles N E b N from Tripoli — At 2 P M gave chase to three strange sail in the E S E which were running along the Shore in for Tripoli — Continued the chase till 5 P M when we shortened sail & boarded two of them — The third escaped by hauling on a wind to the N W — The Argus was ordered to chase her. These two Ships are under Greek colours — loaded with wheat — and we suppose them bound for Tripoli as we captured them in sight of Tripoli bearing W ½ S — 4 leagues and at about five miles distance from the nearest part of the coast. Sent Officers & men on board them with directions to proceed to Malta for adjudication — Receiv'd 28 Greeks from the one & 26 from the other — Both Ships are armed — In the close of the evening the Argus was permitted by signal to part company and go in chase Moderate breezes from N E & N E b E till 12 (midnight) from which time till Day light calms or light baffling winds veering between N E and N N W — The Argus & her chase in sight from the Mast head all forenoon the Constellation was ordered p'r signal to chase & keep the Argus in sight — Forenoon — fresh breezes from N N W — Noon — the land to the Eastward of Tripoli in sight from Mast head bore South nearly eight leagues

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]
Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 12 September 1804

At 4. this morning a heavy Squall and Rain from the Westw'd & with a great deal of thunder and lightning at 5 A. M. the Brig Syren and Nautalus in sight. —

this evening at Sunset discovered Mount Etna 90 Miles distance —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To John Russell, Weaver, Reading, Berks County, Pa., from Charles W. Goldsborough, Chief Clerk of the Navy Department

NAV DEP't Sep't 18th 1804.

Your letter dated the 8th inst has been Received — This Department has not the settlement of prize accounts with the Captors — In the case of the [Austrian] Polacre Paulina, I believe the Vessel has never been adjudicated, I understand that no distribution of prize money has been made — and it is doubtful whether the Captors will ever receive any — Or will ever be entitled to Receive any —

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

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

U STATES SHIP President OFF TRIPOLI.

Sep 13th 1804 —

Sir You will be pleased to take into either the Port of Malta or Syracuse, the two Greek Vessels said to be loaded with wheat, & intercepted by the Squadron in the Attempt to enter the Blockaded Port of Tripoli — From the Confession of the Masters of those Vessels, they had a previous Knowledge of the Port being in a State of Blockade & there is little doubt, in my Mind, that they are good Prizes. The third Vessel, which made off, & in chase which, the Constellation, & Argus, now are engaged, will if taken, be sent to the Port into which you may have conducted the other two, You will please to examine those Vessels, & dispose of them as circumstances may induce you, I shall remain before Tripoly until a Sufficient Number of Vessels arrive, to keep up the Blockade & enable me to go to Syracuse, in the mean time I Submit entirely to your discretion the arrangem' respecting the Prizes —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig Argus, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP President

Off Tripoli September 13th 1804 —

Sir The state and condition of the Argus, under your Command, requiring that she should go into port for the purpose of refitting & I request you to proceed with all practicable expedition to Malta or Syracuse, and there refit your Vessel, which being compleated, you will take on board two Months provisions & Water & proceed for the Port of Alexandria and if at that Port or Smyrna, you find any American Vessels you will give them convoy as far as Malta, and immediately after join the Squadron off this place You will take under your care the Ship St Michael intercepted by
the Squadron in the attempt to enter the blockaded port of Tripoli. You will find Commodore Preble at Malta, or Syracuse, with two other Ships captured in making the same attempt. You will receive his orders with respect to the disposition of the S* Michael, cause all her papers to be delivered him, and furnish him with all the information you may be able to gain from her crew &* on your passage you will inform the Commanders of the Vessels you may find at Syracuse that I shall be off Tripoli

Very respectfully I am Sir

Y: Otb† Serv†

(Signed) SAMUEL BARRON —

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 3, 1805.]

[Enclosure]

Verbal orders of Commodore Barron to Captain Hull of the U States brig Argus, in presence of the undersigned, on board the President, Sep. 15. 1804.

Sir, the written orders, I here hand you, to proceed to the port of Alexandria or Smyrna for the purpose of convoying to Malta any vessels you may find there, are intended to disguise the real object of your expedition; which is to proceed with M* Eaton to Alexandria in search of Homet Bashaw, the rival brother and legitimate sovereign of the reigning Bashaw of Tripoli; and to convey him and his suit[e] to Derne or such other place on the coast as may be determined the most proper for co-operating with the naval force under my command against the common enemy: or, if more agreeable to him, to bring him to me before Tripoli —

Should Homet Bashaw not be found at Alexandria, you have the discretion to proceed to any other place for him where the safety of your ship can be, in your opinion, relied upon.

The Bashaw may be assured of the support of my squadron at Bengazi or Derne; where you are at liberty to put in, if required, and if it can be done without too great risque. And you may assure him also that I will take the most effectual measures with the forces under my Command for co-operating with him against the usurper, his brother; and for re-establishing him in the regency of Tripoli. Arrangements to this effect with him are confided to the discretion with which M* Eaton is vested by the Government

Attest  |  ISAAC HULL

[William Eaton.

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 20.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 13 September 1804

still in chace Tacked Occasionally and took in and set sail when Necessary At 4 PM the Constellation by a favourable Squall gained our wake at 6 fired a Gun at the Chace she bore away for the Constellation at 7 Spoke the Chace a Polacre Ship from Constantinople bound to Malaga the Constellation sent Officers and men on board of her at 9 bore away for the Squadron

[NDA photostat.]
Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate Constitution, Thursday, 13 September 1804

Fresh breezes from the North. Cruising in company with the
President — The land to the East of Tripoly in sight from the
Mast head, bearing S. by compass nearly 30 miles —
Constellation & Argus in sight from the Mast head in pursuit of their
chase to the W S W.

At 1 P. M. tacked to the N E & parted company with the Constella-
tion & Argus, & at 5 P.M. tacked to WNW, in expectation of falling in
with them, but on the close of the Evening they were not in Sight.

Our two Greek prizes were some ways to leeward. We ran down for
them to reach our wake.

Moderate breezes during night veering between N E & NbW.
Made & shortened sail as necessary to follow the Commodore &
keep the prizes in company.

From day light till noon light airs or calms.
At 8 A. M. we were taken aback. Winds from NNW Filled to the
Eastw.

At 9 A. M. Commr Preble waited on Commr Barron
Ships company employed this forenoon washing their cloaths &
cleaning between decks.

Noon light airs from NW — Tripoly Supposed to bear (variation
corrected) S\textsuperscript{4} W distance 45 miles —
Latitude observed 33° 38’ N.

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

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 13 September 1804

We are this morning out of sight of land not a breath of Air. at 11.
discovered a strange sail on the Larb bow. fired a Gun as a signal to
speak her. We are now on an allowance of Water. of one quart a day.
at Meridian Schooner Nautalus in sight. still calm —
at about 5 P M. sent our barge on board the Strange Sail. to know
whether they could supply us with water she proved to be a Neapolitan
prise to the Tunisans. they were out of both water & provisions
our barge returned with the Captain of her who shewed Capt.
Chauncey his papers. We sent him on board of his own ship again &
gave him a Bll of Bread —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]


(Extract)

Off Tripoli 14th September 1804

DEAR SIR I expect to have the pleasure of seeing you before you sail for America, if not I can only wish you a pleasant Passage and
happy sight of your Friends &c

Commodore Preble will go home in your ship and having Affairs to
arrange before he leaves the Mediterranean a Publick Nature you
will of Course receive his Orders

[NDA. MC LB, 1804-5.]
To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES FRIGATE Congress
Algiers Bay, Sept 14, 1804

DEAR SIR I have sent a Boat on shore merely to Enquire how you are, & to be inform'd whether you have any communications to make — I have no news worth communicating, further than Lieut Hooper will be able to give you — The three Letters which accompany this, was handed me by Mr & Mrs Law[?], who were well, as were the rest of your friends in the neighbourhood of Washington. — Pray present my best respects to Mrs Lear & believe me

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, Book A, 1804-1805.]

To U. S. Consul, Salonica, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

Algiers Sept 14th 1804

SIR This will be handed to you by Sidi Hagi Hassien, the Vickel, or Agent of his Excellency the Dey of Algiers, who is sent to Salonique, on the business of his Master. — Should he need any assistance you can give him in the prosecution of His business, or in Chartering a Vessel, if he should have need of one one, I am persuad'd you will do it, when I assure you that I have experience'd such marks of attention & friendship from his Excellency the Dey, towards the United States of America, since my residence here, as will fully warrant this mark of Civility and regard from the agent of Our Nation.

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

To N. Busnah, Algiers, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

Algiers Sept 14th 1804

SIR I have been honored with your letter of this date requesting that I would at the request of his Excellency the Dey give a letter to the American Consul at Salonique in favor of Sidi Hagi Hassien, who is to go thither as the Vickel of His Excellency.

I do not know whether there is an American Consul at that place, or not. If there should be One there, the enclosed letter will meet due attention.

Please to present my best respects to His Excellency the Dey, and assure him of the pleasure I shall always take in proving the friendship of my Nation towards him when it is in my power.

Mr Naf tale Busnah

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

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 14 September 1804

[Off Tripoli] At at 10 hove too alongside the Commodore at ½ past Capt Hull went on board of him At 11 made Sigl N° 1230 to the Commodore —

[NDA photostat.]
To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Richard O'Brien

MALTA Sept. The 14th 1804 —

Dr. Sir — On the 3rd, 7th, and 23rd of August and 2nd Inst. The Sea forces of the U States before Tripoli — attacked The Castles Gunboats and Corsairs of that City. — in these 4 attacks The U States has lost. Captain Somers, Lieut. Decator Caldwell and Wadsworth and Mt. Dorsey and Israel Midshipmen, with about 45 men Killed wounded, and blown up —

The 6 Gunboats and 2 bombards — with The Siren Enterprize Scourge Nautilus — and John Adams — left — the Coast of tripoli — The 7th Inst. destined for Syracousa —

The President and Constellation arrived here the 5th Inst. and on the 7th Commodore Barron Sailed and next morning — Cap. Campbell — They arrived off Tripoli on the 9th and This morning arrived here. The Vixen Cap. Smith, in 3 days from the fleet before tripoli — he left there. The President Constitution Constellation and Argus — it is Considered if the weather will remain fine that the frigates will attack tripoli —

The Season is past for Gunboats to remain on That station no doubt but Tripoli must have Suffered Very much. but The force has been inadequate — to reduce it to American terms. and obtain the freedom of our fellow Citizens. I left the fleet. the 22nd ult. and expect with my family to return to The U States in The John Adams.


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

Moderate breezes from the Northward — Cruizing in company with the President, 15 leagues N 1/2 E from Tripoly with the two Greek prizes in company —

This afternoon we were a little alarmed by two water spouts passing to leeward of us — The[y] broke within two miles from us — At 3 P. M. parted company with the President. She returns to the rendezvous off Tripoly — The Constitution is now bound to Malta. — [with the two Greek prizes] — Cap. Hull took passage in the President in order to join the Argus — On the afternoon of Wednesday last when the Squadron gave chase to E b S, Commr Barron, Cap. Campbell & Cap. Hull were on board the Constitution — Observing the chase to be three Polacca Ships, Merchantmen, The Argus was ordered p signal to haul up for one of them which was considerably to windward, while the other two were brought to by the Constitution, President & Constellation — At Sun set the same evening Comm'r Barron & Cap. Campbell joined their respective ships & in the Urgency of the Constitution following the Argus, time would not permit a boat to attend for the following officers belonging to the Constitution, then on a visit to the Constitution — viz'Lieut. Tarbell, M't Morris Purser, Doct'l Wells & M't Greenleaf Lieut of Marines — Night Moderate —

The Constitution, Argus & her chase in sight next morning and untill towards noon — I mention these particulars as Possibly they may have relation to future claims —

After parting company with the President we had cloudy overcast weather all the afternoon, till towards evening when we had pleasant weather —
At 6 P. M. we brought to, & sent two marines on board of each prize — The 52 Greeks which we have on board have the liberty of the ship in the day time & are under guard during the night —

From Sundown till day light, light breezes & variable from the Northward & from day light till noon the like wind & weather from the South —

The two Prizes sail well on a Wind & keep company going large with little difference in sail —

Doctor Marshall, late of the Scourge now on board this ship, reports 17 Sick & 9 Conv. —

This forenoon, saw two water spouts at a great distance —

Noon light breezes from S S E with cloudy, overcast weather to the Eastward —

We are now on our passage from Tripoly to Malta, which we suppose to bear nearly N E 102 miles — The two Prizes in company.

Latitude observed 34° 14' N.

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

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 14 September 1804

We are this morning in sight of Sicily. a light breeze and fair. we are this day reduced to one quart of Water per man for 24 hours. at half past 5 this morning saw the land ahead at ½ past six saw the Nautilus on our weather quarter at 10 saw a strange sail two points on our Weather Bow. squally with rain attended with thunder & Lightning. at 2 Oclock the Nautilus Boat came along side for water — We could not supply them at 3 P M saw four strange sail in sight at 6 the North part of Cape Passero bore N W ½ W and North ½ East.

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To Timothy Mountford, Algiers, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

ALGIERS Sept 15th 1804

Dear Sir As I am about to leave Algiers, for a short time, to endeavour to negotiate a Peace with the Bashaw of Tripoli, in compliance with the Orders of my Gov't I shall leave in your charge all my Property, in Algiers. I shall retain at the Garden, Sidi Alli, and Francisco. Segn't Juan will remain there also, & one or two Carbiles to take care of the horses & mules & work the Garden I have settled all my acct's to this time, so that you will only have to attend to such as may occur, till my return, to defray which after the money you have may be exhausted, you will be furnished by Mr D. C. Bacri. Should a Ship arrive from the U. States, with the annuity for this Regency, before my return, you will attend to the delivery of the Cargo &c but will make no settlement therefor, by any means untill my return: The Documents left with you, will point out the usual mode of receiving the Cargoes sent as annuities, and the Sweedish Consul, Mr Norderling, will be so good as to give you advice & information, on this subject, as well as on any others, when you may need it

I leave three Consular & Six Prize Certificates signed in Blank, in case any sh'd be wanted for the Cruizers, during my absence
You will be pleased to write to me, by any conveyance, which may offer, for Malta; if there should be no direct, it w'd be best to write by the way of Tunis. In case of very urgent necessity you may dispatch a Courier extraordinary, to Tunis with letters for me, writing to our Chargé des Affaires, the case, & desiring them to be forwarded, should letters arrive for me, you may open them, & from their Contents, judge if any thing is to be done immediately, in consequence of them.

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

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

No 82. — Duplicate. — Tangier 15th Sept 1804. —

SIR, No 81 conveyed copy of my correspondence with Sidy Muhammad Selawy last Month. — I have not yet received any answer to my Letter of the 26th, but my Friend at Rhabat advises me he had read and explained it to him on the 2d Instant. — Captain Rodgers went off Salle and at his return here on the 27th Ult. acquainted me the Emperour's three Ships had retired within the Bar of that River. — As I knew that could not be done at this dry season of the year, until a great part of their Artillery and Stores had been taken out, I was induced to believe it had been determined they should be laid up. — On this principle I did not see cause to offer any objection to the strong desire Captain Rodgers expressed of joining Commodore Barron.

By many subsequent advices it however appears the Ships did not go within the Bar at any time since they assembled in Sallé Road, and that they put to Sea on the 30th August. — Captain Rodgers mistake must have proceeded from his not being acquainted with the distance the Barrs lay from the apparent entrance of the River. — The destination of these Ships is not certainly known, but generally supposed to be for Lisbon, and that the two largest are to be Coppered and new rig'd there.

On Tuesday last the Essex arrived here from Gibraltar. Captain [James] Barron also expressed a wish to go to the Commodore, under an Idea that his Services were no longer necessary here. — As we had no certainty of the destination of the Frigates, I gave it as my opinion it would be proper to ascertain that before he left us, and I presume he is gone to the Westward in that view. — I cannot but express my regret that other services should seem to these Gentlemen so urgent as to enduce this Station being left without any Vessel of War, since by experience we have so fully seen the advantages arise from a contrary conduct.

I have now to advise that a sum of money in Spanish Gold said to be about One hundred and forty thousand dollars arrived here this morning, appropriated by Muley Soliman for encreasing his Marine. — It goes to Lisbon in a Portuguese Brig of War, as is pretended for purchase of Naval and Ordnance Stores and Building Materials for Sea Service.

This measure so unexpected and unprecedented in this Country to such an extent, must proceed from some imperious motive. — In my opinion the report of this money being destined for the purpose mentioned, merits no sort of attention; besides many other arguments might be offered for this being the case, it is notorious Muley Soliman
has no Arsenals or Magazines for the deposit of such a quantity of Stores. — I have not a doubt but we shall find the chief object in view, is the purchase of Armed Vessels, with probably some essential articles of Naval and Ordnance Stores; particularly Gun Powder; of which the Emperour has but a very slender stock at this time. — I have requested Consul Jarvis to be watchful on their operations at Lisbon and to give you and Commodore Barron the earliest intelligence thereof.

The two Galleys of Tetuan have layen in this Mole perfectly inactive for these last fifteen days. — during that time we have had a fresh Gale at East, with very little intermission. —


To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, U. S. Frigate Constitution, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

U STATES SHIP President off Tripoly 15 Sept' 1804
Sir Captain Hull has in charge the Russian Ship S[i] M[i]chael, intercepted in the attempt to Enter Tripoly, I have directed him to take your orders as to the Disposition of the S[ ] Vessel, as her Case Seems exactly to resemble that of the two others, which you carried under your Charge to Malta I presume your determination with respect to the one, will equally Affect the whole three.

1 Submit, (as in the Case of the other two) this Vessels Eimate &c. entirely to your discretion, I presume that if they can not prove, that they were bound to some other Port, The Situation, & course we found them Steering, will admit of no doubt, that they were bound directly to Tripoly —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 15 September 1804

took 26 men from the Poleacre Prize and put her in Charge of Lieu[ ] Morris M'[ ] Mann & 9 men and left 6 of her men on board of her received from the Constellation 350 Gallons of Water and 8 Sick men came on board from her and four from the President At 3/4 past 4 Cap'[ ] Hull and M'[ ] Eaton came on board

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Saturday, 15 September 1804

Went on board the brig Argus for Malta, at 8 o'clock, A. M.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm'[ ] E 14.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 15 September 1804

P. M commences with fresh breezes and Clear weather Standing in for the Bay of Algiers

At 3 shortened sail and hove too O[ ] the town of Algiers 3/4 past 3 M'[ ] Lear the consul Came a long side

At 4 shortened sail and came too with The larb[ ] bower in 25 fathoms water Algier light house bearing N W B W distance 2½ miles Cape Matifor E B N distance 6 or 7 miles
At 4 the fort fired a salute of 21 guns which we answered with the same number. At 5 The Consul left the ship.
A M at 7 Capt. Rodgers went on shore and was saluted with 5 guns from the battery.
At Meridan light Breezes and pleasant weather.

[USNA.]

Extract from Commonplace Book by William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Saturday, 15 September 1804

Went on board the brig Argus, Captain Isaac Hull, for Alexandria.

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 207, Commonplace Book.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate Constitution, Saturday, 15 September 1804

Moderate breezes from the Westward with cloudy overcast weather — We are on our passage from Tripoly to Malta.

By two, P. M. the weather to the Eastward had the appearance of a heavy gale. We double reefed the Top sails & single reefed the Courses —

At this time our prizes were some distance astern. We continued under our Topsails till 5 P. M. at which time they came up: we then set the foresail, Jib & sparker.

By 5 P. M. the wind had shifted by degrees from WSW to SE, with pleasant weather, which continued till 12 Midnight, when the weather became cloudy with Lightning to the NNE.

In third reef in the Topsails & stowed the Jib.

Towards daylight judging the ship to be within 9 or ten Leagues of Malta, in order to prevent Surprize by currents, we sounded several times — No bottom with 80 fath.

Continued under low sail till day light when we saw the SW part of Malta bearing NNE, 10 Leagues — Moderate with overcast weather & frequent thunder and lightning in the N E, all forenoon.

Noon — We are situated 10 miles SW ¼ W, from the SE extreme of Malta & nearly 7 miles from the land — The West extreme of Gozo bearing N ½ W, in sight from deck —

At This Time, as well as at several other times, we have found no material currents in crossing between Tripoly & Malta —

The prevailing winds off Tripoly during the besieging of that Town, from the 28th of July to the 13th Sepemt were variable between NNE and SE, with frequent changes to the NNW. We left the President Constellation & Argus, cruising off Tripoly.

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

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 15 September 1804

At day light this morning saw the Syren & Nautilus at 8 Oclock we were beating round Cape Mourde Pore at 12 Cape Moren De Pore bore N E by N Distance about 3 Leagues —

at half past three 3. we made the mouth of Harbour of Syracuse. cast off[?] the gun boats oposite the light house. at 6. Oclock came to Anchor in the Harbour of Syracuse the light house bore S E distant
mile — It may very Justly [be] said what a falling off in this place from its once anciant Grandure

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

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, Saturday, 15 September 1804

(Standing in for the harbour of Syracuse.) Light airs & pleasant plying to wind ward under easy sail the *John Adams* & a Schooner in sight in tacking got gun boat N° 3 foul of us & stove our cutter over the stern. at ½ past 6 cape Passarro bore N by W. cape Roque N by E. set royals stay sails &c. &c. —

Midnight gentle breezes & pleasant. —

Meridian moderate & clear supplied the gun boats astern

Latt Obs 36° 54’ N.

At ½ past 1 P. M set royals & steering sails a fine breeze from the Southw’ standing for the harbour of Syracuse. At 6 came too in 7 fathoms water furl’d all sail. found the *Enterprize, Nautilus; Scourge*, Bombards & gun boats at anchor. At 7 hoisted out the launch & barge —

Midnight light airs & cloudy Wind E by N

(NB, those remarks include 36 hours)

[NDA.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP *John Adams*

Syracuse 16th September 1804

Sir I had the honor of writing you on the 5th of last Month from Malta, at which Time I was preparing to leave that place to join the Commodore off Tripoli, which I did on the 7th and received his Orders (a Copy of which I enclose you N° 1 [see 8 August 1804]) to continue on that Station untill his further Orders; where I remained variously employed untill the 6th Ins when I received the Commodore’s further Instructions (a Copy of which I also have the Honor of enclosing you N° 2 [see 5 September 1804]) to proceed to Malta and Syracuse to deliver my Stores, and from thence to the United States, touching at the Different Ports on the North Side of the Miditerranean to afford Convoy.

You will perceive by my Instructions that I was first to go to Malta, but the Commodore gave me verbal Orders afterwards to proceed with the Gun Boats that I had in tow to this Place, in Company with the *Syren, Nautilus* and *Enterprize*, where we all arrived Yesterday Evening with all the Gun Boats and Bombards on a very short Allowance of Water — I had but 60 Gallons on board, and some of the other Vessels much less. I am now preparing to discharge one half of the stores agreeable to Orders, with the other Half I shall proceed to Malta and deliver to Mr Higgins after which I shall Ballast the Ship and Use every Exertion to carry into Effect the other Parts of my Instructions — I shall necessarily be detained here 12 or 15 Days to get the Ship in a Situation to proceed down the Mediterranean; for she is now a mere Wreck, not having been in port long enough to do any thing to her since I left the Eastern Branch. Mr Dyson informs me that Commodore Barron, with two Ships arrived at, and sailed from Malta for the Coast of Tripoli on the 7th Instant.
and that the other Ship was hourly expected from Gibraltar to join them.

I shall be silent as to our proceedings off Tripoli for I presume that the Commodore has detailed them fully in his Dispatches —

[NDARMCMB, 1804-5.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 16 September 1804

[At Single Anchor in Bay of Algiers] At 10 [A M] rec'd on board 3 Bullocks 13 sheep And a quantity of Vegetables as a present From the Dey 35 Sick

[USNA.]

Extract from Commonplace Book by William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Sunday, 16 September 1804

Sunday — Made Malta — Arrived next day —

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 207, Commonplace Book.]

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

Cloudy overcast weather with frequent squalls from the N E, accompanied with thunder lightning & rain. We are now 9 or 10 miles SW, from the SE extreme of [sic] under double reefed topsails, with our two prizes in company —

By 3 P. M. the weather had cleared away, when the Wind Shifted to E S E — Out all reefs except one in each topsail in order to work round the SE end & proceed to Malta — From a watch tower standing on the very extreme of this part of Malta, SE by compass, there runs out a dangerous shoal, a mile & a half from shore. Between 6 & 9 P. M. we made several short boards in order to pass it —

Wind, moderate through the night from ESE & SE with constant lightning in the NE.

By 5 A. M. we rounded the Island & Steered NW, for the harbour of Vilette which was then in sight —

At 6 A. M. we were taken aback by a squall from the NNW, which shifted immediately to the NE. We close reefed the topsails, single reefed the courses and sent down top gall" yards. —

By 8 A. M. the weather cleared up, when we saw the Harbour of Vilette bearing WbN, 5 or 6 miles. Made sail, Bitted a range on the two Bowers, unstowed them & ran in for the Harbour —

At ½ pas 10 A. M, we came to with the best bower in the outer harbour in Vilette —

Veered to a third of a cable & furled sails — The two prizes in company

Wind N E. — Found here the U. S. Schooner Vixen

[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, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 16 September 1804

(Syracuse Harbour) Commences with heavy squalls of wind & rain, rec'd fresh provisions for the Crew. launch employ'd watering,
Crew employ'd braking out hold &c. At 10 sent 3 six pounders on board the *Nautilus*—

Meridian light airs & cloudy sent the launch on shore with a raft of empty water casks loos'd all sails to dry—

Midnight light winds & variable—

[NDA.]

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

*Constitution* — *Malta Harbour*

*Septem* 17th 1804

Sir The Public business requires my going to Sicily for a few days. You will during my absence make use of every exertion to equip the *Constitution* for Sea: Her decks are all to be recaulked; the standing rigging overhauled & tarred: Such parts of the rigging as are unfit for service, you will replace with new; the main mast is to be examined & fished with two long fishes of 30 or 40 feet each. The Bowsprit stripped and Examined, and, if not sprung, the fishes replaced & the Bowsprit secured & rigged again Sails are to be examined & repaired; Boats repaired; the Hull of the ship outside & inside, Masts, Spars & boats painted — Make your requisitions on Mr. Higgins for what may be necessary — You will be careful to keep good order and discipline on board, and to guard against fire as much as possible. You are on no pretence to suffer a breach of Quarantine by any person belonging to the ship—

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

To Captain Samuel Barron, U.S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U.S. Navy

*Constitution* — *Malta Harbour*

*Septem* 17th 1804

Harbour of Malta

Sir Presuming that the good of the Service will be promoted by preparing the *Constitution* for sea without loss of time I have thought it advisable immediately to commence her repairs in this port, in order that she may be completed for sea as soon as possible: and have taken passage to Syracuse in the *Argus* — I shall settle my accounts at that place and return to Malta in 10 or 12 days, or as soon after that time as the *John Adams* or any other Vessel is ready to come over — I have left the charge of the ship to Lieu‡ Gordon who is an active good Officer, and shall hurry Cap‡ Decatur over as Soon as possible —

(Signed) EDWARD PREBLE

Comm‡ Sam‡ Barron

Commander in chief of the U. Squadron

in the Mediterranean

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U.S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U.S. Navy

*Constitution* — *Malta Harbour*

*Septem* 17th 1804

Sir I wrote you the 17th Ins‡, the day the *Argus* arrived with the Prize, Since which it has been stormy weather — The *Nautilus* arrived this morning in 7 hours from Syracuse, and sails tomorrow to join you with a store ship loaded with water — Cap‡ Dent informs me that the Vessels with the Gun boats in tow had a passage of 11
days to Syracuse and were much distressed for water: So long a passage will account for their not having joined you before this — You will learn from Cap't Dent when to expect the Syren & Enterprize — The Argus sails tomorrow for Syracuse —

I enclose you copy of a certificate of a robbery committed on an American vessel by a Tunisian Corsair: but the certificate which the Barbarian required from the American is, I think proof positive that they are not at war with us. The story of an American vessel having been captured, I do not believe —

The Constitution is stripped and every exertion making to have her ready for service as soon as possible — Thirty one caulkers are constantly at work on board although we are still in quarantine —. Will it not be well to visit the Bey of Tunis soon? He requires good looking after — I enclose you copy of a letter from the Governor of Syracuse; and am sorry to learn from others as well as him that great irregularities have been committed by some of our officers, for which, I hope, they may suffer severely — I suspect you will find it necessary to make an example, & the sooner the better — If you can make it convenient to visit Syracuse, I hope to have the pleasure of meeting you there before I return to this place —

Tomorrow an examination of the Captains & Crews of the three Greeks commences before the court of Vice Admiralty at Malta — I hope they may prove good Prizes — I shall not however release them or dispose of them in any way until I hear from you — I have employed a person to Translate the papers found on board them: when finished, we shall be able to judge of the property & destination —

I have heard nothing from Gibraltar or the Frigates since you left there —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Sir Alexander John Ball, British Civil Commissioner for the Islands of Malta and Gozo, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution, Malta Harbour
Sept' 17th 1804.

Sir — I have the Honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency’s very obliging letter of the 30th Ult. and take this opportunity to assure you that the very polite and friendly attention I have been honoured with by the civil & military departments of the Island of Malta has made an indelible impression on my mind —

I regret that I am at present deprived of personally paying my respects on shore; but hope a voyage to Sicily will soon afford me that pleasure.

Cap't Decatur takes the Constitution & I return to the U. States with Cap't Chauncy in the John Adams. It will afford me the highest degree of satisfaction to have it in my power to render your Excellency acceptable services in that Country.

I enclose for your Excellency’s perusal an answer to the memorial of Gaetano Schembri respecting the detention of vessels in which he was concerned — You will oblige me by directing it to be delivered to him.

His Excellency Sir Alexander Ball Bart
His Britannick Majesty’s Civil Commissioner for the Islands of Malta & Gozo

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]
Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Monday, 17 September 1804

[On board U. S. Brig Argus.] At midnight arrived at Malta. Found the Constitution there.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm E 14.]

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Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 17 September 1804

[Bay of Algiers] ½ past 3 [PM] Mr Lear the consul and his Lady came on board
At 4 weigh & made sail ½ past 7 Calm. let go a Kedge anchor and shortened Sail
A, M. — at 3 light airs from the South Weigh the Kedge and made sail
At 11 Cape Coxine bore W S W Algiers light House S W ½ S distance 4 leagues Cape Matafor S ¾ E distance 2 leagues — 33 Sick
Latitude Observed 36° 57' N.

[USNA.]

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Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate Constitution, Monday, 17 September 1804

Moderate breezes from E N E. We are at single anchor in the outer harbour of Malta. At ½ past noon, the health boat from the Pratique office came alongside — We have a number of Tripoline prisoners on board — Hoisted a yellow flag as a signal of Quarantine.

At 1 P. M. out all boats & made the necessary arrangements for warping the ship into the inner harbour — Employed in this work till 9 P. M.

Night moderate with rain —
A. M. Employed mooring ship. Moored in the inner harbour in 8 fath each way — The best bower S S E; the small bower NNW — We are now situated a cable & a half distance from the shore, N & S, and completely land locked on every point of the compass except N E b E —

This forenoon the Commodore went on shore at the quarantine ground.
At noon loosed sails to dry.
Winds moderate from S E b E. We received fresh beef and vegetables for the ships company.

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

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[Syracuse Harbor] We this day commenced discharging our Cargo. We sent on shore the 4 Tripolila Prisoners to the Castle —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

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To Secretary of the Navy from William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies

MALTA Sep. 18. 1804.

SIR, (Go to Egypt for Hamet Bashaw) Exhibit A is an expression of my opinion of the probable advantages of co-operating with Hamet
Bashaw, delivered Commodore Barron at sea on the 21. Aug. & contrast — B. additional observations on the same subject, after an interview with M't O'Brien at Malta, on the 8. Sep. — C [See letter of 13 September 1804, to Master Commandant Hull from Commodore Barron]. & D [See enclosure of Exhibit C (of 13 September) dated 15 September 1804.], the result of deliberations after having advised with and consulted Commodore Preble before Tripoli —

(Porcile released by the Government. Why? —) Commodore Barron declares he does not consider any construction of the President’s instructions will justify him in furnishing cash, arms and ammunition to Hamet Bashaw — I hoped, in some measure to remedy this inconvenience by applying to that use cash which I expected to realize on a claim I have against the Chevalier Antonio Porcile of Sardinia for payments made as his surety, at Tunis, some years ago on account of cash borrowed by him for the purpose of ransoming his daughter Anna Maria Porcile — But I am astonished to learn, by the tenor of his letter to the President, that he considers himself released from this debt by an act of the Government of the United States — This conclusion of his is, to me, altogether enigmatical; but I presume it a misconstruction on his part of some instructions, unknown to me, communicated to my successor at Tunis touching the release of the chevalier’s daughter from detention on account of his obligations — However the fact may be, it has disappointed my last resort for the means of assisting the operations of the plan in which I am at length formally engaged — I am therefore compelled to draw on the Navy department, on account of my salary, for the sum of one thousand dollars in order to meet the contingencies of my voyage to Alexandria, and to aid me in putting that plan in motion —

(Reference to Comm’s Preble & Cons O'Brien.) I forbear adding anything to my former observations to government on the subject of this cooperation — Commodore Preble and Consul O'Brien, who will be at Washington, will better satisfy enquiry whether my calculations concerning it have been correct and my arrangements judicious: as they will also be the best commentators on my own statement to Congress concerning my general agency on the coast of Barbary — I cannot forbear, however, expressing, on this occasion, the extreme mortification I suffer on account of my actual situation; destitute of commission, rank, or command; and, I may say, consideration or credit. And even without instructions for the regulation of my conduct while ostensibly charged with the management of an enterprise on which, perhaps, depends the successful issue of this war. I am not ignorant that I ought to ascribe this mortifying situation, as a remote cause, to the indirect, undue influence of Captain Murray’s insinuations — There is not one statement made by Murray, relative to Barbary affairs, in which my agency has been implicated and calculated to invalidate my truth and throw suspicion on my integrity, but what has proved incorrect in matters of fact, if not maliciously false; yet it has required the testimony of an experiment to work conviction of his misrepresentations, and the force of demonstration to do away the injurious impressions they stamped on the belief of his powerful friends. In the issue I have been materially wronged, both in my reputation and circumstances; so, indeed, has the public service. — But, while I have a right to feel indignation towards his hypocrisy, and a regret for the influence it had over measures; I owe
nevertheless, to the candor with which you have listened to my state-
ments, to the confidence you have placed in them, and to the uniform
inclination you have manifested towards the system of operations I
would have recommended, the sincerest acknowledgements.

And I beg you will be assured, Sir, that this confidence shall not be
disappointed; for, besides the concern I feel that my fellow citizens
in slavery as well as the general interest of my country should be
benefitted by the success of the enterprise now in view, there is a
bond upon my honor which I shall take care to discharge — Hamet
Bashaw is the only man in existence to whom I ever plighted my faith
without having succeeded in acquitting myself of the engagement —
However forlorn therefore the prospect before me may present itself
I am determined to place my breast in this unintentional breach of
good faith, and thus convince him and the world that though, as an
American, I may be unfortunate, as such, I cannot be unfaithful.
If my project succeed, the government will take the benefit of a
miracle: for I have, at present, very little reason to ground its prospect
of success on ordinary agencies — If it fail, government sacrifices
nothing; though my family may feel a sacrifice — But I shall continue
still to indulge the hope that some provisions, proportionate to the
magnitude of the object, will yet be made to assist my exertions before
the season for decisive operations commence next spring —
The requisite field artillery and small arms may be procured at
Malta, and of the king of the two Sicilies: They did not come on
board at Hampton as was expected — A small fund should be estab-
lished also at Malta on which requisitions may be made to answer
unavoidable necessities — I believe fifty thousand dollars will be
sufficient to the purpose —

(Three Wheat prizes —) Three large polacca ships, laden with wheat,
have been captured attempting to enter the blockaded port of Tripoli,
and sent into Malta, within a few days — The cargoes amount, in all,
to about thirty six thousand bushels — This providential supply might
serve a ration to an equal number of arabs about seventy or eighty
days; and might be used as a most effectual bribe to detach those
famishing forces of the enemy from his interest, if the prizes could be
adjudicated upon in season. I have no doubt of their being
legally

condemned, as the masters confess they knew of the blockade, and as
they were intercepted standing directly into port within an hours
sail —

(Fit time to treat with Tunis —) I regret that I have not powers to
seize this moment of distress at Tunis to modify our treaty with the
Bey so as to place our intercourse with that regency on the footing of
the most favored nations. It may not be too late next year. On
the contrary, a successful termination of our controversy with Tripoli
will facilitate the event.

I sail tomorrow for Alexandria. If I can there raise a small number
of mamlukes and embark them at Egypt I intend to surprise Bengazi
on my return, if the place should be found accessible, bring off the
Governor, and place a garrison there of the troops of Hamet Bashaw —

Though under no injunctions to make communications officially,
it is presumed you will not be dissatisfied to be apprized of my pros-
psects, resolutions and advances as often as any thing interesting
occurs — This is the only appology I can offer for directing unofficial papers to your address —

William Eaton

Hon'ble Ross' Smith
Sec. of the Navy &c. &c. &c.

P. S. Malta 27. Oct. (accompanying triplicate)

Such was arrangement at the date of the preceding. The Argus returned into this port on the 23rd inst., after having repaired at Messina. Found here the President, Constitution, John Adams, Vixen & Enterprise. The Congress, Constellation and Nautilus having been ordered off Tripoli, and no account of them since a very severe gale on the 20. 21. & 22d the Argus is dispatch in search of them; and, of course, the expedition to Alexandria suspended — The Commodore tells me she will proceed thither immediately on her return into port —

Information will be undoubtedly communicated by the ordinary reports of the very imperfect state of health which has compelled Commodore Barron to take lodgings on shore — His physician, Doc. Cutbush, has been under serious apprehensions of alarm for him, and, it seems, is not yet wholly relieved from them. It appears to me very improbable that he will be able to keep the sea this winter — And, I much fear, will not have sufficient health to transact the business necessarily preparatory to the operations of next spring and summer — Much is to be done which requires health and assiduity. I cannot but repeat my earnest wish that something more explicit may be expressed in the Com'rs instructions, and correspondent provisions made, concerning the aids to be advanced Hamet Bashaw, in case this chief can be used to our advantage — He is cautious in using a discretion on the subject — & I believe, determined in any situation of the Bashaw's affairs not to furnish any supplies without special instructions.

(Reform the consular character —) Previously to leaving America I thought it my duty to suggest to the proper departments some changes, which seemed indispensable with our national dignity, in the consular appointments on the Mediterranean coast. I am still more than ever convinced of the necessity of the measure — The character of our Government suffers through those representatives; so would our interests if agents were not substituted to execute the duties properly attached to their offices — Mr Appleton at Leghorn, though harmless, wants character; Mr Barnes, at Sicily, probity; Mr Pulis, at Malta, national attachment and fealty; and Mr Matthieu, at Naples, wants every thing.

The navy agents at those places appear to be judiciously selected — I believe they would not disappoint the confidence of the President if the national seal were placed in their hands — And, as they have the laboring oar, it seems but reasonable they should enjoy the honor & the profit of this confidence —

I have suspended the negotiation of the bills mentioned on the 18. ult. until the brig shall proceed aloft.

Allow me to repeat the assurance of my perfect respect

William Eaton

[H. E. Huntington L&AG. EA, 206.]
EXHIBIT A. to letter of Sep. 18***

(Apparent advantages of co-operation with Hamet Bashaw)

Apparent advantages of co-operating with the deposed Bashaw of Tripoli against the Usurper —

1st By investing Tripoli in the rear, through the co-operations of Hamet Bashaw, we cut off the enemy's retreat from the country and effectually prevent him receiving supplies from any quarter whatever —

2nd Dread of retaliation, when thus invested, will deter the enemy from treating our captives with cruelty —

3rd In case of a close investment, the inhabitants of the city, seeing their retreat cut off in the rear, will be very apt to open their gates to the besiegers, to receive their legitimate sovereign, and to surrender the usurper to punishment. We should thus get possession of the enemy's person and suit; and our captives would be restored to us without ransom —

4th Preliminaries of peace are already agreed upon with Hamet Bashaw, on our own terms; & when definitely concluded, will, most likely be permanent: for, if gratitude on his part be not a sufficient guarantee, we hold his brother and chief admiral, Lisle, as hostages; who may be used to turn the tables upon him whenever he becomes faithless.

5th The experiment will cost us very little, even if it fail of success; nor shall we lose any ground by the failure; we shall then have the enemy in the same position as at present — The success of the measure will save both life and cash: articles well worth economy in a country where there is no redundancy of either. The general as well as particular advantages to the United States equal all they could possibly realise from the most effectual coercion —

6th But to sum up all considerations in one, which ought to weigh down all others, the faith of the United States is pledged to the friendly Bashaw, by letter from Mr Madison to me, by engagements of legitimate Agents of the United States and by conventions of several of our commanders — By adhering to these engagements, we certainly have the advantage of keeping faith and supporting a dignity of character which would impress a high sense of our national perseverance and honor on the minds of the other Barbary regencies, as well as to revive that sentiment among nations whose good opinion is more to be desired —

(Disadvantages of acting against Tripoli without Hamet Bashaw)

Probable disadvantages of acting without his co-operation —

1st No doubt the enemy's town may be battered to the ground; but he has a retreat in the rear.

2nd Our fellow citizens in captivity will most likely be placed on the ramparts of the enemy's batteries and forced not only to expose their breasts to our shot, but to fight against us; while we are compelled to the painful alternative of cutting down the ranks of our own brethren to get access to the enemy.

3rd In case of forcing an evacuation of the town, by a bombardment, the enemy having a retreat in the rear, it neither secures to us the release of our captives, nor our own terms of peace: the captives will be carried away to the mountains, and pacification will be delayed or evaded —
4th But should the enemy either find himself reduced to the necessity of yielding to terms; or prevailed on by policy to come to an accommodation, his faith is an insufficient guarantee to the peace: he will violate it as soon as he can do it with probable advantage and security: examples are too numerous to leave the conjecture doubtful

5th The experiment is sure to cost us some expense of blood; and, most probably, some sacrifice of time and money by the damages our shipping may sustain; which would at this moment be more sensibly felt as we are threatened with war by a nation against whom all our naval resources would be required, and might be more profitably employed — But if defeated in the experiment the enemy gains a decided advantage Whereas even the success of the measure would fall short of the beneficial effects which might be secured at less hazard; as it would leave us in perpetual apprehensions from the enemy's known perfidy; as well as from the possible event of restoration of the legitimate Bashaw, who would thus become a decided enemy —

6th Totally to abandon our engagements with the friendly Bashaw because the indecision, inactivity, or bad generalship of certain of our late commanders may have left him in a dubious situation would stamp the shade of an equivocal mind on our government, which would inflict a wound on the national sensibility and a blemish on our portrait —


[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA, 206.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies

EXHIBIT B. to letter of Sep. 18

Is it not more consistent with the dignity and interest of the United States to expend money in reducing than in pacifying an open enemy?

With half the sum authorized, according to Colonel Lear, to be given for a precarious peace with the reigning Bashaw of Tripoli, applied to assist the legitimate sovereign, the usurper may be made prisoner; an honorable and permanent peace secured; and this expense saved to the United States by the re-embursement of Hamet Bashaw —

Mr O'Brien is decidedly in the opinion that this plan may be easily effected. He says the rightful Bashaw has a powerful party in Tripoli: that the usurper has spread the report of his death with a view of baffling their hopes; and that, in order to attack their superstition and their desperation to his cause, he inculcates the idea into his subjects that the Americans are infidels and savages, canibals and monsters of cruelty — Whereas, were their lawful sovereign shown to them in our fleet, with assurances that we are neither at war with their religion nor their repose; but that we respect both, and seek nothing more than that justice which would restore them to peace and to their proper allegiance, the very soldiery called to the defence of the enemy, would desert him and take an opposite part: the Arabs are generally in favor of the friendly Bashaw — This opinion is general where the circumstances are known —

But if fighting alone can secure our honor, I should nevertheless object to taking a vicious horse by the heels when we have a bridle in his mouth and can seize the reins! Besides, it is the success of a measure, more than the mode of effecting it, which secures public
SLAVAL OPERATIONS FROM 1804 TO 1805

eclat. Those who should be of a different sentiment may take consolation from the probability, that the resistance which despair would induce the enemy to attempt will be sufficient to all the purposes of glory —

Sep. 8, 1804.
To Comte Barron.

[H. E. Huntington L&AG. EA, 206.]

[18 September 1804]

Resolution of the Congress of the United States Concerning attacks on Tripoli

RESOLUTIONS expressive of the sense of Congress of the gallant conduct of Commodore Edward Preble, the officers, seamen, and marines of his squadron.

Resolved, &c., That thanks of Congress be, and the same are hereby, presented to Commodore Edward Preble, and through him to the officers, seamen, and marines, attached to the squadron under his command, for their gallantry and good conduct displayed in the several attacks on the town, batteries, and naval force of Tripoli, in the year 1804.

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to cause a gold medal to be struck, emblematical of the attacks on the town, batteries, and naval force of Tripoli, by the squadron under Commodore Preble's command, and to present it to Commodore Preble in such manner as, in his opinion, will be most honorable to him: and that the President be further requested to cause a sword to be presented to each of the commissioned officers and midshipmen who have distinguished themselves in the several attacks.

Resolved, That one month's pay be allowed, exclusive of the common allowance, to all the petty officers, seamen, and marines, of the squadron, who so gloriously supported the honor of the American flag, under the orders of their gallant commander, in the several attacks.

Resolved, That the President of the United States be also requested to communicate to the parents, or other near relatives, of Captain Richard Somers, Lieutenants Henry Wadsworth, James Decatur, James R. Caldwell, Joseph Isreal, and Midshipman John Sword Dorsey, the deep regret which Congress feel for the loss of those gallant men, whose names ought to live in the recollections and affections of a grateful country, and whose conduct ought to be regarded as an example to future generations.

APPROVED, March 3, 1805.

[Attention is invited to page 214 of "Our Navy and the Barbary Corsairs" by Gardner W. Allen, and letter of 18 September 1804 to Secretary of the Navy from Captain Edward Preble, printed on pages 293 to 308, in Naval Documents. United States Wars with the Barbary Powers, volume IV.]

[Navy Register, 1798.]
To Commodore Edward Preble.

[18 September 1804]

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

Portland June 17th 1806 —

Sir, By Lieu† Jones of the Navy I had this day the honor to receive your Official letter of the 17th Ult. accompanying a gold medal struck in pursuance of a resolution of Congress of the 3d March 1805 emblematical of the attacks on the town, batteries and naval forces of Tripoli, by the squadron under my Command. — please to communicate to the President of the United States, that I accept with gratitude, this honorable testimony of the approbation of my country — and I pray you to be assured that I am truly sensible of the very handsome & obliging manner in which it has been presented.

Edward Preble

[18 September 1804]

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

New-York, 12th February, 1806.

Sir — In compliance with your letter of the 6th instant, which this day came to hand, I hasten to detail the services rendered to the crew of the United States' late frigate Philadelphia, by Nicholas C. Nissen, Esq. his Danish Majesty’s consul residing there. In consequence of the mode of imprisonment, it was impossible for the officers to procure the necessary articles of subsistence. They were therefore necessitated to receive their daily provision, &c. through another channel. Mr. Nissen generously offered his services to obtain our necessary supplies, which he did in the most faithful manner, for nineteen months and three days, the period of our captivity, and at times when the funds placed at my command in Tripoli were expended, he continued our daily supply by his own means, until ours were renewed by the commodore of the Mediterranean squadron, or George Davis, Esq. charge des affaires at Tunis, to whom we are greatly indebted.

Had it not been for the friendly aid of consul Nissen, we should not have received our subsistence in so regular a manner as we did, and should have been exposed at a great expense to the impositions of the lowest class of our enemy. His attentions were not confined solely to the officers, but were equally extended to the seamen and soldiers.

Consul Nissen was the first Christian we saw after landing on the shore of Africa, and he met us the very evening of our misfortune,
with the philanthropy of a man of feeling, and immediately administered to our wants, by sending provision and bedding from his house, and ameliorated as much as possible our truly unpleasant situation.

I cannot, in justice to his attention, omit mentioning a circumstance which shows the lively interest he took in our situation, and the hazard he ran to serve us. When commodore Preble attacked Tripoli, Mr. Nissen's house was as much exposed as any in the town, and himself in danger from the bombardment. I solicited him frequently to leave his dangerous situation, and retire to the gardens, where the consuls were. He requested me not to importune him more to leave the town, for he preferred running the risk of the shot and shells from our squadron, and attending to our wants, to resorting to the gardens. In thus pursuing the dictates of a feeling mind, he was very near losing his life by a shot from the Constitution: Had he not acted in this friendly manner towards us, it is very probable we should have been several days without provisions, as the enemy were occupied and exasperated.

I have, sir, detailed to you generally, the services rendered to the officers and crew of the Philadelphia, at Tripoli, by Nicholas C. Nissen, Esq. but it is impossible for me to convey a just sense of them. Nothing but a perfect acquaintance with our situation, and the aid we received, can truly estimate the services rendered.

W. BAINBRIDGE.

To the honorable R. SMITH,
Secretary of the Navy.

Having received this information, Congress passed the following resolution:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be requested to cause to be made known to Nicholas C. Nissen, Esq. his Danish Majesty's consul residing at Tripoli, the high sense entertained by Congress of his disinterested and benevolent attentions, manifested to captain Bainbridge, his officers, and crew, during the time of their captivity in Tripoli.

APPROVED 10th April 1806.

[Naval Chronicle, Vol. 1.]

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

Copy

SYRACUSE 19th September 1804

Sir, I avail myself of the present occasion to congratulate you on the honor you have acquired in your late glorious expedition against Tripoli. I have not failed to state the relation of it to the Court, which manifests the highest gratification both on account of your success, as well as the intrepidity of that conduct in the Neapolitans which has merited your approbation.

Your presence is very necessary here. It is with the utmost regret I am constrained to acquaint you that the discipline which you enforced, is no longer maintained; for which reason, continual applications of the Inhabitants here, are made to Me for redress. I have waited for your arrival with the utmost anxiety, fully persuaded, that the event would restore things to their former good order; but
I learn with the utmost concern that you will return to the United-States without touching here. I thus lose a good friend, for whom I entertain the most perfect esteem; and whom I shall ever retain on my memory.

Please accept the assurances of my highest respect and perfect esteem —

(Signed) MARCELLO DE GREGORIO

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 19 September 1804

[Harbor of Valetta, Malta.] Received 13 Tripolitan Prisoners from the Constitution At 8 AM sent away all the Greek Prisoners

[LC. EPP, Argus, 1804.]


[Malta] This day Commences with fresh breezes and Clear Weather Employed Watering Recd fresh beef for all hands from the U. S Ship Constitution At 10 AM. 13 Tripolitan Prisoners came on board from the Constitution and sent away all the Greek Prisoners At Meridian fine Pleasant Weather people Employed as Necessary

[LC. EPP, Argus, 1804.]

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

Moderate breezes from the SE. We continue in Quarantine. Employed overhauling the rigging aloft, reeving the lower Geers, and Top tackle Pendants in readiness for striking the lower yards & topmasts — The Greek Polacca which the Argus brought in is in Quarantine with the other two— The Men belonging to them remain in them — Their Captains are on board the Constitution — A. M. Strong breezes from the SE. At day light a Maltese Ketch came alongside Employed this forenoon in putting on board the ketch, for Messina, the Six 24 pounders which we received in Naples, the two Bombs taken out of the Bombards off Tripoly, the two brass howitzers received at Messina & all the remaining shot & shells— We also put on board of the Argus this forenoon all our Tripoline Prisoners which are to be sent to Saragosa — At 7 A. M. eleven additional caulkers came on board, & are employed with the others in caulking the upper deck— One of the small brass guns received in Messina was sent in the Ketch with the other Stores— the other is on board the Enterprise We this forenoon returned to the Argus her Anchor which we received some time ago in Saragosa,

Surgeons report 5 Sick — conv**

[LC. EPP, Log Constitution, 1803–1804]
[Syracuse] Gentle breezes & clear, rec'd fresh Provisions for the crew — Mr Anderson & Mr Brown was arrested, they being seconds in the above affair.

Meridian moderate breezes & pleasant sent the launch on shore with a number of ships articles, sails &c. At 2 P M the remains of Mr Nicholson was taken on shore & buried rec'd from the John Adams a quantity of provisions &c &c.

Midnight light winds & cloudy. —

[MDA]

To Colonel Dwight from William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies

MALTA Sep. 20th 1804

Sir, Commodore Barron's squadron arrived here on the 5th and fell in with Commodore Preble off Tripoli on the 9th instant — The enterprize of this judicious and gallant commander has effected astonishment here. You will undoubtedly have the facts in detail before the public. With the small force under his command he has stamped an impression on the Barbary mind which will not be erased this generation and has restored the character of our arms to its proper consideration among the neighbouring nations — As evidence of this conclusion I extract the following paragraph from a letter addressed to the Commodore by a distinguished commander in the British navy whose abilities and valor have raised him to high rank, great eminence, and to the government of the most important port in this sea — [*]

This encomium has the more weight as it comes from a quarter too independent to use adulation, and very capable of judging of the merit of brilliant actions —

The Pope of Rome expresses himself on the subject — "The American Commander, with a small force and in a short space of time, has done more for the cause of Christianity than the most powerful nations of Christendom have done for ages!" I firmly believe the Holy Father is correct. If I could obtain as handsome a certificate, and as fairly, I should be apt to be very indifferent about an absolution for past sins, and should be in danger of being so about committing fresh ones — But this is a kind of selfish, sinful sentiment in which you can take no interest — I will assure you therefore, as I know you will share the pride I feel on this occasion, that an American is no longer ashamed of an American Uniform here — And that a Barbary cruiser vews an American flag in this sea with as much caution as a sculling debtor does a deputy sheriff in our country — The Bey of Tunis twists his mustaches in sullen amazement. Dispair broods frowningly on the dark brow of the pirate of Tripoli — And the whole coast of these regencies seem astonished with the forebodings of uncommon curses; for its is an inauspicious omen, but now known to them, that the order of things should be so inverted that Christians should be seen carrying Turks by the board, and Turks flying before Christians, an hundred to one superior in number and on their own ground —

Hamet Bashaw is still in a situation to be brought on the enemy's rear — I am now bound to Alexandria to arrange with him a plan of
co-operations; and in about forty days I hope to organizing my saracen militia on the plains of Lybia in order to bring them to the field early next spring. If suitable supplies are furnished for this enterprise I form sanguine expectations of realizing all my calculations on this project. If these supplies are with held I shall be compelled to draw on the enthusiasm of Arabian resentment and bigotry as a substitute for field artillery, muskets, musket cartridges, flints & c. & c. — for I shall not abandon the object.

You will have an acquaintance with Commodore Preble — He has too well distinguished himself to need private introductions — And his talents are too conspicuous to make it necessary for me to say that such an acquaintance is an acquisition — Yet I cannot with hold from you an expression of my serious apprehensions that, however justly we may appreciate the valor and abilities of his successor, the service will suffer from his retiring — The unbounded confidence the officers on the station have in his capacities as a commander, and the very marked regrets they manifest at his leaving it, render this apprehension natural without detaching any thing from the merits due to the manly and amiable disposition of Commodore Barron —

*[See letter to Commodore Preble from Sir Alexander John Ball, Governor of Malta, dated 20 September 1804.]*

Hon: Col: DWIGHT

[H. E. Huntington L&AG. EA 208.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Sir Alexander John Ball, Governor of Malta

MALTA 20th Septem' 1804

My dear Sir, I have but this moment received your letter of the 17th Ins¹ inclosing one for M⁴ Schimbri which I immediately forwarded — I am happy to learn that I am to have the pleasure of seeing you before your return to America —

I beg to repeat my congratulations on the services you have rendered your country, and the hair breadth escapes you have had in setting so distinguished an example to your countrymen whose bravery and enterprize cannot fail to mark the character of a great & rising nation in a manner that will be ultimately attended with the best & most important consequences to your country —

If I were to offer my humble opinion it would be, that you have done well in not purchasing a peace with money — A few brave men have been sacrificed; but they could not have fallen in a better cause: and I even conceive it better to risk more lives than to submit to terms which might encourage the Barbary States to add fresh demands & insults

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To William Higgins, U. S. Navy Agent, Malta, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Constitution MALTA HARBOUR

Septem' 20th 1804

Dear Sir, I am honored with your letter of this date informing me that the Judge of the British Vice Admiralty court has allowed the Register, Interpreter & c of that Court to assist in taking that depositions of the Greeks on board the vessels lately detained by the U. S. Squad-
ron off Tripoly for a Breach of Blockade — You are therefore at liberty to take such measures as will be most likely to complete the business in the shortest possible time — You will also take charge of the papers of said vessel & have them translated —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

Copy

U. S. SHIP John Adams
Syracuse 20th Sept 1804

Sir. In a Circular Letter from the Navy Department of the 30th of May last I am directed to oblige the Purser, in issuing Slops to take Receipts for the Identical Articles issued and that the Value of each Article will be fixed on or before my return, but as I have now transferred my Crew to the Enterprize, their Accounts cannot be settled until the Prices of their Slops are fixed, and as I have no Instructions from the Navy Department on that Head, I must request that you will direct in what Manner the Accounts shall be settled.

If you will fix the Prices or PerCentage on the Slops and say what Articles are to be considered Slops and what the Purser's Stores I will see that the Accounts are settled and forwarded to the Commander of the Enterprize from Malta for which place I shall sail in a few Days, and where I shall be happy to receive any Instructions on the above together with any Dispatches or Commands for the United States.

The Marines of the Enterprize have been transferred to this Ship for the Purpose of going Home, but as I have no Instructions respecting my own I have detained them untill your pleasure is known. Be so good as to forward my Gun Carriages to me at Malta if Convenient as I shall be truly a Man of War without Guns if I am obliged to go Home without them —

I sincerely congratulate you on your Arrival and wish you every Success against the Enemy: I at one Time indulged the Hope of composing a Part of the Squadron, but it appears, that the Service requires my returning to the United States with the John Adams

P.S. Since writing the within I have received an Order from Capt. Decatur to transfer to the Enterprize all the Marines whose Time has not, nor is not about to expire, which Order I have Comply'd with

I. C.

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

Extract from Commonplace Book by William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Thursday, 20 September 1804

The Nautilus arrived at Malta; brings intelligence of the capture of two American vessels by Corsaires of Tunis — Boarded two Tunisian cruisers at Malta which had M' Davis' passports of the 36 Sep. instant —

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 207, Commonplace Book.]


[Syracuse Harbor] We are still discharging our cargo. &C. — Lieut. Jas S. Higinbothom: M't Parker. Swarengen and Magruder
left the ship to join the Schooner Enterprize and 45 Seamen & Boys. & 10 Marines, came from the Schooner Enterprize Geo. Mitchell & Walter Boyd Midshipmen & 35 men and boys & 11 Marines —  

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Surgeon's Mate Lewis Heermann, U. S. Navy

U: S: Sch: Enterprize. Syracuse Septt 21st 1804

SIR, It is with regret, that domestic circumstances render it necessary for me to adress this to You & to sollicit Your leave for returning to the United States: during the lapse of near thirty months I was repeatedly induced to promise myself that satisfaction, & was as often disappointed. I flatter myself You will take my petition into consideration & assuming the liberty of assuring You, that I have already been sufferer from circumstances, besides making greater sacrifices inevitable, entertain no doubt, You will grant a request, which can be of no detriment to the present service.

[Mrs. James S. Barron Col.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 21 September 1804

[Harbor of Valetta] At 6 AM arrived here the U. S. Schooner Nautilus from Syracuse we was run foul of by a large Transport Ship rec'd no Injury but Sp[r]inging our Starboard Cathead

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 22 September 1804

[Harbor of Valletta Malta.] At 4 AM The wind hauled to the NW Prepared to Weigh Weighed and warped out of the harbour at ½ past 7 made sail stood off & on for the Commodore at 9 he came on board with M' Eaton M' Randolph & M' Morris Made Sail

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Brig Argus, 22 September 1804

Sailed for Syracuse in the Argus to settle accounts.

[LC original.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Saturday, 22 September 1804


[NR&L. No. 9217 Bm² E 14.]

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, Saturday, 22 September 1804

[Syracuse] Commences with light airs from the NE & cloudy. At 10 rec'd fresh Provisions for the crew.
Meridian light winds from the northw', fine weather. Rec' 10 sheep, water & butter from shore ½ past 3 hove short. ½ past 4 weigh'd & stood out, made sail working out of the harbour in Co: with the Enterprise. ½ past 4 Capt Decatur came on board. At 6 calm. ½ past 6 hoisted out the barge too tow the brig. At 7 came too & furl'd all sail, the Enterprise came too also. At ½ past 7 shipp'd 15 men that formerly belong'd to the Enterprise. — Midnight Calm. —

[NDMJ]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate Congress, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

U. S. States Ship President off Tripoli 23rd Sept' 1804.

Sir Circumstances make it necessary that I should go into Syracuse & Malta to make some arrangements, with respect to the future operations of the Squadron — You will therefore please to remain here with the Congress and Constellation, until you are reinforced with some smaller Vessels two of which I expect momentarily from Syracuse, as soon as they arrive, you will proceed with one of the Frigates, to Syracuse to Water leaving one of them here, to cooperate with the smaller Vessels, until relieved by another Frigate, it is my wish to have all the large Ships, ready for a particular Service, some time in the next month. —

As it respects Vessels attempting to enter Tripoli with contraband articles, you will proceed with them as Circumstances may point out to you. Provisions are by no means to be suffer'd to pass & if you suppose that any Vessels which you may intercept with Provisions &c, really intended to enter the Port, with a Knowledge of the existence of the Blockade, Send them to Malta, address'd to Mr. Higgins our agent, to wait for orders. —

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, 1804-1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 23 September 1804

At 4 PM three Strange sail in Sight at Kept away in chase of 2 Sail to leeward fired 2 Guns at 1 of them and brought her to at 9 ordered her boat on board of us she proved a Tunisian Cruizer from Malta

[NDA photostat.]


This day Commences with mod' Breezes and Clear Weather At 4 AM weighed the stream Anchor at ½ past 5 Weighed the Bower at [sic] And warped out of the harbour at ½ past 7 Cast Off the Warps and made Sail in Comp; with the Ketch From 8 to 9 standing off and on the harbour of Malta waiting for Commod', Preble at 9 the Commodore Mr. Eaton Mr. Morris and Mr. Randolph[?] came on board to go to Syracuse the harbour of Malta bore W S W dist. 3 miles At Meridian the Ketch astern hove too and took her in tow —

[LC. EPP, Argus, 1804.]
WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS


[Syracuse Harbor] At half past 7. this morning the Brig Syren and Schooner Enterprise got under way and stood out of the Harbour — at half past 2. P M the U States Brig Argus came in and Anchored with Commodore Preble M' Eaton & M' Randolph on board soon after the Brig Syren & Schooner Enterprise came in — During these 24 hours came in five Merchantmen two from Malta two from Messina and one from Mashill —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKraft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Siren of 18 guns, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 23 September 1804

Calm & pleasant weather. At 4 a light breeze from the S. Wd. At 6 weigh'd & made sail, stood out of the harbour [of Syracuse] Enterprise in Co: At 9 back'd the main topsail & spoke the Enterprise — several sail in sight rec'd fresh beef for the crew. —

Meridian a fresh breeze fill'd away. the Argus in sight to windward with a Ketch in tow. At 2 spoke the Argus, was requested to ware & stand in again (by Comm: Preble —

At 4 came too in 6½ fathoms, also the Argus Enterprise & Ketch. — Midnight fresh breezes from the E —

[NDA.]

To Joseph Barnes, U. S. Consul, Naples, from Abraham Gibbs, U. S. Consul, Palermo

PALERMO 24 Sept' 1804

Dear Sir I have before me your obliging favor without Place or date, but I concluded it was from Leghorn written 3 Ins¹, having received other letters of that date. I am looking out for yours every hour as a Vessel is expected in from Naples & another from Leghorn. the Scene begins to be very interesting & I have the pleasure to say that all the Gunboats & Bombards were safe returned with two prizes, at Syracuse on the 15 Ins¹ with the John Adams loaded with stores &c. the Constitution is still off Tripoli with Commodore Barron & three more frigates. they have compleatly beaten the Turks but unfortunately have lost 6 brave officers & ab 40 men & I regret very much that Cap¹ Somers, Lieu¹ Decatur, Wadworth Dorsey & are among the slain. the Neapolitans behaved well & not one lost, the Bashaw has offered to make peace almost upon any Terms. & I am in great expectation of good news from that quarter every day. Many thanks for your News — under every point of view I consider a continental War inevitable, & permanent with England as long as Bonaparte continues at the head of affairs, for his ambition has no bounds & M' Pitt has declared that England cannot disarm for that reason even in the Event of Peace —

We have had no arrivals from the United States for some time & I consider it a fortunate circumstance for every market in the Mediterranean is overstocked with Colonial produce — nothing has been done here for some time & any prices that I might quote you would be at random —
You will find enclosed the only letter I have received for you.

London 56½
Leg. 12
Naples 11 8½

[NA. SDA. CL, Palermo, 1802-1838.]

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

TUNIS Septemr. 24th 1804

Dear Sir, Since I had this pleasure every thing has remained in perfect tranquility, as relates to ourselves; and indeed infinitely more so with this Gov’t than we ought to have expected — another complaint was offered to the Bey on the 15th Inst, by the owner of a Tunisien Corsair, which was handled a little roughly by the President — His Excellency dismissed the complainent, without even giving him the satisfaction of calling me to the Palace —

I learn by a letter of the 3d Inst. from W. Eaton Esqr. that the reinforcement has arrived; and is probably at this time before Tripoli; as I know there are letters in the fleet for me; (one package to the care of L. Ludlow) will you pardon my requesting that they may be forwarded to me, by the first safe conveyance, Via Malta — It is announced from various quarters, that the French Fleet has left Brest; fell in with the English Forces; engaged; and beaten with the loss of three, some say eight Ships of the Line — the French Admiral, and an English Ship of the Line blew up — Lord Nelson returns to England in the course of the ensuing month — The Northern Powers are said to have formed a Coalition against France; if this should ultimately prove the case (which may happen) Spain will have other occupation than the Lousiana business — I offer you this Political paragraph, as I ere [sic] it —

I have advices from Col. Lear up to the 1st of Sept. — nothing particular as to our affairs — the Gov’t seems, disposed for vigorous measures, in those Seas — Their labours will be crowned with success, to the honor of America & disgrace of Europe; If they do not become fatigued, with the probable length of the war — It would afford me particular pleasure to see you at Tunis, for many, great, and weighty reasons — and when I might again assure you in person; of the high consideration

distinguished respect, and sincere regard

with which I have the honor to be &c

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SYRACUSE 24th of September 1804

Sir, I arrived here yesterday in the Argus, and met with the Syren & Enterprize off the Harbour, the wind blowing so strong from the Sea that they could gain nothing by keeping out, and as I was desirous of sending to Malta some Rigging &c for the Constitution, I desired them to return — they sail tomorrow to join you. The Gun & Mortar Boats are still here waiting for convoy to Messina; the expence to Government is so great, that I have desired Captain Hull to convoy them round; this will be in favor of his fitting the Argus with expedition, as caulkers are not to be had here at present, and
there are plenty at Messina. He sails tomorrow, and I hope will be
detained there, but a very few days in compleating the necessary
repairs I go by land to settle Accounts &c, and shall return to Malta
in the Argus or John Adams, as will Captain Decatur. I hope to
have the pleasure of seeing you at Syracuse before I leave it. I have
provided an excellent house for an Hospital where the sick are now
comfortably accomodated.

I refer you to Captain Stewart for further information and have the
honor to remain with esteem & respect Sir

P S. Captain Decatur goes to Messina with me to arrange the
business of Prizes &c in order that you may not be troubled with
applications respecting them after I leave this. Mr Eaton, & Mr
Randolph accompany us. — On our passage from Malta, we boarded a
Tunisine Corsair of 16 Guns, but a few days from Tunis, with Mr
Davis's passport. — E P. —

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

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S.
Navy

SYRACUSE 24th September 1804.

Sir You will please to repair to Malta in the Argus and on your
arrival there, take command of the U S. Ship Constitution at anchor
in that Harbour — prepare her with all possible expedition for a
cruise of three Months and proceed off Tripoli to join the Squadron
blockading that coast under command of Commodore Saml Barron.
I am happy that my supercEDURE in the command of the Squadron,
and consequent return to the United-States affords an opportunity of
placing you immediately in the exercise of the duties attached to that
Commission which you have so gallantly earned, and your Country
thus generously bestowed. I feel a pleasure in leaving the Constitution
under the command of an Officer whose enterprizing and Manly con-
duct in battle, I have so often witnessed; and who merits so eminently
title to so handsome a command

May you ever continue in the pursuits of Glory, and be crowned
with success —

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

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board
U. S. Brig Argus, 24 September 1804

Arrived at Syracuse and ordered Capt. Decatur to go to Malta
and take command of the Constitution.

[LC original.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies,
Monday, 24 September 1804

Arrived at Syracuse [in U. S. Brig Argus]. The John Adams here.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bu 1 E 14.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy,
commanding, Monday, 24 September 1804

at 1 PM spoke the U. S. Brig Syren and Enterprize At 3 PM came
too in the harbour of Syracuse in 9 fth Water Syren and enterprize
in Company found here the U. S. frigate *John Adams* 8 Gun boats and 2 bomb Vessels


This day Commences with Mod' Breezes and Plesasant Weather at 4 P M three strange sail in Sight at 5 bore away in Chace of 2 sail to leward set studding sails & Royals fired 2 Guns at the chase at 9 brought her too she sent her boat on board. She proved to be a Tunisian Cruiser, from Malta.

At midnight light airs and pleasant W. At 2 AM calm. Cast off the Ketch at 5 saw the land bearing from W N W to W S W — Lat. Obs 36° 51' N.

[Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 24 September 1804]

[Off Tripoli] at 1 [P.M] Discovered two sail a head ½ past 3. Spoke the President and Constellation at Sunset the high Land to the eastw of Tripoli bore South. At ½ past 6 M. Lorr the Consul and his lady went on Board the President. at ½ past 10 the President and Constellation took their departure for Malta.

A. M. at 8 the town of Tripoli Bore S S E

At 10 discovered a sail on the Larbd Bow. At Meridian Moderate breezes and clear weather the town of Tripoli bore S B W distance 4 miles

[To Assistant Surgeon John W. Dorsey, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy]

SYRACUSE 25th Sept' 1804

Sir, You are hereby directed to take charge of the sick and hurt officers seamen & marines at the Hospital in this place until further orders from Commodore Samuel Barron — commander in chief of the United States Naval forces in the Mediterranean; and will make your requisitions for Hospital Stores on George Dyson Esquire Naval Agent.


This day Commences with mod' breezes and fine pleasant Weather. At 1 P M spoke the U. S. Brig *Syren* and Schooner *Enterprize* at 3 came too in the harbour of Syracuse in 7 fathoms water. found here the U. S frigate *John Adams* and 8 Gunboats & 2 Bomb Vessels. Commodore Preble Mr Eaton Mr Morris & Mr Randolph went on Shore. At Meridian d° W° Emp' as Necessary
P. M. commences with moderate Breezes and clear weather \( \frac{3}{4} \) past 12 discovered a sail to the Eastward made sail and gave chase. At 2 spoke the schooner *Nautilus* with a store ship under her convoy. Latitude Observed 33° 03' N.

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

Fresh breezes from N W, We continue under quarantine. Caulkers employed on the upper deck, carpenters employed in dubbing between decks, Received this Afternoon a Caulkers stage from the dock yard, Ships company employed in rattling down the topmast & lower Rigging, condemned and hove over board on Monday last one Barrel of Pork and 100 pounds Salt Beef. Received in the course of the day from the Quarantine ground 69 Gang Casks of Water, Night moderate, — A M. at 7 nine Carpenters came on board they are victualed on board with the others, They have been employed this forenoon in taking down the Figure head which is cut to peices & thrown aside as useless, Ships company employed in wounding the Bowsprit, In taking the woudlings & fishes off the Main mast, and in Rattling and taring the Rigging, Caulkers all, (except a few to compleat the upper deck) employed on the Gun deck, Noon pleasant weather, —

To Secretary of State from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, Tunis

Sir, I am this day honored with your letter of the 8th of June, apprising me of the decision of His Excel. the President, relative to our affairs in these Seas. — *If a considerable procrastination, of the war, should not vary the views of Government, our labours will ultimately be crowned with Success; — but such an important object, *cannot be acquired, in one campaign* — The active and Successful operations of Commodore Preble, with a single frigate, against the whole forces of Tripoli, could not fail to have impressed on the mind of the Bashaw, just Sentiments of respect and fear, for that Nation, which has hitherto, been placed as the most insignificant of Powers — This in itself is not SufEcient — *The Secret adviser, (or Prime Minister) of every Barbary Prince, must necessarily be the POLITICAL ENEMY of the Power at war; and invariably one, whose Situation enables him to make such calculations "on the expences" objects to be acquired possible result &c. &c. as ought to have the greatest weight, in directing the decisions of the Chief. — M' BEAUSSIER (than whom, none can so well make known, the Bashaw's intentions) in his letter to Commod. Preble, Slightly touching on this Subject, is most unquestionably correct —*

My opinions relative to the affairs of Tripoli, have not of late been Suggested; from a conviction that those whose immediate duty it was to report on this subject, were Men of years, fill'd with wisdom and experience; and consequently had made known every circumstance, which could have any influence; in fixing the determination of His Excel. the President — I beg leave to offer one remark, and the
force of which is so apparent, that it ought to have some weight, altho' coming from me. — The Commander in Chief of our present formidable forces (formidable for acting against such an insignificant enemy) or whomever else is empower'd to conclude the peace — Should never offer terms but once; these terms being rejected, no apparent Success of Arms, should induce us to renew them, for when they are to be accepted, the Bashaw will readily devise means to make it known. — Every offer that is made him, not only adds to his Insolence; but increases his pretentions in a double ratio — he has heretofore (except within a few months) laughed at the war; and even yet considers the present armament as a Bugbear, to purchase a cheaper peace — those opinions should be corrected, by convincing him that their object is no less, than the perfect annihilation of his Govt; and in order to enforce such a belief; and permit the other Regencies to draw Salutary deductions for themselves; our military operations should not be interrupted by vain attempts to treat for the peace; but should be continued with a Zeal, and activity equal to producing such an event —

I some time since Suggested to Commodore Preble, that the most expedient & effective means to release our People, would be to treat for their ransom, with some power, which has a real interest in such an event. — This Regency offers a field for the negociation. — The Bashaw of Tripoli, owes about 120,000$ to the Tunisien Govt; — Their only hopes of receiving it, are founded on the possible result of our war — As Tripoli’s crown from the position of the Countries &c. &c — is very dependant on this Prince; and his love of gold so well known; we might expect that the most decisive measures, would be taken, to Secure that, which he now considers as nearly lost — The Philadelphia would have been received in part payment; this by an unprecedented act of Bravery, we have fortunately done away — The Batavian & Swedish Regalias are nearly exhausted; and a great proportion of the amount he calculates receiving from the U. States, will be necessary for defraying the expences incurred by the War — abstracted from these powerful motives, it is the real interest of this Govt that a Speedy peace should take place; and (a part) of our forces withdrawn from these Seas, because they are not only view’d as the Rod for a peevish child; — but stimulate the adjacent powers to follow our noble example — by combining such a negociation, with a final adjustment of our affairs here; I think the whole expences would not exceed the calculations made by Govt — We can have nothing binding on the part of Tripoli, as a Security for future peace, which wholly destitute of Commerce, possesses very little interest in its preservation; and consequently the poorer that Regency is kept, the more readily will it be satisfied with trifling Sacrifices —

Our affairs have undergone no change, as His Excez. the Bey, is wholly occupied, with devising every possible means, to ward off the evils, which might have resulted from the scarcity of Grain — Tunisien Agents, have been sent to the Levant, and almost every part of the Mediterranean; and considerable Supplies have already arrived; which have been purchased by the Govt — and redisposed of to the people at the same price — Wheat is 170 to 180, Piastres the Caffice, Barley 80 to 90 — extreme misery prevails throughout the interior of the Country; the people subsisting on roots, a little herbage, and those who can procure it, Oats — God only knows what will be
the result — effective means (it is said) will be taken to prevent the Arabs, flying to the City, during the winter —

The Marabout, is still at the head of his Army near Constantine; but does not appear to possess Sufficient talents or Courage for so great an enterprize —

It was not a Neapolitan frigate, as stated in my last, which captured the Tunisien Gallies; but a small armament from the Island of Sardinia —

No advices have been received from Captain Bainbridge, these two months; I have the honor to annex N° 1. a copy of my last from Tripoli —

In a letter which I had the honour to address you on the 8th of April, you were informed, that the Bey, had refused in the most decided manner to receive Col. Lear, as one, authorized to transact public Affairs; and that he would enter into no negociation of any kind with any other person than myself — I am still ignorant of the motives which induced His Excellency to make this declaration — this does not prevent the projected visit of the Consul Gen†, with whom, I shall ever feel a particular pleasure to confer;

(N° 2. is a Copy of a letter addressed to Col. Lear.) It was however, to be presumed, that all public arrangements, should be made by me; as long as I remain'd Charged with these affairs; and was honored with any portion of the confidence of Gov† — I never have Solicited from His Exc? the President, a confirmation of my appointment; or from the Honb? the Secr of State, an extention of my powers; nor could any regrets have been felt, by the immediate arrival of a new Consul; as implicit obedience to the orders of my Superiors, has, & I trust ever will characterize my public deportment.

Untill His Excellency the President, shall have commissioned a Consul to Succeed me here; I beg you to be assured on the forfeit of that honor, which is dearer to me than life; that the Interests of the U. States, shall never be neglected; or its dignity, in any way lessened — that a Scrutinising examination of my deportment here, will prove as honourable to myself, as I vainly imagined it was advantageous to my Country — I have remained nineteen months in this Regency, at the Sacrifice of my health; and personal feelings, from the puerile Supposition, that my Services at Tunis, were particularly necessary — How far I am justified in these assertions, every individual, who has had any public concerns (for the last year) direct or indirect with this Regency, can too well testify.

There being no emolument annexed to this Consulate, it never can be desireable, excepting on the Score of warmest patriotism.

I feel well Satisfied of receiving the excuses of the Honb? the Secr of State for these remarks — while I have ever attached a high value to all public employments; — and an unbounded Zeal in my Country's Service; I also possess a proportional respect for myself, in the full exercise of the duties of any Office I may hold; even when obtained by accident, or casualty —

With Sentiments of profound Respect and Consideration, I have the honor to be,

GEORGE DAVIS —

[NYHS. Geo. Davis LB, Vol. 1.]
To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, Commodore of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Congress off Tripoli Septem[ber] 26th, 1804

Sir: I have the honor to inform you that a Polacre with 100 Sheep, 8 doz. Fowls, 5 Bags Onions, 12 bags Potatoes 39 Pumpkins, 150 Casks Water & some Hay & Barly, arrived yesterday under convoy of the Nautilus; — I have taken all the Water for the use of this Ship & have Shared the other articles with the Constellation — This large supply of Water, will prevent the necessity of the Congress’ going into Port. —

Nothing worth mentioning, has transpired since you left us

Commo. SAMUEL BARRON
Ship President

[Mrs. James S. Barron original.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 26 September 1804

At 8 [A. M.] the town of Tripoli bore S ¾ W. Made and took in Sail as occasion required The Nautilus in company

At Meridian the town of Tripoli Bore S B E ¾ E distance 7 or 8 miles

Latitude Observed 33° 8’ N.

[USNA.]

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

Moderate breezes from S W, We continue under Quarantine There are now employed on board 37 Caulkers & 20 Carpenters some of the latter are employed in taking down the figure head and cutting away the cut water, the rest in dubbing over between decks, The caulking of the upper deck being finished, the Caulkers are employed on the Gun deck & Cabbin, Ships company in tarring down the Rigging, Stay’d the main mast and set up the Rigging, towards evening the wind shifted to E S|E hove in the stern cable, the ships sides are as usual wet round at sun sett, Night moderate, — A M ships company employed in blacking the yards rigging the Bowsprit & serving the Running Rigging, Caulkers at work on the Gun deck, The figure head & the carved work about it are all taken off, The extreme of the cut water on is entirely broke off, It is necessary to cut it into peices in order to drift out the Bolts, The Schooner Vixen continues at the dock yard under repair, This forenoon Cap† Smith with the master builder of the dock yard came along side, received a launch of about 30 tons which is to be kept along side for the use of the Carpenters, we received our supplies from the Navy Agent by the conveyance of our own boats from the quarantine Ground Surgeons Report to Lieu† Gordon nine sick & Seven convalescent. — Noon light airs & cloudy weather.

[LC. EPP, Log Constitution, 1803-1804.]
WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Wednesday, 26 September 1804

Took room at the house of George Dyson, Esq. navy agent of the United States [Syracuse]; a plain, frank, up and down, hospitable Yorkshireman.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm 1 E 14.]

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 26 September 1804

[Syracuse Harbor] Employed to day discharging our Cargo &C — The Brig Syren & Schooner Enterprice got under way and stood out of the harbour at half past 12 U. S. Frigate President Commodore Barron arrived from the Coast of Tripoli Soon after the Brig & Schooner returned & Anchored Col. Lear and his Lady came passengers in the President —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argo, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 27 September 1804

[In Syracuse Harbor] At ½ past 1 PM arrived here the U. S. Frigate President Commodore Barron from Tripoli Capt. Hull went on board of him and returned at 10

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate Constitution, Thursday, 27 September 1804

Moderate breezes from E S E, We continue in quarantine with the three Greek ships, we continue to employ 37 Caulkers & 20 Carpenters, the Caulkers are employed on the gun deck, The Carpenters are in two divisions, one dubbing the birth deck the other in drifting the Bolts out of the Cut Water, and working on the head, this afternoon the mouldings for the Billet head, which is to be made were set up and secured to the Cut water. It was the opinion of Captain Smith of the Vixen Lieutenant Gordon and the master Builder of the dock yard that the head rails should be lowered. They unite in the outer extremes of the Cut water and lower Knee part of which is cut off in order to lower the head rails. Towards evening fresh breezes from S E, The peice of oak timber which we received from shore is nearly in the form of a Breast Work. It is 15 feet long and 17 Inches thick and is now a fitting to go on the Cut water, we also received two pine fishes for the main mast which was wounded in our first Action with Tripoly, as they would not answer we returned them. — Ships company have been employ'd this forenoon in scraping the upper deck, Rec'd 75 Gang Casks of Water, The Carpenters have finished dubbing over on the birth deck, we received this forenoon a round spar 66 feet long for making a sprit sail yard, The one we have out now is a Jury one, The Caulkers have been employed this forenoon on the Gun deck, Carpenters in taking to pieces the Cut water and making a sprit sail yard, Forenoon moderate with cloudy overcast weather, Surgeons report six sick, five convalescent & five discharg'd. Noon Winds S S E, —

[I.C. EPP, Log Constitution, 1803-1804.]
NAVAL OPERATIONS FROM 1804 TO 1805

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Thursday, 27 September 1804


[SR&L. No. 9217, Bm 1E 14.]


[Syracuse Harbor] We are employed overhauling our riggen and such as it seems we are to go from this to Malta as soon as we can prepare the ship. Mr Randolph came on board to day to take his passage with us to the United States — We had several fryers on board from the Caposhien Convent which is situated at the Gardens of Latome —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

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, 27 September 1804

(Syracuse Harbour) Light winds and pleasant. At 10 got under way and made sail saw a frigate coming into the harbour prov’d to the the U. S. Frigate the President Comm’r Barron at 11 fresh gales and pleasant stood into the harbour again & came too. the President came too also. Meridian pleasant, rec’d fresh provisions for the crew. —

Midnight light winds and pleasant —

[NDA.]

To Secretary of State from John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar

N° 2

South at Gibraltar 28th Sept’ 1804

Sir I had the honour of addressing you the 20th Instant, advising the Contagious & Inflammatory fever, that had spread amongst the Inhabitants, my retiring to the South and leaving my Office encharged with Mr Humphrys, who I am sorry to say, was taken off in a few hours by the Fever, I have also been attacked, but thank God, got rid of it, and am doing well; as to the Inhabitants in Town, are all shut up in their Houses, nothing doing in business, every thing in a State of Confusion & distress, and the disorder seems to keep up to the same pitch; Cap’t Barron was at Cadiz the 20th intending proceeding the 21st for the Tagus,

I hear of nothing new and have the honour to be with Respect. —

P. S. Herewith a dispatch from Consul Simpson


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

Moderate breezes from the Southward with cloudy overcast weather, we continue in quarantine employ’d 37 Caulkers & 20 Carpenters, the Caulkers have finished the Gun deck this afternoon. — Carpenters employed in making a sprit sail yard, repairing the Cut water and taking the head to pieces, a rotten place is found in the Main mast nearly 18 feet above the Gun deck Partners, — It is reported by the
Carpenters very injurious to the mast. Ships company employed in blacking the yards, scraping the lower masts & upper deck, Night moderate until 2 A M when the wind shifted in a light squall to W S W Veered away on the stern Cable and swung to the two Bowers, morn-

ing cloudy and overcast until 7 A M when we had a heavy Rain with thunder & Lightning. The Caulkers this morning commenced the Gun Room & Birth deck, during the lightning we had all the Hatch way secured; at 8 A M the wind shifted in a heavy squall from W N W to N N E We Bitted a range on the sheet Cable and unstowed the anchor, by 9 A M the weather had cleared away, Caulkers employed on the Birth deck & Gun Room, Carpenters in taking to peices the head & repairing the Cut water & completing the spritsail yard, ships company in fitting the Ridge Ropes, strapping blocks & scraping the Gun deck, Received 52 Gang Casks of water arrived a Maltese Polacre which is employed as a Store Ship for squadron off Tripoly, She report's the arrival of the Congress & Essex off Tripoly a moorish Ambassador joined the President but from whence he cannot say, He left cruising off Tripoly the Essex & Nautilus and was convoyed to this Island by the Congress when she parted company for Syracuse, The Navy Agent came alongside this forenoon He reports our quarantine out on the 10th of October which will be 25 days from its commencement, Weather from 9 A M till noon Showers by intervals Wind fresh Veering from N N E to E S E

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

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Scen of 18 guns, Master Commandant Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 28 September 1804

Light winds & pleasant crew employ'd preparing for sea, Merid-

ian L' Stewart went on board the Comm' — At 4 M' Carrol inform'd me that I was to prepare to go on board the Scourge for America, by the Order of the Commodore At 8 went on board the Scourge, she preparing for Sea. — the Siren got under way & stood out of the harbour [of Syracuse] —

[NDA.]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Lieutenant Charles Gordon, U. S. Navy Constitution, MALTA HARBOUR; 29th Septem' 1804

Sir As there is not an Oak Fish to be procured in Malta which will answer our Main Mast, and finding a decayed place in the way of a knot on the Starboard fore Quarter of the mast, fifteen feet above the Deck, I have stopped the Carpenters from putting pine fishes until further orders from You — supposing you would send two from Messina, or those two which our Carpenter informs me we left at Syracuse

It will require fishes of 46 Feet to reach from the lower part of the Bibbs to four feet below the decayed place, which will make the mast perfectly strong —

As it does not affect the principal Front and Side fishes of the mast, but is confined to one of the Quarter fishes, I am of opinion it cannot weaken the mast materially —

The Bowsprit I have examined agreeable to your orders, and have
found no defect — The Cut Water and Billet Head will be finish’d in 6 or 7 days —

The Caulkers have completed the Gun and Spar Decks, also the Gun-Room & Steerage on the Birth Deck, and in three or four days will complete the whole

The Carpenters have finish’d dubbing the Birth-Deck, and are now all employ’d at the Head.

As M’ Higgins informs me that those workmen must continue under pay during our Quarantine, which will not expire until the 10th of next month, I intend setting the Caulkers at work on the upper works outside in a few places which I find a little open

The standing rigging is all complete agreeable to your orders, except squaring the Dead Eyes of the Fore Rigging, which cannot be done until the Bobstays are secured, and the Fore Mast stayed

The running rigging which the Ship is in want of I will wait for until the John Adams comes over, as there is no good rope to be had in this place

All hands are employ’d in scraping and cleaning ship for painting which we shall commence at tomorrow

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Saturday, 29 September 1804

Sat out for Messina by land, in company with Commodore Preble, Capt. Decatur, Mr. Morris, the Commodore’s Purser, and Mr. Ryland Randolph, conducted by Lorenzo Abbate, a very attentive and intelligent Sicilian, lodged at a village called Lentina, near the lake of the same name.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Em’ E14.]


(Syracuse Harbour) Pleasant weather—the Argus & Gunboats got under way & stood out for Masina. —

[NDA.]

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d’Affaires, Tunis, from Nicholas C. Nissen, Danish Consul, Tripoli

TRIPOLI IN BARBAR 30. 1804.

Sir, The letters which you have sent to my care by your favor of 10th inst. have been delivered to the Minister of His Exc the Bashaw, who, I dont doubt will have them remitted according to their adress.— Should M’ Biddle demand any Sum of me within the limits you have fixed, it shall be furnished to him against his receipt in duplo, & shall draw upon you Sir, for the amount.

We have here no news that can be interesting to you Sir, and whereof you are not already, and better informed

(Signed) N C NISSEN

NB. Poor Capt. Bainbridge has been indisposed; but is now better; Several of the Officers are unwell, but of no danger, it has been common here the fever they sick of.
DEAR SIR, The Packet for Capt. B. & letter for Mr. Biddle were delivered to Sidi Dghies; but I know they are still in his possession, as well as another packet for Capt. B. sent from you the 6th of Aug.— Pray Sir, send your letters, under the cover of Mr. Holck — the couriers always present the letters here with saying, this is from Veckil American, thereby it is known that there are letters from you; when unknown I shall sometimes be able to get them to Capt. B. — Capt. B. has been sick, but is better, he has often wrote to you &ct. but his letters have not been forwarded. Inclosed is a small paper for Commodore P. from Capt. B. — New rigors have not been used in consequence of the attack, I dont think it hardly possible — Many of the Officers have been sick & are so, but I believe of a fever with pains in limbs, every body has felt here as contagious; not above 3 or 4, days neither dangerous; but Lord knows from what.

I candidly must tell you that all the attacks the Squadron except that of 3rd Aug have had very little effect & the damage done is absolutely of no consequence. I rec’d a ball in a Belvedere, which had it come 3, minutes sooner had killed me for my curiosity, not I only had a star in a looking glass — I have wrote a note to Mr Biddle, informing him that a Gentleman in Tunis had opened a credit for him, hereby the young Gentleman can at least make use if his friends endeavours even should he lose their letters.

Let Mr Holck, explain to you my letters about your Affairs. Danish is almost a cypher; I hope you have rec’d my letter of 10, Sept. — I wrote much to Mr Holck, about your affairs, & gave freely my opinion, it may be wrong in conclusion; but not in good will.

Advice Your Commodore, likewise to blockade the eastern ports of Tripoli, many vessels enter there from the Levant with powder &ct. The 27th Sept. went out a Cruiser, a boat with one gun, another is soon to follow. In several days we only see a frigate & Schooner off. — Should you Sir, any time have something interesting to communicate to Capt B. send a whole large sheet of paper written with lime juice, this I shall be able to send him, but there ought not to be a line with ink. Books often pass between us, & to preserve the covering or binding, we put a paper covering over the calf Skin. Sat...

Should Capt. B. send me any sheet for you before I close this you shall either find it herein or it shall be delivered to you by Mr H. as it could create suspicion in seeing such a blank sheet in a letter to you in case of opening the letters. Pray Sir, destroy my letters after perusal, this is necessary for all events. N C N.

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 30 September 1804

P M commences with moderate Breezes and hazey weather

At 5 discovered a sail on the weather bow Made sail and gave chase the Nautilus in comp. At sunset the town of Tripoli Bore S W B S. distance 8 leagues Shortened sail and gave over chase.

Latitude Observed 32° 58’ N.

[USNA.]
Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Baraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate Constitution, Sunday, 30 September 1804

Moderate breezes from E N E, we still employ 37 Caulkers & 20 Carpenters, Caulkers employed on the birth deck, Carpenters in repairing the Cut water & taking the head to pieces, Ships company employed in painting ship. Guns & Carriages and in scraping, at 4 P M anchored here the U S. Brig Siren from Syracuse.

A M Moderate & pleasant, as it is Sunday the Maltees Carpenters & Caulkers do not work, Ship Company employed in repairing the Boats & a few of the Ships company in painting, The painting of the Ship prevents the Watering Service Received from the Siren a quantity of new Running Rigging, The Siren Received it from the John Adams for the Constitution, Surgeons Report Ten Sick and four convalescent, This morning we Received fresh provisions & Vegitables for Ships company.

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

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 30 September 1804

[Syracuse Harbor] At 3. P. M. the Brig Argus 8 Gun boats & 2 Bumbards got under way for Messina. Doct Griffin left the ship this day and Join the Argus. & Doct' Weems. came on board and joined this ship. at 6. Arrived the U States Frigate Constellation 4 days from the coast of Tripoli at the same time U States Schooner Enterprize stood out the Harbour for Messina —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKraft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Scourge, Midshipman (acting as Lieutenant) Jonathan Thorn, U. S. Navy, in charge, Sunday, 30 September 1804

(Syracuse Harbour) At 4 P. M the United States Frigate Constellation came too an anchor in the harbour.

[NDA.]
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<th>Entry</th>
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<td>William Mosher</td>
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<td>Isaac Still</td>
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<td>Thomas Robinson</td>
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<td>To Schooner Enterprise as captain</td>
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<td>13 May 27</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>John Davis</td>
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1.DD = Died during service
2[S Q] = Sick Quarter
3. Qr = Quartermaster

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**WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS**

*Invalid, Ship William & Mary of Norfolk to British frigate Termagant*

*At Syracuse*

*To U.S. ship John Adams*

*To British frigate Medusa Gibe Bay*

*Invalid, Turn'd over to U.S. Brig Scourge*

*Invalid, Turn'd over to U.S. Brig Scourge*
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**For what reason**

- Lost at Tripoli
- To B. Frigate Amphiion G Ib: Day Fever
- Lost at Tripoli
- At Malta
- Consumption
- Sent to U S Brig Scourge Returned
- At Malta [Ran at Malta]
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Note: The table above contains records of seamen and their dates of service, along with various events related to their service, such as promotions, transfers, and events leading to their deaths or dismissals.

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[† D = Detached or discharged; DD = Discharged Dead; R = Ran or deserted; P = Promoted or paid off; DSQ = Detached to sick quarters.]

at 3 P, M, weighed and stood out of the harbour of Syracuse with 8 Gunboats 2 bombards 1 Ketch and U. S. Schooner Enterprize at ½ past 4 Exchanged Sig!\* with the U. S. frigate Constitution made the enterprizes Sig! to speak her At 6 P, M, the NE point of Sicily bore NbE ½ E made Gunboat Sig! N° 14 set and took in sail as Necessary At 5 AM backed the main yard for Gunboats to come up at 6 filled away at + past 6 bore away for the lewardmost Gunboats. and took two of them in Tow. —

[NDA photostat.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

TANGIER 3\textsuperscript{rd} October 1804.—

DEAR SIR I am induced to send by way of Leghorn accompanying Triplicate of my last respects, as I have no advice of the original or duplicate having reached Gibraltar. — The Captain of an English Frigate reported he saw three Ships entering the Tagus, which he supposed to be the Emperours Frigates. —

I have not seen the Essex since the 11\textsuperscript{th} Ult° —

The Tetuan Galleys have retired within the Bar of that [Ms mutilated] and will no doubt be laid up, as usual during winter. —

Muley Solimans money was not shipt as intended for Lisbon, orders were sent to invest it in Bills of Exchange on that City and London, which has been in part done. —

We do not yet know the precise Service this money is destined for, but it is generally believed to be the purchase of small Armed Vessels at Lisbon and London. —

It is still intended the Agents in this business shall go first to Lisbon. — What they may do there M\textsuperscript{r} Jarvis will advise you of, but it may not be so easy a matter to watch their operations in London. —

In consequence of the prevailing Sickness in Gibraltar and Cadiz, no Vessel whatever from those Ports are admitted here, but Humanity called on us to allow the provision Boats of the former to receive their Cargoes in quarantine, under certain precautions. —

[Mrs. James S. Barron Col.]
THE U. S. BRIG ARGUS.
& Pitch are supplied by the Master Caulker, The Pitch is boiled in
a boat which is moored some distance from the Ship. Received
this Afternoon the two 12 pounders we lent the Siren off Tripoly, A M,
Ships comp[any] [employed in Stowing the Booms, Scraping the
ships outside fleeting the Main Rigging, & painting the Gun Room
Cabbin, the 12 Carpenters are employed in putting up the head timbers,
head Rails and Bolting the Cutwater, Caulkers employed in Caulking
the counter & the Store Rooms on the Birth deck, Received fresh
Beef & Vegetables for Ships Company, Surgeons Report, 8 Sick, & 7
Colvalescent, pleasant weather with moderate breezes from S S E,
these 24 hours —

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

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy,
commanding, Thursday, 4 October 1804

[Off Tripoli] ¼ past 10 [AM] discoverd several small Sails under the
land made sail and Gave chace —
Fired Several shot at the boats In shore Shot away our larb* Bow-
sprit Shroud and Sprit Sail Yard
At Meridian moderate breezes and Pleasant weather the town of
Tripoli Bore S E B E distance 4 miles

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy,
commanding, Friday, 5 October 1804

[Off Tripoli] At ½ past 1 [P M] shortened sail and Let go the larb* anchor in 25 fathoms Water — hoisted out the boats armed Them
and Sent them in to take a boat out that had run on shore At 2 got
a spring on the cable made The Signal for the boats to return ½ past
2 the boats returned hoisted Them in weigh* and made sail At
Midnight fresh breezes and cloudy weather with lightening
At 3 squally close reef the top sails
At 11 turnd 2 reefs out of the top sails And got a new spritsail
athwart
At Meridian moderate breezes and clear The town of Tripoli
bearing S E B E —
Latitude Observed 33° 4' N

[USNA.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on
board U. S. Frigate Constitution, Friday, 5 October 1804

[Malta] Moderate Breezes with cloudy overcast weather, we con-
tinue under quarantine, We continue to employ twelve Carpenters
in putting up the head rails and timbers Ships company employ'd in
painting ship on the larboard side, at 3 P M squally weather from the
North, which continued till 4 P M with heavy rain thunder & Lighten-
ing, The black paint which is above the yellow on the larboard side,
has entirely Ruined the yellow occasioned by the heavy Rain, Before
the side can be repainted it will be necessary to scrape off all the
yellow, Weather during the night squally — from S S E with intervals
of heavy Showers, —
Forenoon cloudy overcast weather with light Breezes from the S S E,
Carpenters employ'd on the heads & Cut Water, We this forenoon
completed watering. Served out to Ships company two days Salt provisions as on account of the paint there will be no fire in the Galley to Morrow, Ships company employed this forenoon in scraping & whitewashing the starboard side of the Ship in the Waist & in cleaning the Birth deck this forenoon we hove in on the Stern Cable, * * * No painting going on to day. —

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

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Friday, 5 October 1804

Arrived at Messina, at 9, A. M. Found here the brig Argus and schooner Enterprise, which had come in the day before.

[NR&L, No. 9217, Bm1 E 14.]

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

N° 84. — Second Copy. —

TANGIER 6th October 1804. —

Sir, With this I have the honour to enclose triplicate of N° 83. — Advice has this day been received that on the 28th Sept. His Imperial Majestys Frigate Maimona returned to Salle with a Prussian Ship and Brig bound from Lisbon to Amsterdam and Antwerp, captured off the Coast of Portugal. —

The Captain of the Maimona reports that the other Frigate of same name and the Mirboha entered the Tagus before he took these Prizes. — We have advice from Gibraltar to the 4th Inst when the daily deaths had gone near to a hundred. — A cordon has been thrown round Cadiz in consequence of Orders from the Supreme Board of Health at Madrid, who have declared the prevailing Sickness there to be what they stile the Epidemic. —

This Country enjoys good health, but we have scarce had an hours rain for these five Months past, which is an alarming circumstance. —

7th October. — This morning the two Moors appointed to employ the sum of money appropriated by Muley Soliman for augmenting His Navy, arrived here from Tetuan and are to embark on a Ragusean Polacre in a few days for Lisbon. —

By a Boat just arrived from Gibraltar advice is recieved the deaths had gone as far as one hundred and Sixty in a day, — it is with concern I have heard (but not by Letters to myself) that Mr Gavino is of the number. In such case I trust Government will find in the American House of Khun & Green established there, a Successor meriting its confidence —


To Secretary of State from William Jarvis, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, Portugal

Duplicate

LISBON 6th October 1804

Sir, The original of the foregoing I had the honor to forward you by the Schooner Cabinet, Captain Martin, Via Marblehead, since which I have been twice alongside the Essex. It appears the object of her Visit, as I presume the inclosed from Captain Barron to the Secretary of the Navy will inform Government, is to watch the motions of the two Moors here.
Before I went below the first day I applied to a Lieutenant in the Portuguese Navy, with whom I am acquainted, to get what information these people had afforded to this Government relative to the real object of their Visit; it being generally customary for the Commanders of the Moorish Vessels to inform the Secretary for Foreign Affairs on their first arrival the object of their visit & at the same time to hand in a List of what supplies they wish, which is sent to the Director of the Arsenal to furnish. He did me the favour to go immediately to the Director with whom he was intimate, who informed him that they reported direct from Sallee & that they had come here to wait for another Frigate that had sailed the same time, and parted with them at sea, and asked for nothing but water and fresh stock, both of which was sent on board & they had not then asked or received any thing further. This the Gentleman immediately returned & acquainted me with not thinking it judicious to go with him. They also told him that the Officers had not on any occasion mentioned where the other frigate was gone or what her object was, but had constantly said that their intentions were not hostile. A declaration of this kind however was a thing of course — Through two or three channels I have learnt, that the other frigate who is the Admiral, ordered these two in here for repairs & that they have no authority to ask for any thing but must wait the admirals arrival. This seems to correspond with their conduct altho' all the Crew join in the same report that they shall leave this directly after the arrival of the other. It is very extraordinary where the other is gone or what she is after. I hope that learning one of our frigates had gone into the Streights they have not sent those two Ships here as a decoy to take up the attention of our other frigate, to afford their Ship that is out an unmolested opportunity to depredate on our Commerce. I have promised a Barbary Jew a handsome reward if he would find out why she did not come in with the other two, where she has gone, & what her object really is. If he does not succeed, I shall beleive that it is not known, or that the secret is confined to the first Officers

The frigate is still under quarantine altho' the Providor Mor (ie the first Officer of Health) promised me four days ago to admit her; but the next morning he went to Mafra where the Prince now is, and did not return till yesterday and when applied to for the fulfillment of his promise; said that he had been instructed so rigidly to attend to all Vessels from Cadiz and Gibralter, where the Government are advised that the yellow fever has began to rage that he could not do it. Upon being advised of this I wrote the original of the enclosed to M't de Araujo & should have done it four days ago had not I been averse to trouble the Ministry when I thought there was a probability of succeeding through another channel. If my request is not complied with, as the frigate has only five or six sick people on board & they of diseases by no means suspicious, I shall think it is with a view to make a merit of it with the Moors, for their manner of quarantining her is the greatest farce in the world, they having permitted me to go alongside her twice, without any person from the Health Office in the boat when the frigate lays a full mile from the shore & the last time it was after dark when I stopped alongside on my return to Lisbon & yesterday I talked with Captain Barron two hours on shore as near as it is common for persons to stand to-gether in common conversation —
A report is now in circulation that General Lannes does not return: no doubt We shall have a new one every day or two till he comes back or some other person replaces him — 

Inclosed is a letter from Mr Pinckney, Mr Montgomery & Captain Barron — With the highest Consideration & Respect

[Enclosure]

[5 October 1804]

To the Portuguese Secretary of State, Lisbon, from William Jarvis, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, Portugal

His Excellency Don Antonio de Araujo de Azevedo
His Royal Highness the Prince Regent Minister and Secretary of State for the Foreign and War Department &c &c &c &c —

Sir, I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that the American Frigate Essex, James Barron Esquire, Commander arrived here the 26th Ult in 8 days from Cadiz at which port she arrived in the afternoon of the 16th, got Pratic the 17th & sailed the following Morning; the Captain, first and second Lieutenants being the only persons who were on shore out of her, & they did not remain on shore more than three hours; Her Crew is in remarkable good health for a Vessel of her size, not having more than three or four seamen sick & they with colds & slight complaints incident to seamen. She had no communication with any Vessel on her passage, nor has she been at any other European Port than Gibraltar since she left America about 90 days ago: and she left Gibraltar four days before a British Sloop of War that came direct from thence & got Pratic some days since. I must therefore beg the favour of your Excellency to expedite an order to admit her to immediate Pratic, she having now laid under quarantine 10 days the time I understand that it is Customary for Vessels of War similarly circumstanced.

LISBON 5th Okt 1804


Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate Constitution, Saturday, 6 October 1804

[Malta] Moderate Breezes from S, S, W with cloudy overcast weather, The twelve Maltese Carpenters are employ'd in putting up the head rails & securing the head rails & Burnkins, Ships company employed in scraping off the yellow paint which was injured by the black during the Rain yesterday, Night moderate and cloudy, Ships company employ'd [painting] ship outside and the Starboard side of the Gun deck, no fire is allowed in the Galley to day, The provisions for the Officers are Cooked in the Pitch Boat, towards noon the weather became cloudy and overcast with light winds from E S E, Our guard Irons on each side of the head are not to be put up again, they are substituted by wooden pieces of about 5 Inches Square, The space which was formerly open is to be boarded up,
To Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, to command U. S. Brig Scourge, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

Sir, Having appointed you to the command of the United States Brig Scourge; you are hereby directed to repair on board said Brig now at anchor in the Port of Syracuse, and take upon yourself the whole charge and command: subject to the rules and regulations of the Navy, which you are to observe and enforce. You will prepare her in every respect for Sea, and take on board three Months provisions and Stores, and sail directly for the city of Washington in the United States; and apply to the Hon'ble Secretary of the Navy for further instructions. Your requisitions for Provisions &c at Syracuse are to be made on George Dyson Esquire for which you will be accountable to the Navy department. It is my positive orders that you do not stop at any port if it can be avoided, unless a long passage down the Mediterranean should render it absolutely necessary to fill up your water, in that case you may stop at Cadiz or Madeira, but are not to stay there more than 48 hours. You will be careful to direct your Purser to lay in a good stock of Lemons, Oranges, Potatoes, and such vegetables as can best be preserved, and will tend to preserve the health of the crew. You are to capture all Vessels belonging to the Bashaw of Tripoli, or to his subjects but not within the limits and jurisdiction of Neutral Nations. Should you put into any port in the United States previous to your arrival at Washington, you will send Mr Haswell or Mr Marcellin off with the dispatches for the Navy Department, and direct him to deliver them in the shortest possible time.

Given on board the U. S. Ship Constitution in the Harbour of Malta this 7th of October 1804. [*]

P. S. You will take care to inform yourself from the Vessels you fall in with, whether the U. S. and Spain are in Peace or War, and govern yourself accordingly.

[*It is believed this date should be 27 instead of 7 October.]

[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, Sunday, 7 October 1804

[Malta] Moderate breezes from E S E, We continue under quarantine Ships company employ'd in Painting ship. The twelve Carpenters are employed on the head. This afternoon we finished painting the ship, all except the yellow on the Starboard side and the work about the head. Cleared the upper & Births decks for washing tommorrow, at 10 P M cloudy with light Rain which continued till 12 (Midnight) at which time clear, A M pleasant weather with moderate Breezes from the Eastward, Carpenters not at work this forenoon, Ships company employ'd from day light until 9 A M, in washing & cleaning the upper & Birth decks, and in painting the yellow on the starboard side which completes our painting except under & round the head, We this morning Received fresh beef for ships Company, Surgeons Report, Seven Sick, one Colvalescent and five discharged, Noon moderate winds E S E & cloudy weather. —

[LC. EPP, Log Constitution, 1803–1804.]
Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Sunday, 7 October 1804

Took lodgings with Jonathan Bradbert [John Broadbent], Esq., navy agent of the United States, a rich, intelligent, respectable British merchant, of plain manners and hospitable dispositions. Average dividend of expense from Syracuse to Messina, dollars 36,30. Gratifications — the society only of our own party; and there damped by a continued series of melancholy proofs how fatal to human happiness is the hypocrisy of religious bigotry in the hands of a privileged priesthood. Every thing is stamped with wretchedness; which nothing short of an entire revolution or the resurrection can erase. Brydone is a graceless liar — so is general discription.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm^ 1 E 14.]


[Syracuse] I omitted noticing yesterday the sailing of the United States Ship President, on a cruise. Commodore Barron is in such an ill state of health that he was not able to go in her but has taken his lodgings on shore for the benefit of his health —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To John Stricker, Navy Agent, Baltimore, Md., from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP Oct. 8th 1804

I enclose a copy of the Original invoice sent to me by the navy agent at Norfolk of the cargo of the Ship Alfred Jas. Patch master which you will be pleased to have insured on the best terms in your power — insure from Norfolk to Gibraltar and from Gibraltar to Syracuse or Malta, should the Alfred be Ordered from Gibraltar to either of these places.

Mr. Brown Navy agent at Boston states to me that the Alfred is a New Ship of about three hundred and thirty tons burthen carpenters measure

The Alfred sailed from Norfolk about the 1st inst —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

To Secretary of State from William Jarvis, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, Portugal

LISBON 8 Oct^ 1804

Sir. The Barbary Jew mentioned in the foregoing called on me yesterday & all he could learn was, that the three frigates had orders to cruise a month before they came in here, that their object is to repair the two large ones, that the two in here came in contrary to the Admirals consent, that for so doing they made an excuse of being much out of repair, particularly the small one, that the Emperors letter to the Prince is on board the Admiral & they cannot ask for any thing untill he arrives & it is delivered, that they had secret orders to be broken open in a certain time, but seem’d to think that it was to be after the frigates were coppered, that they were at war with the Nations who had an Eagle with legs — meaning the Imperial & Prussian flag; but did not know where the frigate that is out was gone to Cruise or what she was after. When asked if they were at war
with the Americans they replied, that they were the last year & took a Vessel by the Emperors orders which he afterwards disowned: being they were not at present & if the Emperor had any secret intentions of it, they presumed it would not be put in Execution till after he got his fleet in order. This story taken to-gether is by no means satisfactory, for the truth is, that it is impossible the large frigate should have quit the Admiral under pretence of repairs & being leaky: for she is almost a new Vessel & is in extremely good order in every respect except the want of copper, & that would not have hindered her from keeping the sea a month or much longer, and to have disobeyed the Emperors & Admirals orders without sufficient reason would probably cost the Captain his head. This excuse might hold good as to the small one, her hull appearing to be very crazy, altho: her rigging & sails are in good order. The story of the secret orders seems also absurd enough, if to be opened after they were repaired & had left the port; as they could not finish copering before mid-winter & those people never cruise in the winter: beside their orders might have followed them by the Portugueze Brig of War that goes between this & Tangier long before that time; nor does the report correspond with what they have all along said, that they were all immediately to return after the arrival of the Admiral, but it agrees very well with what Mr Simpson was informed in this respect. I think the probability is if there were any secret orders, they were to be opened by the Admiral before they came in here. The most essential part, as to what the other frigate is after we are still in the dark about, nor do I much expect to get any information on this point. I hope that the Mystery will not be unpleasantly unravelled when it is too late to remedy the evil.

I have not recd an answer from Mr de Araujo & as the advices by the two last posts state that the yellow fever is raging with great violence in Gibraltar & Cadiz I am afraid that this alone will be a sufficient reason for his detention if there is no secret motives —

Inclosed I have the pleasure to hand you a letter from Mr Pinckney & Mr Simpson recd to day —


To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

MESSINA October 8th 1804

Sir, Our journey from Syracuse to Catania was over a horrid road, and through an uncultivated rocky country from thence to this place we had pleasanter prospects; it is well however that we brought our allowance with us, or we might have starved. You were fortunate that you did not accompany us, as nothing we met with, could have compensated for the fatigue of travelling with such wretched cattle, and the torments suffered from Bugs & Fleas.

The discharging of the Ketch, Gun Boats and Bombs was completed yesterday, and the returns are now making out. The Enterprize sails tomorrow to join you, and takes the Officers that were in charge of the Ketch & Boats to join their respective Vessels — Captain Hull will be ready to sail on Sunday next unless the continuance of rainy weather prevents — I hope soon to have the pleasure of seeing you at Malta & find on enquiry that you can obtain 20 Gun & 6 Mortar Boats if you wish them — I have been requested to make a requisition for
that number, in order that they may be immediately completed, and kept in readiness — but not feeling myself at liberty to take such a step, I shall with pleasure present your requisition at Naples, and will point out to you the proper channel through which they may be obtained when I see you — The Neapolitan Governm¿ are disposed to render you every assistance in their power.

The Enterprise can be effectually repaired at this place, and at half the expense than it can be at Malta —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Master Commandant Thomas Robinson, Jr., U. S. Navy, U. S. Schooner Enterprise, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

MESSINA 8th October 1804

SIR, You will oblige me by landing M't Izard, M't Marcellin, and M't Haswell at Syracuse; & taking from thence to Malta, two of the longest Oak fishes in the Arsenal for the Constitution. The officers of the John Adams & Constitution you will please to carry to Malta, and may sail tomorrow morning.

[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, Monday, 8 October 1804

[Malta] Moderate Breezes from E S E we continue under Quarantine, Carpenters not at work this Afternoon towards evening anchored here the U S S Ship President Commodore Barron, Night cloudy with fresh breezes from E S E, between 12 at Midnight at 2 A M light Showers, Wind S S W, Veered away on the Stern cable A M Received from the President two Oak Fishes, a set of top gallant masts & two raw[?] Anchor Stock part of our Stores left at Syracuse, Carpenters employ¿ in putting up the wooden Rails which substituted the guard Irons and in boarding up the space between those Rails & the head, Forenoon moderate with cloudy overcast weather, Ships company employd in scraping & Scrubbing the Gun deck, fleeting the fore & main Rigging, the two Oak fishes received from the President have been some time wanted they are for fishing the Main mast; This morning we received fresh Mutton & Vegetables for Ships company, — at 7 A M hove in on the Stern Cable

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

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 9 October 1804

At 7 this morning we got under way and stood out of the Harbour. the Constellation in Company bound for Malta — at Maridian the town of Syracuse bore West distance 2 Miles — at 5 P. M. Cape Mondepore bore N ½ W. 3 Leages distance.

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

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

[Malta] Moderate Breezes from W S W, We continue under Quarantine, Ships & Maltees Carpenters employd in fishing the
Main mast, towards evening the billet head was brought off, Night Moderate, A M Ships company employed in washing between decks, in reeving new topsail & lower lifts, and in repainting the Quarter deck Guns, they are now painted a light yellow in order to correspond with the paint work of the quarter deck, — The Carpenters are employ’d in fishing the Main Mast & fitting the Billet head, — The Sail Maker with an additional number in his Crew employ’d making new Hammocks, and repairing the main Top sail, Surgeons Report Eight Sick & five convalescent, Noon Wind fresh W S W

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

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 10 October 1804

At half past 6 this morning discovered the Island of Malta bearing W. by S. distance about 6 Leagues at Maridan the south end of Malta bore N W. at 3 P M. the Constellation went into the harbour & half past 7. we entered the Harbour of Malta and Anchored in 11. fathom Water on our arrival here found the U States Vessels of War — President & Constitution (in quarantine) Brig Siren & Vizon —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate Constitution, Thursday, 11 October 1804

[Malta] Fresh breezes from W S W we continue in quarantine altho we were told it should be out yesterday, Ships Carpenters are employed with the 12 from shore in fishing the Main Mast, another Rotten place has been found in the Main mast, it is about 20 inches below the other Rotten place, on the other side of the Mast the Carpenters cut in nine Inches & found that it ran only through the side Fish, this newly discoverd place is nine inches deep, Seventeen long & four broad, that on the other side is three feet long, seven inches deep & eight Broad, Night moderate from 9 A M till noon cloudy weather with light Rains Ships Company employ’d in cleaning ship, strapping Block & fitting the Ridge Ropes, The Carpenters employed in fishing the main mast and Bolting on the Billet head, Noon winds moderate W N W I forgot to mention in the first part of this days log that the U S S. Constellation Anchored here, towards noon anchored here the U S S Jno Adams, —

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

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 11 October and Friday, 12 October 1804

I this day landed in Malta. for the first time As we were not permitted to land when we caled here on our way out. this is the most astonishing place perhaps in the World for its strength. the entry into the port is very narrow and is commanded by a strong castle on either side, on getting on shore I found myself in a new world indeed. the streets crowded with well dressed people who have all the appearance of health and affluence. Whereas at Syracuse everything is quite the reverse. my first object was to view the town of Valette and harbour. the strength both by nature and art is wonderful
indeed. It is certainly the happiest situation that can be imagined. The City stands upon a peninsula between two of the finest ports in the world, which are defended by almost impregnable fortifications that on the south east side of the City is the largest. It runs about Two Miles into the heart of the Island as is so very deep and surrounded by such high grounds and fortifications that they assured me the largest ships of war might ride in the most stormy Weather almost without a cable — This beautiful basin is divided into five distinct harbours, all equally safe and each capable containing an immense number of ships the mouth of the harbour is scarcely a quarter of a mile wide and is commanded by batteries on each side that would sink the heaviest ship of War before she could enter besides this it is fronted by a quadruple battery one above another the largest of which is on a level with the Water and mounted with about 100 pieces of their heaviest cannon so that this harbour I think may really be considered as impregnable and indeed it has ever been found so by all nations for the French got it by treachery and not by assault and was afterwards compelled to deliver it up to the English — being starved out.

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate Constitution, Friday, 12 October 1804

Moderate Breezes from W N W, We continue under Quarantine, The President, Constellation, Jno Adams and Siren at Anchor in Malta, the 12 Carpenters from Shore continue on board, towards evening a health Officer from the Prattick Office came on board — The Officers and ships company were all all ordered down on the Birth deck, where they were all Smoked, after the Ship was smoked the Health Officer went on shore, and another of higher rank came on board and ordered the Yellow flag to be hauled down, The Constitution has been quarantined 25 days, the 37 Caulkers & 8 Carpenters who have been at the quarantine grounds since the 3d of this month were this Afternoon discharged, Night moderate.

A M, Ships company employed as necessary, hoisted in the small Cutter for repairs & painting and hauled up the large Cutter on shore for ditto, Ships & Maltese Carpenters employed in finishing the Billet head fishing the Main Mast and taking off the Rail that goes Athwart the Stern, Received fresh provisions for ships company, Surgeons Report nine Sick and five convalescent. The three Greek ship had prattick Noon Wind W S W,
mast for wounding & taking off the Stern Rail, Surgeons Report nine sick & seven convalescent, Noon fresh Breezes wind W S W

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

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d’Affaires, Tunis, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

Sympathetic ink [Written in lime juice.]

TRIPOLI 14, Octo 1804

Dear Sir,

Yesterday I rec’d your letter of the 10th ultimo — those of the 16th July & 6 August, I have not received. I cannot understand your present letter, I presume for the want of them — Pray what shall I understand from your saying “that the arrangements already spoken of should be made immediately;” I wish you to explain this in your next — I cannot see any reason for our Gov’t to continue the war longer than next Summer for the Squadron will then be able to bring the Bashaw to as low terms as our present Navy is able to do, after the operations of the Squadron in the ensuing year, I conceive our case will be precisely thus — to comply with the terms that can be got after battering his Town, send an Army, or abandon us entirely to the hard fate which serving our Country plunged us into. — I rec’d your letter of the 23, June, but no enclosures with it — I frequently write to you & if you sh’d not receive them do me the justice to believe that I am Sensible of your attention to our Situation and shall not be neglectful to keep you informed of it, on two Acc’ one, that you may advise Government & the other I always feel pleasure in writing to a friend — I am & have been from . . . . . that the most proper way to negotiate a Peace with this Regency is for an American person properly authorized by his Government with letters of credence to this. For believe me that Sidi Muhammed Dghies, Minister of foreign Affairs to the Bashaw of Tripoli, has a just idea of conducting negociations in a respectable manner. In making peace with these people we must not consider them as savages, but treat them as a nation with whom we wish peace. If peace is not the object then conduct the war with all possible rigour. — No doubt but an American would [be] permitted to come and remain several days to negociate, and he might trust himself with safety for I do not believe that this Government would break its faith in such instances. This opinion of mine is hastily written, however, from it you will be able to get my meaning & can state the same to Col. Lear, and our Government —

I am Yours Sincerely

(Signed) W. BAINBRIDGE

OCTOBER 31st 1804.

Dear Sir, Nothing has transpired since the above letter was written — Not a word from America, or the Commodore do we hear — perfectly in the dark as to all movements, and harassed in mind with dreadful anxiety. The Bashaw scarcely allows our Crew the subsistence — I am told that Bonaparte’s letter to the Bashaw treating us with like is in the french papers. If his Imperial Majesty ever has written on that Subject, his letter has most assuredly been treated with contempt, which you may aver to M’t L. our Minister at Paris, that France may at some future day take notice of it — Please to inform Col. Lear that [I] write him often, but have not heard from him these five months past — In y’ letters be as communicative as
you can, and in mentioning any Sum for Peace, recollect to name only the one fifth of the real Sum—this will deceive in case of detecting our Correspondence—

God bless you
Yours sincerely  
(Sig’d) W. B.

[NAHS. Geo. Davis LB, Vol. 1.]

To Secretary of State from William Jarvis, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, Portugal

Duplicate

LISBON 14th October 1804

Sir By the Sloop Unity for Alexandria I had the pleasure to address the foregoing.

I have now the satisfaction to inform you that the Frigate was released from quarantine the 11th having went the preceding day to the Providor on the subject, who directly promised her release. Inclosed is the answer I received from the Minister in answer to mine of the 5th who at the same time sent me the Copy of the Law of the 5th October 1715 with the condemnation of the Brig Aurora Corrected; Copies of which letters are inclosed, as is a letter from Mr Pinckney.

The farther information the Jew gave me is that the Moors will sail in a day or two, being tired of waiting for the Admiral, who they still say they know nothing of, or where he has gone. They have been both painted here and that is all that is done to them. They have also taken in about two Ton of Cordage but I cannot learn that they have taken any Powder; however this I will get the first moment of leisure by going to the Powder Magazine about 4 miles up the River. The Frigate Essex will sail to day. William Jarvis & Co have supplied her with provisions &c amounting to $2161.40 for which Captain Barron will draw on the Secretary of the Navy in their favour—


[14 October 1804]

Certificate concerning Don Antonio Massi

This is to certify that Dª Antonio Massi, Bombardier, has in every instance during the siege of Tripoli, conducted himself in a brave and Officer like manner. I feel peculiar pleasure in assuring his Government, and all whom it may concern that his good judgment and intrepidity would do honor to any Service that he might be employed in.

Given under my hand at Messina in Sicily this 14th October 1804

(Signed) EDWARD PREBLE

[See letter of 17 October 1804.]

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

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Scourge, Midshipman (acting as Lieutenant) Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, 14 October 1804

(Syracuse Harbour) the Schooner Enterprize entered the harbour.

[NDA.]
To Secretary of State from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco
No 85. — Second Copy. —

Tangier 15th October 1804. —

Sir I beg leave to enclose duplicate of No 84 [6 October 1804] and to advise that the Emperor has Condemned the two Prussian Vessels with their Cargoes. — He has directed that the Captains & Crews shall be employed on the repairs of the Fortifications of Salle and Rhabat. — This is the first instance we have seen of Muley Soliman setting Christians under such circumstances to labour; — it is feared he may also demand Ransom for them, which is a thing he has on all former occasions of Captures by his Ships, professed to abhor. — I have received a Letter from M' Thomas Gavino of Gibralta in which he refers to a former, not yet come to hand.

From the tenor of this Letter I am led to hope the report of the Consuls [John Gavino] Death was without foundation, and that he has only retired from the Garrison for a time. —

Mr. Gavino tells me Commodore Preble had taken three Tripoline Gun Boats carrying each a Brass 26 pounder and destroyed some other; as his intelligence comes from Malta and is of an old date, I conclude particulars will have reached you, before this can.


[15 October 1804]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Richard Farquhar, Malta

May it Please Your Excellency I understand you are going to Cooperate with Cidi Achmet Caromili late Bashaw of Tripoli, as I forwarded his Dispatches to the American Government and also wrote concerning his expected assistance, Your Excellency may have an Answer to those Dispatches.

Commodore Preble last March fixed upon a Plan for the taking of Derna and Bengazi and to Co,operate with the late Bashaw — his Consul and me was to have gone to assist in this Business, but after I had a Vessel with a number of People Engaged for Two Months the Plan was drop'd, but Should your Excellency approve of taking those Places now as they are in a State of Famine and some Prizes would be taken, or if you think of Sending a Vessel to Alexandria first, that the Bashaw may go by land to take Derna and Bengazi.

As I have given Offence by the Information which I have given to American Officers and for Assisting those who is Prisoners in Tripoli, also for recommending the Pilot who assisted in Burning the Philadelphia Frigate, and for many other Services which I have done, these having been made known has got me a many Enemy there is a Vessel going to Tripoli also one for Gerba but I belive the Cargo is for Tripoli. I have had some conversation with those who is well Accquainted with the Afairs of Tripoli, they Say the People is dis-pleased with the Bashaw and as they are distressed for Grain and will be more so that the taking of Derna and Bengazi would compleat the Bashaws Ruin, and those Places can be taken very easily now, and if the late Bashaws Consul & me can be of any Service Please Command us, we hope this favorable oppertunity will not be looked over

I will be Much Obliged to your Excellency for a Passage in the first of your Vessels that will go for Syracusa. I hope the Information I
have given will not be made known even to Mr Pollies [Pulis] your Consul.

VALETA Oct 15, 1804
No. 2 Strada St Paul

[Mrs. James S. Barron Col.]  

To Secretary of State from James Leander Cathcart, Leghorn

LEGHORN Oct 15th 1804.

Sir. This day I was honor'd with your very acceptable letter of the 11th of June & am extremely happy that my conduct has been approved by his Excellency the President, the good of the service was my sole motive, so far as I was concerned I have been successful & my procuring the Gun & Mortar boats at Naples I presume has at least facilitated the reduction of the Bashaw of Tripoli to reason.

The enclosed are copies of letters received with yours from Messrs. Barron and Eaton, I don't subscribe to the latter's opinion as I have been always disposed to let the Barbarian chiefs alone while they remain friendly to us but when they infringe existing treaties to chastise them for their arrogance & thereby inspire them with a decided dread of our arms; the Mercury of Newyork arrived last night in which I intend to take passage, provided the good of the service prevents my return in a public ship for I am persuaded from the friendship which the Comodores professes for me that nothing less will prevent them from accommodating me.

A continental war it seems is inevitable and I am of opinion is absolutely necessary to restore the balance of power in Europe; the Pope sets out from Rome to crown his sacred Imperial Majesty Napoleone on the 3rd of November this is reversing the order of things & does not well accord with the opinion form'd by his holiness when this same Napoleone turn'd Mussulman in Egypt; what a flexible faith the little man has acquired! he is notwithstanding a great general & profound politician; but I thank providence that since we have taken possession of Louisiana there is between us and him a gulph! if their was not, I don't think we have any occasion to fear him, but the Bey of Tunis wisely observes that a fly in a mans throat d'tho it may not choke him may make him cough!!!

I have not the least doubt but the Emperor of Morocco intended to act as I had the honor to inform you I suspected he would in mine of the 30th of November 1803 & that he acts under the influence therein mentioned is an incontrovertible fact; the arrival of the Squadron will no doubt prevent him for the present & I think Com° Barron has acted judiciously in leaving the Congress & Essex to watch the motions of his piratical squadron until they are dismantled.

I have nothing of importance to communicate & continue with respectful esteem.

P° S° I omitted to observe that the $4000 for which I placed a credit in Malta Tripoli Naples & Leghorn subject to the order of Com° Preble & Cap° Bainbridge for the use of the Officers & crew of the Philadelphia has not been drawn for, you will therefore please to debit me with that sum until final settlement.

[NA. SDA. CL, Tripoli, Vol 2, June 1801-Sept. 1805.]
WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS

To Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate
John Adams, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

(Copy) MALTA 15th October 1804

Sir You will be pleased to receive on board the Frigate John Adams under your Command the following Officers and Men —

Vizt —

M' Rich'd K Mead, Midshipman to be attached to the John Adams.
M' James Wilson Midshipman, to take passage for the United States to answer certain Charges exhibited against him by Captain Cox. —

Doctor Kneass, Surgeon's Mate to take passage to the United States to answer certain Charges exhibited against him by Capt. Campbell.

M' Whiting, Midshipman, whose State of Health makes it necessary that he shou'd return to the United States.

Nathan Hinds, a private Marine who is insane, and unfit for Service, You will be pleased to deliver him to any Marine Officer in the United States.

[NDAb MC LB, 1804-5.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate Congress, from Midshipman James Benshaw, U. S. Navy

TRIPOLI, CASTLE OF THE BASHAW,
in prison Tripoli 15th October [1804]

Dear Sir, His Highness the Bashaw's Minister of foreign affairs was so good as to inform us of this opportunity. having obtained information from a few french papers we had in our possession of your being called again into actual Service, and destin'd to cruise in these Seas; induced me once more to resume my pen and communicate to you the disagreeable situation in which we are placed at present our confinement prior to Commodore Preble arrival off this station in the month of July, was much alleviated by our being permitted occasionally to visit the Gardens of the Bashaw which is the only satisfaction we have ever experienced since our captivity. an audience was granted yesterday forenoon to Capt Bainbridge by the Minister of foreign affairs whose conduct to us has been universally that of a Gentlemen I assure had it not been for this friend our treatment would have undoubtedly been more rigourous. at the commencement of our captivity a parole of honour was promised to be granted us the Minister became our Guarantee, but the Prince not wishing us to have any communication with our crew put an end to the only pleasure we could derive from being prisoners in Barbary. Honour so far from being ingrafted on a [space] mind that they think it impossible for any of us to remain prisoners when an opportunity offered for an escape, however there can be no kind of doubt but this is the most civilized Prince, as well as his Subjects of the Barbary Powers. and as Such has distinguished himself since our captivity —

His B. M. Consul. M' Langford has made application to the Bashaw respecting Capt B. remaining at his house during our captivity, which I sincerely wish may be granted as he has enjoyed but a very poor state of health for this four months past.

I fear the liberty I took in addressing you at the commencement of our imprisonment has not met with your approbation. if so I beg you will let me know so that I may desist from troubleing you again, I
do not scruple to say my motives for writing were from the unremitting attention shown me the short time I had the honour of being placed under your command. In fact I look'd upon you as a friend more than a Commander, but the wide distance placed between us would not sanction my consulting you in many instances that I wished. However I trust the day is not far distant before I shall have the pleasure of being again ordered under your command. My first to you bearing date [space] was through the hands of my Brother of Phil* with the request of his writing you, which I have no doubt has been put in execution provided they came safe to hand. Should I be so fortunate as to have any letters I beg you will forward them the first conveyance, as I feel very uneasy on account of not having receiv'd a letter from my distant friends Since our captivity Captain Bambridge writes Commodore Barron and Preble by this opportunity and was not for that I am confident you would hear from him I informed him of my intention of writing you, he desires his best respects to you. We have most of us been afflicted with the fall fever which prevails in this horrid climate —

[LC. JRP, Ac. 3647.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate Congress, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

MALTA, Oct. 16th 1804

DEAR SIR, I have the pleasure to inform you, that we arrived at Syracuse the 34 day after we left you, where we remained ten days owing to a severe indisposition of Commodore Barron. From thence we had two days to this place, where we find every thing very agreeable. We are fixed in good quarters, and I hope soon to have the pleasure of seeing you there.

On the 14th a Convoy of 16 sail arrived from England, after a passage of 8 weeks. They bring nothing new. — Commodore Preble went from Syracuse to Messina, soon after we arrived at the former place, and is hourly expected here in the Argus. —

The Constitution will be ready for Sea in a week or ten days. She is most completely fitted, and is as fine a Ship as swims on the Sea. You will be tempted to take command of her, notwithstanding your partiality for your excellent Ship, the Congress. I feel a strong predilection for the Constitution. I think, besides being good, she will be a most fortunate Ship; and I am sometimes good in my predictions

M^r Lear is in good health and sends her regards & best wishes to you.

[LC. JRP, Vol. 1, Series Two, Feb. 1775–May 1805.]

[16 October 1804]

Estimate of the condition and value of Tripoline Gunboats captured by the U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean

In Execution of the Order of the Marshal, Marquis Esplugas, Commodore General of this Marine Department in date of the 15th Inst communicated to me by the Inspector of this Royal Arsenal D. Geo Balta de Sterlich Captain of a ship of the line, having been on board the two Gun Boats Prizes to the Squadron of the United States under the Command of Commodore Preble for the purpose of Esteeming the
same as well of their first Construction as also of the actual State of them, and found as follows:—

The said two Tripolin Gun Boats now in the power of the American Arms have been Visited and found to be of a Good Construction and dementions, being 47½ feet in length from head to Stern, in breadth without the Body 13 feet, in heigth from the Keel 4¾ were also found well nailed and in good Order, the Body, Keel, Rudder &c are of Helem and the remainder all of Oak excepting the Stern and some Beams.

By all which it is Judged, that wishing to Construct some equal to these, here at Messina, the Hull alone of one of them would cost Dl* 1250 These in question may be worth Dl* 800, Each not being unfit to serve for the use for which they have been Constructed.

MESSINA 16th October 1804.

(Signed) — Vº Gio: de Sterlich Inspt
GIROLAMO BIANCHI

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig Scourge, Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, 16 October 1804

(Syracuse Harbour) the Enterprize sail'd —

[NDA.]

[17 October 1804]

To Don Antonio Massi, Bombardier, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SIR, You are to consider yourself in the Naval Service of the United States with pay and emoluments of a Lieutenant; and are to take under your particular care the two Gun Boats belonging to the United States now in this Port, together with the Guns and whatever belongs to them; and attend to such other duty as may be assigned you in future by the commander of the American Squadron until further orders — for which, this shall be your suff: Warrant.

Messina October 17th: 1804

(Signed) EDWARD PREBLE

[See letter of 14 October 1804.]

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

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Master Commandant Thomas Robinson, Jr., U. S. Navy

U STATES SCH† Enterprize MALTA HARBOUR

17th October 1804

SIR, On Friday 5th October laying at Anchor in the Port of Messina at about 10. O'Clock, P M, Thomas Davis a Seaman belonging to the Above schooner under my command deserted from her and was found next morning on board the British Sloop of War Morgianna, commanded by [space] Reinsford Esq: I waited on Captain Reinsford immediately and demanded the man as a deserter from the U S Service, he refused; I then Insisted on his going with me before commodore Prebble, the commanding officer then in Messina, that a proper explanation and understanding might take place on so serious
an event, a meeting followed, and in consequence an arrangement was made of which Commodore Preble no doubt will inform you —

the man was left on board the *Morgianna* for a future demand,

There are several circumstances attending this business too lengthy for this report, —

[Mrs. James S. Barron Col.]

---

**Inventory of Gunboat No. 7**

17 October 1804

Inventory of the American Gun Boat No. 7 and properly one of those taken from the Tripoleens by Commodore Preble's Squadron, with the value or price to it at the request of said Commodore, and in Execution of the Order received from Marquis D. Nicola Espluga chief Commander of the Squadron, and Commodore General of the Depart:

**Copy MARINA INSPECTION — MESSINA [17th Oct 1804]**

The Hull is valued at Eight Hundred Dollars, just the estimation made by the Constructor Giolamo Bianchi which are... D** 800.**

NB The Masts, Rigging, Peake of the Teysel, the Giboom, and other Articles of Cordage belonging to the same were not Priced or es-teemed, on ac containing that they were not to be found on board at the time of Capture.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 Oars a 40 grains Each</td>
<td>6.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Flag Staff</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A small anchor or grampnal Weight 52 Rotols a 10 D** p** Cwt.</td>
<td>5.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Pieces Tar Pollands weight 10 Cantars value</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A small Cable 66 feet 5 In** length &amp; 1.30 Cantar Weight a 6 D** p** Cwt.</td>
<td>7.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A piece of Ditto 9 feet 6 Ins in length, &amp; 22 Rotols Weight a 1 D** 4 p** Cantaro or Cwt.</td>
<td>0.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Another Piece Ditto 13 feet 6 Ins</td>
<td>1.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>D</strong> 823.68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ARTILLERY ARTICLES**

A Brass Cannon 24 Pounder Spanish Construction marked on one side Quintali Spagnuoli 63.50 equal to Neapolitan Cantars 33.12 a 60 D** p** Cantar | 1987.20 |

A Powder Chest with Iron Wheels &c | 7.00 |

2 Small Brass Cannons Weighing 1 Cantar 97 Rot* valued at a 60 D** p** Cantar | 118.20 |

The two Pitch Forks for said Cannones valued at | 0.70 |

**Total:** | **D** 2113.10 |

All the other artillery Articles vizi, A Leadene hole Stopper, — 3 Tind Tackles & falls, 1 ditto for use of drawing to the Battery, 2 unloading Irons — 1 of 12, & 1 of 24 Pounder, 2 Broons for Cleaning Gun, 22 Balls of diff sizes, 72 ditto of 3rd size, 32 of 2, and 22 of 1 — four Rammers of 24; 50 Bombs diff sizes, 3 Supermissioners, 1 Copper measure, and a Powder Chest for the Powder Magazene, are all valued at | 100.0 |

**Total:** | **D** 2213.10 |

Am* of the Articles belonging to the Hull &c | 823.68 |

Ditto of Artillery | 2213.10 |

**Total:** | **D** 3036.78 |

(Signed) — STERLICH Inspector
WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS

Ducats ---- 3036. 78
Equal to Neap........... $2530. 7 . 8
Agio 5 p' Ct.............. 126. 6 . 0
Spanish Dollars........... 2404. 1 . 8

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

[17th October 1804]

Inventory of Gunboat No. 8

Inventory of the American Gun Boat No. 8 and properly one of those taken from the Tripoleens by Commodore Preble’s Squadron, with the Value or Price to it, at the request of said Commodore, and in Execution of the Order received from Marquis D: Nicola Espluga Chief Commander of the Squadron, and Commodore General of the Department.

Copy MARINA INSPECTION — MESSINA 17th Oct 1804

The Hull of the Ship is valued at Eight hundred Ducats, just the estimation made by the Constructor Girolamo Bianchi which are D' 800. 0---

NB The Masts, Rigging, Peke of the Traysel, the Giboom together with other Articles of Cordage belonging thereto cannot be valued as they were not found on Board at the time of Capture.

19 Oars a 40 grains Each------------------------------- 7. 60
A flag Staff------------------------------------------ 1. 00
A quarter Deck Tent Canes 15½ a 17½ grains pr Cane--- 2. 55½
A small Anchor or Grampnel Weight Cantars 2.15 Rot a D' 10------------------------------- 21. 50
A small Cable in length 35 feet 6 Ins, in Weight 90 Rot a 4 D' pr Cantar------------------ 3. 60
A Piece of Ditto 16 feet 6 Ins Weight 32 Rot a 4 D' pr Cantar.... 1. 28
Twelve Weight Cantars 7 a 4 D' pr Cantar------------------- 28. 0

D' 864. 63½

ARTILLERY ARTICLES

A brass Cannon 24 Pounder, Spanish Construction marked on one side Quintali Spagnuoli 68.55 equal to Neapolitan Cantars 33.14 a D' 60 p' Cantar........................................ 1988. 40
A Powder Chest with Iron Wheels.......................... 7. 00
A large Iron hammer for drawing nails........................ 1. 20
All the other Artillery articles viz: 160 diff. size Balls, 10 Rammers—33 Boxes Nail Shot, 134 Old Shrowd Blocks, 4 Bombs, diff. sizes, 5 Brooms for clean Gun, 2 unloading Irons are all valued at.......................... 80. 00

D' 2076. 60

Amt of Hull and Materials &c............................ 864. 63½
D' of Artillery articles................................. 2076. 60

Total........................................ D' 2941. 23½

(Signed) STERLICH Inspector

Ducats 2941-23½ tar qr
Equal to Neap: $2450 --- 3 --- 3½
Agio @ 5 pr Ct 122 --- 6 --- 1
Spanish dollars $2327 --- 9 --- 2½

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]
To Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. *John Adams*, from Captain Hugh Campbell, U. S. Navy

Copy

Sir. I am ordered by Commodore Barron to send Wm Hinds a Marine, late of the *Constellation* on board the *John Adams* he having leave to return home on Account of a mental Derangement which he labours under I am respectfully

Hugh G. Campbell

*Constellation* 17th Octr 1804

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Baraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *Constitution* Wednesday, 17 October 1804

[Malta] Moderate breezes from W S W, *President, Constellation* and *John Adams* in company, The 12 Carpenters from Shore employed in repairing the Stern where the Rails have been taken off. On Monday last Mr William Sweeney, Gunner was suspended from duty, and Ordered to his Cabbin, charged with disobedience of the orders of Lieut Gordon of the *Constitution*, Ships company employd in repainting the ships sides and blacking the bends, A M at 8 sailed on a Cruize the U S S *Constellation*, — The ships company employd in fleeting the Top Mast Backstays, staying the topmasts & repairing the inside work forward on the upper deck Carpenters & a party of Men employd on shore in repairing the large Cutter & painting the Gratings and Capstern Bars, at 10 Sent an Officer & a party of Men to the Greek Polacre Ship brought in here by the *Argus* on the 18th September last in order to transport here into the mole for discharging her Cargo, which is wheat, Surgeons Report, Eight Sick, Moderate & pleasant these 24 hours, —

Noon Wind E B S

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

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. *John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 17 October 1804

We are employed discharging our Cargo. yesterday at 7. P M. the Schooner *Enterprize* arrived. from Messina & at half past 7. the *Constellation* got under way & stood out of the Harbour. George Mitchell & Walter Boyd rejoined the ship again from the *Enterprize*.

Now for Malta again. As the City of Valetta is built on a hill none of the Streets except the Key are level — they are all paved with white free stone and are very offensive to the eye from the reflection on them and the Walls of the House which are built of the same. the Houses are generally three four & five stories high, and the Streets are Generally narrow except one or two principal ones. The principal buildings are the palace of the grand master. the infirmary the arsenal the inns or hotels of the seven tongues & the great Church of Saint John. The Palace is a noble though a plain structure. It is now the residence of Sir Alexander John Ball Governor of the Island

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]
Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 18 October 1804

[In harbor of Messina, refitting, watering and taking in provisions and stores, from 3 October 1804.]

At 5 AM weighed anchor and made sail beating out of the harbour of Messina at 8 hove too hoisted in the boats Commodore Preble Consul Eaton and Cap. Decatur came on board took a Ketch in tow under Convoy for Malta made all sail at 12 the Southermost point on the Calabria bore SbE ½ E Several Strange sail in Sight

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy commanding, Thursday, 18 October 1804

[Routine cruising off Tripoli since 24 September 1804.]

At ½ past 9 [PM] Captain Rodgers and M. Allen left the ship in the gig to go in and sand the harbour of Tripoli.

At Midnight moderate breezes and Cloudy at ½ past 1 a heavy Squall from the Eastw.

At 7 Capt. Rodgers returned in the Gig — the Nautilus in company.

Latitude Observed 33° 13' N

[USNA.]

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

[Malta] Moderate breezes from E, S, E, President & Jno Adams in company, The 12 Carpenters from shore employ'd in finishing the Stern & Cut Water, Ships company employ'd in fleeting & setting up the top mast back stays, and painting the main mast & Bow sprit Towards evening heavy Showers, The black paint above the yellow which has been repainted on the Fore part of the ship has this afternoon entirely Ruined the Yellow, The Constitution is now all complete for Bending sails, at 7 P M anchored here the U, S, Schooner Enterprise Lieut Robinson Night Showery by intervals, Winds fresh E's E employed in cleaning between decks and in scraping down top & top gallant masts. This forenoon the Cut Water & Billet head were completed Returned the stage which has been employed for the Carpenters to work on,

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

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Scourge, Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, 18 October 1804

(Syracuse Harbour) Arriv'd the brig Argus having Comm. Preble on board —

[NDA.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 19 October 1804

Cast off the Ketch at ½ past 2 AM came to in the harbour of Syracuse with the Larbg bower Ketch in C° at 7 Commodore Preble went on Shore at 9 Consul Eaton & Cap. Decatur went on Shore — Ends very heavy rain

[NDA photostat.]
Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate Constitution, Friday, 19 October 1804

[Malta] Moderate breezes from E S E with cloudy over cast weather, President and John Adams in company discharged this Afternoon the 12 Malta Carpenters They have been employ'd (Sundays Excepted) since 24th of September last in repairing the Cut water fitting the Billet head & making other necessary alterations, The Constitution had before a Hercules head, which with the Cut Water was destroyed on the 12th of September last as mentioned in that days log, The large launch which has been employed for the Carpenters, was this day returned to the Navy Agent, Evening strong breezes from E B S, Night Showery & unpleasant, A M at 7 the wind shifted in a heavy squall from E S E to W S W, with heavy thunder & rain Veered away our stern Cables, Ships company employ'd in cleaning ship, as the morning is Rainy no men went on shore on liberty, — Surgeons Report Nine Sick and three discharged Noon, Wind fresh N N E, with light Rain

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

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Richard Farquhar, Malta

May it Please Your Excellency

to give the order for me to go to Syracuse, to the Bearer who was Pilot to the Vessel that went in to Tripoli to Burn the Philadelphia Frigate, and whom I recommended, & Should your Excellency want any more Pilots or any other Service I can do for America Please Command me

Valletta Oct 21

[Mrs. James S. Barron Col. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 22 October 1804

Employed getting ready for sea AM at 5 got under way at 7 Commodore Preble came on board with Mr Eaton — and Mr Randolph — employ'd sweeping and towing out of the harbour of Syracuse.

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Surgeon Jonathan Cowdery, U. S. Navy, 22 October 1804

None of our cruisers were to be seen from the top of the castle. The Tripolitan gun boats were disarmed, and the Bashaw's gunners were employed in drawing the charges from the cannon on the battery. Many of the guns now stood in the sand, as they did when commodore Preble first attacked the town. On being fired two or three times, they recoiled into the sand so deep that they could not be worked, and were abandoned. The Bashaw told me that if he had three frigates, he would blockade America. He said he could do it as easily as a frigate and schooner could blockade Tripoli!

[LC. Rare Books, American Captives in Tripoli or Dr. Cowdery's Journal, Boston, 1806.]
WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS

Extract from log book kept by Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate Constitution, Tuesday, 23 October 1804

[Malta] Light airs and pleasant weather, President, John Adams & Enterprize in company, discharged from the Constitution to the President Captain John Hall, Lieutenant Greenleaf, and all their detachment of Marines 50 in number, joined the Constitution from the President, Captain Gale and Lieutenant, OBan[n]on with a detachment of Marines 49 in number, Received from Mr Higgins Navy Agent 11 Casks of Spirits, some of them pipes & some of them Puncheons, their contents were not marked, The eleven Casks were returned empty to the Agent, — In the evening the Body of Samuel Pool deceased was put into a Boat and committed to the deep without the Harbour, Night moderate with intervals of Rain A M the Carpenters with a party of Men employ'd on shore in repairing the large Cutter, — Our sick list daily increases, the Surgeon thinks it is owing to the quality of the water, which we daily receive from shore, & which from the late heavy Rains is white & impregnated with a limy substance Sick Report twenty Sick and five convalescent Noon fresh Breezes from W S. W,

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

To the Health Officer, Lisbon, Portugal, from William Jarvis, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, Portugal

Copy

LISBON 24th Octo' 1804

SIR The American Vice Consuls of Porto & Figueira have written to me relative to the inconvenience & hazard to which Vessels were subjected in performing quarantine without those Rivers. In fact, at this inclement season of the year it is absolutely impossible, as Vessels have not the smallest shelter from a tempestuous ocean; and it is no doubt within Your Lordships recollection, that an American Vessel, but a short time ago, after laying five days off Porto Bar, without being permitted to enter the River, was forced to put away for this Port, with, I beleive, the loss of an anchor & that a Schooner which was not allowed to enter the Mondego has arrived here within two or three days, with the loss of a Cable & Anchor. This inconvenience I think can be remedied with the greatest safety to the Health of His Royal Highness the Prince Regents Subjects, at the same time that the most perfect safety is secured to the Vessels by permitting them to perform quarantine at the nearest safe anchorage within the mouth of the Lower River, under the inspection of the Health Officers. Upon the opposite side of the Mondigo from Figueira, about two miles & a half from the mouth & two miles from where Vessels usually lay, a place where there are no houses near the shore appears to be well adapted to the purpose; both as to the health of the inhabitants & to the safety of the Vessels —

Your Lordship must be too sensible of the inconvenience to which the inhabitants of those two provinces will be subjected, by being deprived of the foreign supplies of the first necessary of life, not to make such arrangements as will secure to Vessels a direct entry into the Rivers to perform quarantine, if it shall appear that no danger attends the measure. —

I have taken the liberty to commit my ideas to paper agreeable to
To His Lordship — JOAO ANASTACIO FERREIRA RAPOSO, Provider Mor of Health, of this Kingdom &c &c &c


[24 October 1804]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy

SIR — OBedient to yours of the 16th Inst I proceeded in the U. S. Frigate under my command for the coast of Tripoli. Which the Severity of Weather prevented us from Seing until yesterday Morning — between that time and the Night of our leaving Malta the weather has been very Severe or in other words a smart Gale accompanied with uncommon heavy Squalls in which the Constellation has been deprivd of all her head rails and rendered very leaky in all her upper works particularly about the Bows, in so much that for some time we had doubts whether the leaks or pumps would preponderate.

Captain Rodgers leaves this for Malta this Evening, leaving the Nautilus to accompany the Constellation, which vessel I understand is by no means prepared for such weather as we have reason to Expect. — I shall reconiter the town and coast as oppertunity May offer, at the same time Keep an Iye to windward for a birth off Shore —

             HUGH G CAMPBELL

             Constellation — 24th Oct 1804

[Mrs. James S. Barron Col.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 24 October 1804

at ¾ past 8 [P. M.] came to in the harbour of Malta and warped higher up

At Midnight came too in the harbour of Malta with the Starboard bower found here the President, Constitution, John Adams and Vixen — Lieut Johnson of Marines went on bd the Constitution

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 24 October 1804

[Off Tripoli] At 1 [PM] discoverd a sail on the starb Bow Made sail and gave chace

At ¼ past 6 beat to quarters and cleard Ship for action soon after spoke The US. F. Constellation

Latitude Observed 33° 8' N.

[USNA.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Malta, 24 October 1804

Returned to Malta in the Argus after having travelled by land from Syracuse to Messina. Found there the President, John Adams Argus and Enterprise.

[LC original.]
[Malta] Fresh Gales from W S W, President, John Adams and Enterprize in company, at 2 P M veered away the Stern Cable, and let the Ship Swing to the Bower, The Buoy of the small Bower was this afternoon stove by a Polacre ship proceeding to sea, at 10 in the evening Anchored here the U S Brig Argus from Syracuse, Commodore Preble came in the Argus, but the Argus did not get praticque till 10 in the morning when he Rejoined the Constitution after being absent on the United States Service 31 days, the Comm" was accompanied on board by several of the Captains of the Squadron, among them was Captains Decatur & Chauncey, at day light we swung the Ship & hove in the Stern Cable, since yesterday 22 more is added to the Sick list, which makes 44, their principal complaint is a Graping with a flux, An American Store Ship arrived here to day from Norfolk in America. at Noon fresh Breezes from W B S.

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

To Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

MALTA October 25th 1804

Sir, I have now an opportunity, and I hope it will not be the last I shall have of writing you previous to my leaving the Mediterranean, although I return to the United States in the John Adams Captain Chauncey in a few days, having been superceded by Commodore Barron. I sincerely regret that it has not been in my power to liberate yourself, Officers & Crew while in command; be assured no exertion on my part has been wanting which our Government, and the forces under my command would justify — The forces which we now have in these Seas, will undoubtedly free you from your present situation 'ere long. I have rec'd a number of letters from America for yourself and Officers which I have delivered to Commodore Barron; he will undoubtedly forward them when prudence sanctions the measure.

I shall leave a copy of accounts relative to supplies &c forwarded to Tripoli, with M't Higgens our Agent at this place; and shall write you often from America — I presume that most of my letters heretofore written, have never reached you, as they remain unanswered.

May God bless and preserve yourself and Officers, and soon restore you to all your friends; is the ardent wish of one who feels sensibly your misfortunes

P. S. Our Government has approbated my conduct while commanding in these seas; and I have been hon'd with a letter of thanks — The present Squadron could not be fitted out without superceding me as we had not a sufficient number of Captains in America Junior to me —

E P. —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]
To Captain Hugh G. Campbell, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate Constellation, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES FRIGATE CONGRESS off TRIPOLI

October 25th 1804

Sir As the situation of our affairs at present do not make it Essentially necessary (I conceive) for more than two Vessels being on the Coast to continue the Blockade, I shall leave this Immediately for Malta — & herein Enclose you Commodore Barrons Instructions to me, for your Goverment. —

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, Book A, 1804-1805.]

To Secretary of State from John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar

№ 5

South Gibraltar 25th Oct 1804

Sir

* * * * * * * *

Here we have nothing new, the Essex & two Morrocco Cruisers were at Lisbon the 28th Ultq. The 3d Cruiser has returnd to Salle with a Prusian ship & Brig wth she Capturd going from Lisbon for Amsterdam & Antroup, the Captives are made to work. —

The Disorder continues its Ravages much the same, I have further lost Broth & a Sarvent —


Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 25 October 1804

At sunset the town of Tripoli Bore S B W, distance 4 leagues —

At 4 [AM] took our departure for Malta Made and took in Sail as occasion required

Latitude Observed 33° 57' N.

[USNA.]


Moderate Breezes from the W S W, we are in Malta President, John Adams, Argus & Enterprise in Company, at 3 P M sailed for Syracuse the U S S Enterprise, We Received the Kedge & Hawser we lent in the late Gale, we Received From Syracuse Prison, by conveyance of the Argus Seven Tripolitans, they are officers taken in the Ketch and Gun Boats in Commodore Prebles Squadron, A M moderate and Overcast weather we Received from the Agent Eight Puncheons of Rum they were towed off, no contents were marked on the Casks, we Received from the Agent one standing & one flying Jib Boom and a fore top gallant yard, the Surgeon Reports 60 Sick and four on the Recovery, at Noon Calm, —

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


[Malta] I omitted mentioning the arrival of his British Majestys Ship Arrow on the 20th — & 21st his majestys ship of War 64 gun the Anson. We had this day. Sunday [sic] a most tremendous gale
which did great damage to some of the ships in the outward Harbour —

Yesterday the American ship Alfred arrived 51 days passage with

stores for the Squadron — the U States Brig Argus also arrived from

Syracuse —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

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

No. 86. — Second Copy. —

TANGIER 26th October 1804. —

SIR I have the honour to enclose with this triplicate of No. 85 —

Lisbon is the only Channel left me now to forward my Communica-

tions in. — I have satisfaction in saying I have received a Letter from

Consul Gavino dated the 14th, to that time he had not been ill, but

he advises "the Fever continued to rage with unremitting fury" —

The Emperours Agents sailed from this Bay the 15th Inst. for

Lisbon, taking with them One hundred and forty four thousand

dollars. — A part of this sum is no doubt destined for purchase of

Ammunition and Cloathing for Troops, but the chief object in view is

undoubtedly the obtaining small armed Vessels suitable for Cruizing

in the Straits. —

The Chief Agent in the busyness is an intelligent Moor who has

resided nearly thirty years in different parts of Europe and who had

long resisted every endeavour of the Emperour to induce him to

return to this Country — he however came back some Months ago

and is generaly believed to be the person who laid the plan of this

Armament and its objects, before Muley Soliman. —

Alcayde Hashash has intimated to me the Emperours desire to send

the Meshouda to Tripoly. — I have answered him that is impossible

whilst War continues between the United States and that Regency, re-

minding him at same time, that it was on Muley Solimans engage-

ment this Ship should remain in his Ports until Peace, that she was

restored; to this I have not received any reply. — The Idea is so

repugnant to every sentiment of honour and of Justice, it can scarce

be supposed the Emperour or any of his Officers could expect it would

meet a favourable reception. — I very much fear it was agitated with

another view, that of seeking a cause of complaint and argument for

resenting the disapointment in that particular and in sending the

Wheat to Tripoly. — It is beyond a doubt Muley Solimans desire to

give assistance to Tripoly, I have viewed his conduct for some time as

acted by that principle and I cannot but recommend to Govern-

ment to meet this new Armament with a Naval force of a nature and

extent equal to the protection of the American Commerce in and about

the Straits at a very early period in the Spring. —

This Country will never openly declare War, their system has

always been to Capture first and treat with the full hand, — nothing

will avert such a blow I much fear at the time I have mentioned, but

a force equal to prevent it and to impress a sense of an immediate

severe revenge for such an Act, being the consequence of it. —

Peace with Tripoly on the basis of the former Treaty most likely would

keep matters quiet here. — I sincerely wish that may happily be

brought about. — I have not heard from Commodore Barron or

his Squadron since he left Gibraltar. —

The Essex arrived here from Lisbon on the 17th Instant and put to

Sea again some Evening. — A Tunisien Ambassador is now with
Muley Soliman, it is said he comes to solicit a supply of Wheat. — The Batavian Consul has quieted the Emperour for the present by making a considerable addition in money to the Present he gave at Mequinez and promising an Embassy so soon as the Political concerns of the Republic will admit of it. — The circumstance of their having no Commerce to interrupt, induced Alcayde Hashash to become an Advocate for this temporary arrangement —.


To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate Congress, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

U. STATES SHIP President

Malta Oct. 26. 1804

Sir With a View to relieve the Nautilus, I have instructed Cap‘ Hull to proceed Immediately, with the Brig Argus, to the Coast of Tripoli, and in case of your absence, of which I have some expectation, to place himself under the directions of Cap‘ Campbell; but should you still be on the Coast, you will please issue Instructions for the retention of the Ship Constellation & the Brig Argus, on the Coast of Tripoli, & return yourself with the Ship Congress & the Nautilus to this place, in order to receive under your command the U States Ship Constitution.

[L.C. JRP, Letters & Orders, 1804–1805.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig Argus, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

MALTA October 26th 1804

Sir The United States Brig Argus being now ready for Sea, you will proceed with her immediately to the coast of Tripoli and deliver the enclosed —

On your Arrival there, shou’d you not find Capt‘ Rodgers present, you will place yourself under the instructions of Capt‘ Campbell and there remain for further Orders; but shou’d neither of the Ships destin’d for the Blockade of Tripoli be found remaining on the Coast, you will then return to this place, bringing all the information you can possibly collect respecting them

[NDA. Captain’s LB, Vol. 3, 1805.]

Extract from journal of Surgeon Jonathan Cowdery, U. S. Navy, 26 October 1804

A great scarcity of grain. Our crew had no bread for three days. The Bashaw gave orders to all the market people, not to sell grain to any body but his household. There was no bread to be had for money. A dispute took place between the Bashaw and the renagado Lysle, about the purchasing of some barley. Lysle was considerably intoxicated, and insisted on his right to purchase grain in the market. The Bashaw was highly affronted, and flew at him with all his might, struck him, and ordered his mamelukes to disarm him and put him in prison, which they strove to obey, and carried him off. The Bashaw, however, soon ordered him released, and then ordered his servant, who was supposed to be the cause of the quarrel, bastinadoed with five hundred blows, which was immediately put into execution.

[L.C. Rare Books, American Captives in Tripoli or Dr. Cowdery’s Journal Boston, 1806.]
WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 26 October 1804

[En route from Tripoli to Malta] At 10 [AM] discoverd a sail on the lee bow
At 11 Fired a gun and brought the Sail too
At Meridian fresh breezes and clear Weather Spoke the sail she proved To be a turkish vessel with out papers & could give no account of her self
Latitude Observed 35° 29’ N.

[USNA.]

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

Moderate breezes from the W N W, We are in Malta President, John Adams, Argus & Vixen in company the Vixen this day hauled out from the dock yard She has been altered from a Schooner to a Brig We received the following provisions this afternoon One pipe of a 127 gallons two thirds full & one pipe of 94 gallons Molasses, 15 Barrels Pork, 30 Barrels Beef, two thirds of a Puncheon of Vinegar, 18 barrels flour, 8 Barrels of Beans and seven teirces Rice weight 4546 pound, This Afternoon Slung the lower yards, — The Sail Maker employed making a new suit of Sails for the Scourge, Carpenters sheeving the new spars from Shore, discharged from the Constitution to the Argus Lieutenant OBannon of Marines, Joined the Constitution from the Argus, Lieutenant Johnston of Marines deserted from the Constitution Nine days ago John Blisard, Thomas Barbar and Joseph Marlett Seaman, they made their escape when on liberty on shore, A M moderate winds W B N, We Received from the Navy Agent 71 Casks of Bread contents pr marks—26392 pound. The empty Casks was Received to the Agent, the Sick list continues to increase, The Surgeon Reports 71 Sick and three discharged, five out of the 71 is Sick with a fever, — The others with the flux at Noon Wind N W

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

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 26 October 1804

at 4 A M the U States Brig Argus sail’d for Tripoli I went on shore on business of the ship & in the Evening went to the opera

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To Sailing Master Nathaniel Haraden, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

UNITED STATES SHIP Constitution Malta Harbour 27th October 1804

SIR You are hereby permitted by and with the consent of Commodore Barron to exchange with the Master of the John Adams. You are therefore to repair on board that ship without loss of time.

[Similar letters were sent to Midshipmen John O. Creighton (to Constitution); William Lewis (to John Adams); Leonard J. Hunnewell (to John Adams); George A. Marcellin (to Scourge); John M. Haswell (to Scourge) and Sailing Master Marmaduke Dove (to Constitution).]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. STATES FRIGATE Congress [MALTA]

Sir: I have the Honor to acquaint you that I have this moment arrived direct from the Coast of Tripoli; which place I remained before, in the Execution of your orders to me of the 23\textsuperscript{rd} Ultd, until the 24\textsuperscript{th} Ins\textsuperscript{t} being joint again by the Constellation, I left it on the succeeding Day & Capt. Campbell in charge of the Execution of your orders, relative to the Blockade of that place —

I should not have returned into port quite so soon, had I not conceived the Force left on the Coast (Constellation & Nautilus) fully adequate, at present, to the completion of your Views, and this as the most favourable opportunity of repairing a small defect in the Rudder of this Ship & filling up her water; not having more than for three weeks, of that article on board. —

In compliance with your orders, during the time I remained before Tripoli the Blockade was kept up as close as the weather (which was generally good) & other circumstances would admit; and not a Vessel of any description during the time, got Either out or in, except on the 5\textsuperscript{th} Ins\textsuperscript{t}, four small coasting Boats loaded with Wheat, which they effected in consequence of light Winds & hazy Weather: Two of these Boats I chased on shore — one about three & the other five Miles to the Westward of the Town, & sent three Boats in to bring one of them off, Anchoring at the same time, within the reach of Grape of the Shore, conceiving I should be able to cover the Boats, so effectually, as to enable them to execute my orders without much opposition, but being so near the Town & in sight of an Arrabian Camp, before they could reach the shore, the Enemy had collected in such such Numbers, as to make the thing Impracticable without the greatest probability of making sacrifices, or at least hazarding more than the Emergency of such an acquisition would Justify. — As the Enemy were coverd by Rocks in a manner to prevent my annoying them much by the Fire from the Ship. — To the Officers (Lieut. Wyer, Henly & Blakely commanded the Boats) and Men engaged in this service, it is but Justice in me to observe that they would have Effected the Execution of my Orders, I have not the least doubt, in spite of all opposition, had I not been induced through motives of regard of the consequence of hazarding the lives of so many brave Men, to effect an object of so little Importance to their Country, by Countermanding my Orders (by Signal) after they had reach'd the Enemy within Pistol Shot. —

Conceiving it an object of no small Importance, to know with certainty to what distance our Ships can approach the Batterys of Tripoli with safety, I had resolved for some time past on sounding, the first favourable opportunity, for this purpose; & on Friday night 19\textsuperscript{th} Ins\textsuperscript{t}, I made the attempt & succeeded, (without Interception) much to my satisfaction, — It being between one & two o'clock in the morning, when I went in & every thing quiet, I was enabled to approach so near as to observe the position of the Cruizers & found that all the Gun Boats were haul'd up with their Sterns Foremast on the Beach, so as to Enable them to act as a Battery & the Ketch Schooner, Brig & two Galleys, dismantled & moored to the Walls — The Brig has no masts in — I am now sufficiently acquainted with the Coast, contiguous to the Batterys, to consider myself a good
Pilot, & this has proved to me (in service like this) the necessity of every Man of War having a Gig; as the sounding an Enemy's Coast can be effected in one of those Boats without Risque, when it cannot be done in any other with safety — I was in 4 feet water inside of the Rocks, unpercieved, altho I could hear the People on Shore distinctly in common conversation —

The small Zebec which accompany'd the Congress into this Port, I fell in with yesterday morning, between this & Tripoli, steering for the latter place, she is armed with two Carriage Guns & one Howitzer[\*], with 9 Turks on Board — This Vessel has neither Colours nor a Skrip of Paper of any kind, to prove what Nation she belongs to. — Her Crew says that she is a Prize to a Tunitian Cruizer; however I should rather suppose that she is a Tripoline, and that her Papers have been thrown overboard: At any rate be this as it may, the circumstances under which I found her, are, I conceive, a sufficient Justification on my part, for sending her in for Examination. —

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, Book A, 1804-1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 27 October 1804

(Lieu\(^\d\) O'Bannon of Marines Came on board [on 26 October] and Superceded Lieu\(^\d\) Johnson — )

AM at \(\frac{1}{2}\) past 5 got under way and stood out of the harbour of Malta backed the main Topsail and sent the Jolly boat on Shore at 11 Two boats came from the Commodore to tow us at \(\frac{1}{2}\) past 11 the Jolly boat returned Lieu\(^\d\) Heathcot Reid Joined us as 3\(\text{rd}\) Lieu\(^\d\) At 12 Sent the Commodores boats back and made all sail —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 27 October 1804

Beating up for the Island of Malta.

At \(\frac{1}{2}\) past 12 [P M] Sent\(^\d\) on board the strange Sail To take posession of her Mr[^\d] Downs And Sprigg with 9 Sailors

At Sunset saw Mount Etna bearing N \(\frac{1}{4}\) W The Island of Malta N W B W \(\frac{3}{4}\) W distance 15 leagues

Latitude Observed 35° 39' N

[USNA.]

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 27 October 1804

Still laying at Malta Commodore Barron is here in a very ill state of health [manuscript mutilated]

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKraft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Source, Midshipman Ralph Isard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, 27 October 1804

(Syracuse Harbour) Sail'd the Schooner Enterprize for Malta. —

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

**Tunis October [*]** 28th 1804

Dear Sir, I am this moment favored with letters from M' O'Brien, by which I learn the result of your operations against Tripoli, as honorable to yourself, as I trust they will prove advantageous to our Country. It is with pain I learn of your retiring from these Seas:— to me a most unexpected event. It would have afforded me unspeakable pleasure to have seen you once more at Tunis before you return to the United States. The friendly and confidential treatment I have ever rec'd from you, demands my unfeigned acknowledgments of gratitude — Whatever are your future movements, may they be crowned with that happiness you so justly merit; and which I trust no human events can destroy. Accept my best wishes for your health, prosperity and speedy return (since it is so ordained) to the bosom of your family: — and accept the assurances of the high respect and sincere regard * * *

[*This letter was included among the December letters in the book from which copied.]

LC. EPP, LB, Nov. 1804—Mar. 1805.]

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**Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, Malta, 28 October 1804**

Took up my quarters on shore and left Capt. Decatur in command of the **Constitution**. Congress arrived.

[LC original.]

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**Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 28 October 1804**

got the anchors off the bow. At Sunset light breezes the harbour Of Malta bearing N W. distance 4 Leagues. At 8 [PM] spoke the U.S. Brig **Argus** capt'n Hull bound on a Cruise off Tripoli. At 9 hove too Off the harbour of Malta.

At Midnight pleasant weather Standing off and on the harbour Of Malta. — At 7 made sail and Stood in for the harbour

At ½ past 8 shortened Sail and Came too with the larb'd bower anchor And moord ship. found laying Their the U S. Frigates **President Constitution** John Adams and brig Vixon —

[USNA.]

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

At anchor in Malta, Wind W, S, W, the **President John Adams**, & **Vizen** in company, Commodore Preble this day delivered up the command of the **Constitution** to Captain Decatur and took up his quarters on shore. — The **Congress** arrived from a cruize off Tripoly & brought in a Vessel detained as a pirate, she was armed and manned with Moors and without either papers or colours, —

Surgeons Report 68 Sick, 5 convalescent, 18 discharged, at Noon Wind fresh W S W, —

[LC. EPP, Log **Constitution**, 1803—1804.]
Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 28 October 1804

[Malta] The United States Frigate Congress arrived from the Bay of Tripoli all hands mustered and articles of War read —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from journal* of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Vixen, Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 28 October 1804

Malta At 10 o'clock P. M. the U. S. Brig Vixen set sail for Syracuse at which place we arrived at 11 o'clock in the morning of the 29th. All well. quarantined for 7 days. Sugar and chocolate served.

[*Belonging to N. Bolton near Hartford, Conn.]

[Belonging to N. Bolton near Hartford, Conn.

[29 October 1804]

To Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

(Copy)

Sir You will please to permit Serj Easton now on board the Ship John Adams, to exchange with Serjeant Spear

Oct 29th 1804

[NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 29 October 1804

Ends light winds and Pleasant the Small pox made its appearance on board found that there were 17 of the Crew who had not had it

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 29 October 1804

Harbour of Malta At 9 [PM] the U. S. Schooner Enterprize came In.

At ½ past 10 [AM] arrived the U. S. Frégate Essex, from Gibraltar

[USNA.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate John Adams, 29 October 1804

Joined the John Adams — as a passenger Capt. Chauncey.

[LC original.]


[Malta] Came on board from the Schooner Vixon to Join the Ship Nathl Hunt (Gunners Mate) John Thomas (Seaman) John Johnson (O S.) and John Miller & Micha1 Connor (marines) this day arrived U States Frigate Essex Capt. James Barron.

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

(Syracuse Harbour) Arriv'd his B. M. Ship Anson, Com'd Craycraft, also the U. S. Brig Vixen. —

[NDA.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from James Simpson, U. S. Consul, Tangier, Morocco

TANGIER 30th October 1804.

SIR — The 3d of this Month I wrote you by way of Leghorn to accompany triplicate of my respects of the 15th Sept. —

On the 28th Ult. one of the Emperours Frigates returned to Salle with a Prussian Ship and Brig, captured off the Coast of Portugal. The Crews have been set to work on the Fortifications of Rhabat and Vessels and Cargoes adjudged Prizes. — The other two Frigates went into the Tagus where Captain Barron left them on the 13th Inst. — The Frigate came to Salle has returned to Lisbon with two Captains to supercede the former Commanders of those Ships, whom the Emperour has determined to punish for having gone into that Port before the expiration of the term they were directed to Cruize. — The funds destined by Muley Soliman for augmenting his Navy went from hence on a Ragusian Polacre the 15th Inst. ascertained to be one hundred forty four thousand dollars. —

The purchase of Ordnance Stores — Cloathing for the Army and necessaries for the Emperours Family no doubt constitute part of the duties of the Agents on this occasion, but the chief object in view is obtaining Armed Vessels suitable for Cruizing in and about the Straits; this I give you from what I consider good authority. —

I am also equaly founded in saying Muley Soliman continues highly disposed to yield every assistance in his power to Tripoly and that his Shagrin at not having been able to do so before, is no way abated. Alcasye Hashash has intimated to me his Majestys desire of sending the Meshouda to Tripoly, I answered that it was impossible until Peace should take place, and reminded him that the Ship was restored on the Emperours engagement that she should remain in his Ports during the War, I have not received any reply to that Letter. — If Peace be happily concluded with Tripoly on the footing of the former Treaty, most probably we shall not have any novelty here, but if the War continues I make no hesitation in saying, that it is now my decided opinion this Country will take part in it early in the Spring, and that it is this intention has chiefly instigated the resolution of increasing their Navy. —

I have acquainted the Secretary of State of this and recommended an adequate Naval force being stationed near this by the time I have mentioned, either to prevent the dreaded evil, or resent with energy such Act of Hostility as may be committed. —

The Capture of these Prussian Vessels sailing from Lisbon, will probably induce the Minister of that Nation to endeavour at preventing the Moors purchasing Armed Vessels in Portugal, — but in England they will not meet such impediments. —

I have not failed to repeat to Mr. Jarvis my request of his keeping you advised what may be done in these matters under his observation, which I trust he will do. —
The Essex arrived here from Lisbon on the 17th Inst and put to Sea again same Evening, since when I have not seen or heard of Captain Barron. —

[Mrs. James S. Barron original.]

[30 October 1804]

To Officers commanding U. S. Ships of War in the Mediterranean, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

Permission is hereby granted to the Ship called Lady Shaw Stewart, George Parry Master, one of his Britanick Majesty's Transports No. 99 to enter the Ports of Tripoly, or Bengaze with balast only and return from the same loaded with live stock free from Molestation by the different Ships of War of the United States Squadron under my Command — Given under my hand and with Authority vested in me by the United States of America this thirteenth day of October 1804

MALTA, October 30th 1804
A true copy
Jn H Dent —
[NHF. Dent's LB.]

[30 October 1804]

To Master Commandant John H. Dent, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Schooner Neutilus, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

SIR You will on your arrival here supply your Vessel with whatever She may want and immediately proceed to Syracuse with all possible dispatch, for further Orders.

MALTA October 30th 1804
[NHF. Dent's LB.]


Moderate breezes from W S W —
We are in Malta in company with the President, Constitution, Congress, Essex and Schooner Enterprize —
The Ships company is 130 in number includng Officers Seamen, Marines & Invalids from the Squadron —
A. M. Sailed for Trieste to repair, the U. S. Schooner Enterprize —
Received from the Constitution 12 gang casks of 64 gallt each, 4 puncheons of 120 gallt each & two pipes 120 gallt each —. the whole will contain 1488 gallt —

Joined the John Adams from the Constitution, Ja Dunham —
Noon Moderate winds N N W.

[LC. EPP, John Adams, 1804-1805.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Vixen, Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 30 October 1804

Received 107 lbs. Fresh mutton on board. At 3 o'clock P. M. got underway and went out of the harbour and returned and came to anchor before sun-set.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]
To Daniel Bedinger, Navy Agent and Superintendent of Navy Yard, Norfolk, Va.,
from Secretary of the Navy

NAV. DEP\(^4\) 31. Oct\(^5\) 1804

Extract of a letter from Com\(^6\) Preble to the Secretary of the Navy
dated 5\(^th\) July 1804 —

"The provisions that we sent out in the Woodrop Sims were delivered in
excessive bad Order, many of the casks of Rice, Butter &\(^5\) were without
heads and some not half full. The Beef and Pork badly hooped & without
Pickle: The canvas was almost every bolt damaged, and the twine wet and
rotten so much so indeed as to render both useless for sails — The Damage
has been occasioned by careless and bad stowage in a leaky ship"*

The above is an extract of a letter which I have this day received
from Com\(^6\) Preble by which I am sorry to find that the Report of Mr
Higgins on the Cargo of the Woodrop Sims is fully confirmed —

[NDA. GLB, Vol. 7, 1803–1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy,
commanding, Wednesday, 31 October 1804

At Midnight fresh gales sounded in 75 f\(^m\)\(^s\) water from 6 to 9 AM
standing in for the town of Tripoli at 9 the round Battery bore SbE
2\(\frac{1}{2}\) miles at 10 saw 2 sail to leeward bore away at 11 Exchanged Sig\(^1\)
with the Constellation in C\(^t\) with the Nautilus hove to Cap\(^1\) Hull went
on board the Constellation Ends moderate Weather

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy,
commanding, Wednesday, 31 October 1804

[Harbor of Malta] [PM] Sailed the US. Frigate Essex for Syracuse
[USNA.]

Extract from log book of U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey,
U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 31 October 1804

Moderate breezes from N N W — At 2 P. M. sailed for Saragosa,
the U. S. Ship Essex: She arrived here from Tangier & could not get
pratique —

Joined the John Adams from the Constitution — Mt W. Lewis
Midshipman M\(^t\) L. J. Hunnewel midshipman, Cap\(^1\) Gale of the
Marines; John Kemp, seaman & Charles Young Marine, who are
both invalids — Adam Smith Seaman, John DeGray, Thomas Bow-
line, John R. Maddison, & the black boy Mishoude also joined the
John Adams —

A. M. fresh breezes from N N W —
Ships Company employed white washing between decks & stowing
the fore and after hold.

[LC. EPP, John Adams, 1804–1805.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Vixen,
Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 31
October 1804

Received 111 lbs. beef. At 4 o’clock got underway went out of the
harbour, returned and came to anchor at 7 o’clock. This day arrived
the Frigate Essex from the Rock.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]
[1 November 1804]

Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, delivered U. S. Frigate Constitution to Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

I certify that the United States ship Constitution together with her standing and Running Rigging compleat has this day been delivered over to me by Edw* Preble Esq* by order of Commodore Samuel Barron

Sign'd Jnº Rodgers

United States Ship Constitution
at anchor in Valette Harbour
Island of Malta 1st Nov* 1804

[Attention is invited to the journal of Captain John Rodgers which indicates that he continued to command the U. S. Frigate Congress until 9 November, and that on 10 November he left the Congress to command the U. S. Frigate Constitution. From 2 November, the Congress with some other U. S. Ships of War cruised off and on the town of Syracuse awaiting pratiche, the quarantine regulations being particularly rigid because smallpox had broken out in at least one of the U. S. Ships. This is offered as a possible explanation of the delay in Captain Rodgers' actually entering on board to take command of the Constitution.

Attention is invited also to the illness which kept Commodore Barron on shore and placed Captain Rodgers under the necessity of frequently acting for the Commodore, until the U. S. Squadron was turned over to Captain Rodgers in May 1805.]

[LC. EPP, U. S. S. Constitution, Clothing & Stores, 1803–4.]

To Captain Boyle, R. N., commanding HRMS Sea Horse, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. Ship Constitution
VALETTE HARBOUR 1st Nov* 1804

Sir The Man named in the Margin [John Williams], a deserter from this Ship, which you have been so obliging as to return, was at the time of his entry in New-York a Citizen of the United States: and had taken the Oath of Allegiance to that Government. —

It does not appear from any proof whatever, that he ever was an English Subject, of course it is proper that he remains on board the Constitution. —

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, Book A, 1804–1805.]

To Captain William A. Otway, R. N., British Naval Commissioner, Malta, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

MALTA Nov* 1st 1804

Sir, Captain Chauncey of the U. S. Ship John Adams is in want of an Anchor from thirty to thirty three hundred pounds weight — You will oblige me by directing one to be furnished from His Britannic Majesty's Naval Arsenal in this place, and the account to be sent to W* Higgens Esq* United States Navy Agent —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

[1 November 1804]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Richard Farquhar, Malta

May it Please Your Excellency

The Consul of Sidi Hamet Caromanli late Bashaw of Tripoli, call'd on me this Morning to beg of me to write to Your Excellency which I
have hear Inclosed, he hopes to receive an Answer soon as there is a Vessel going to Alexandria by which he will write to the Bashaw, he further desires me to inform Your Excellency that Should you think of Sending a Vessel up to Alexandria now, that he is ready to go with a Number more of Sidi Hamet's Friends to Alexandria

MALTA Not* 1st 1804

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from the Consul of Hamet Caramanli, rightful Bashaw of Tripoli

May it Please Your Excellency

I have it in Command from His Excellency Sidi Hamet Caromanli, The first Born of the Dominion of Tripoli in Barbary, to inform your Excellency, that he is now in Egypt waiting for the Promised Assistance of the United States of America, and that he has a great number of Troops Engaged for the Purpose of Cooperating with the U. S. and that he will repay all money advanced on his Account and give up all Vessels and their Cargos which may be taken in Tripoli Bengazi and Derna, as Prizes to the U. S. Ships of War, and he will always remain at Peace and Friendship with the U. S. of America.

Ten Thousand Dollars will Enable him to take Derna and Bengazi, and I am convinced the Prizes taken there will amount to more than that sum, and this is the proper time to assist him as the Arabs is now much displeased with his Brother the Bashaw of Tripoli, and Provisions is now very scarce and the Winter season is the best time for the Troops to March from Egypt, therefore hope your Excellency will not loose this favourable opportunity, which will have such an Effect on all the Barbary Powers as will prevent them from going to War with the United States of America.

SALVATORE BUFUTTIL,

Console di S* Eccel? Ahmet Caramanli

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 1 November 1804

[Off Tripoli] at 6 hove too at 7 Cap^ Hull came on board filled away
At 5 A.M. the Constellation and Nautilus in Sight Standing to the Southward and Westward

Fresh breezes from N N W. Continue at anchor in Malta — In company with the President, Constitution & Congress ships company employed watering ship and stowing the after hold —

This afternoon nine men from the shore entered for the John Adams. Mr. J. M fate Boatswain of the Vixen & Mr. J. Bailey, gunner of the Vixen, who were left here by the Vixen joined the John Adams — Mr. J. Thompson, Commodore Prebles Clerk, J. Reed Marine & Tho^ Keridge, Boy joined the John Adams from the Constitution — A. M.
Moderate breezes from N N W. We received the following Warrant officers stores from Mr. Higgins, Navy Agent.

[LC. EPP, John Adams, 1804-1805.]

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 1 November 1804

Malta Valette Harbor. Sailed from hence for Syracuse the U States Frigate President commodore Barron the Congress Capt Rodgers & the Constitution Capt. Decatur. also the Store Ship Alfred which Anchored here on Tuesday 23rd October last. —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Abstract of a journal kept by Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate President, from 1 November 1804 to 31 May 1805

On board the U. S. Frigate President

On the first of November I joined the U S. F. President Commodore Sam'l Barron as her 5th Lieut. got underway from Malta next day and proceeded to Syracuse where we landed the Comm't on the 4th and then proceeded to cruise off[f] the harbor for a few days, On the 8th returned into Port and received on board water and Provisions for a cruise—12 Got under way and stood over for Tripoli off which place we arrived on the 16th Employed cruising off the coast between Tripoli, and Tripoli Vecchio until Dec't 7th when discovering our Fore & Mainmasts and all the lower Caps were very rotten we bore up for Siracuse.

* * * * * * * *

From Tripoli we proceeded to Syracuse where we remained repairing our Masts &c until the 22nd February [1805]— On our arrival we had but 7 men on the sick list. on the first of Jan'y they amounted to 40. the greater portion of them having colds with slight fever, no instance of death happened however, and on the 7th our number of sick was reduced to four men. The number varied from this 10 during the rest of our stay in this place. Having completed our repairs, sail'd on the 22 Feb'y for Malta, on our passage we experienced a severe gale of wind and it is with the greatest difficulty and exertion that we were able to save our Masts, owing to the Rigging not having been properly settled over the mast heads before the gale commenced — We remained in the harbor of Malta until March 2nd when we weighd and made sail for Tripoli off which place we arrived the next day. — Spoke the Constellation and bore away to the Eastward — Stood up along the Coast as far as the Longitude of Derna — experienced very strong winds, from the northward & Westward for several days — On the 13 March looked into the harbor of Bengazi, saw no vessels of any description — Made sail to the Westward again and arrived off Tripoli on the 17th — Cruised off the harbor until the 22nd then bore away for Siracuse by way of the Islands of Lampedusa & Pantilaria — Chaced a Tunisian Cruiser into Lampedusa, sent the boats to examine her—a heavy sea and strong breezes was near swamping the boats before they could reach the Ship on their return —

* * * * * * * *
Touched at Malta and arrived in Syracuse harbor on the 9th of April returned to Malta on the 14th. Sailed on the 16th and same day in a rolling sea, carried away the Main Topmast Tressel trees — got the Topsail yard on the Fore part of the Top and launched the Topmast — next day got the Tressel Trees repaired and swayed the Topmast in its place — 19th arrived off Tripoli employed cruising to the Eastward of Tripoli — Found that after getting above 10 leagues to the Eastward of the Town that our Soundings in 90 to 75 fathoms was soft *Yellow mud* — The only distinction between these sounding and those to the Westward of the Town is the color it being dark to the West — April 27th in Co. with the *Constitution* detained a Tunisian and her two prizes for attempting to enter the harbor of Tripoli — The *President* took them in tow and bore away for Malta where we arrived safe left the different vessels and returned off Tripoli on the 7th of May where we were employed cruising until the 31st when Capt. James Barron joined the Ship as her Commander and we bore away for Siracuse —

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

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To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain William A. Otway, R. N. British Naval Commissioner, Malta

**MALTA YARD**

**24 November 1804**

SIR: I have received your Letter of yesterday's date, requesting to be supplied with an Anchor from His Majesty Arsenal for the use of the United States Ship *John Adams*.

In answer to which I acquaint you, that I have given the necessary directions to the Storekeeper to supply her therewith —

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August-December 1804.]

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Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate *John Adams*, 2 November 1804

Sailed [from Malta] for Syracuse. The *President*, *Constitution* and convoy in company.

[LC original.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate *Congress*, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 2 November 1804

At ½ past 12 [P. M.] weigh'd and made sail. Standing out of the harbour of Malta. The *Constitution* and *President* in company.

At sunset the harbour of Malta bore S SW. distance 2 miles: At Midnight spoke the prize and Hove too.

[En route to Syracuse.]

[USNA.]

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Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Friday, 2 November 1804

Sailed from Malta the *President*, *Constitution*, and *Congress*. Took in convoy a storeship for Syracuse.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm1 E 14.]

Fresh breezes from N W — Sailed for Saragosa the President Commodore Barron, The Congress Capt. Rodgers & the Constitution Capt. Decatur — The store ship which anchored here some days ago from Norfolk went with them —

Ships company employed setting up the topmast rigging & bending sails —

George Corder, a deserter from the Constitution was this afternoon sent for safe keeping on board the John Adams —

A. M. Moderate — Employed clearing ship for Sea — Received from the Constitution as Masters stores, 3 hand Trumpets, 6 pencils One quire log book paper, 4 quires of writing paper & 50 Quills for Ships use —

At 10 A. M. weighed the stream anchor and unbent the cable —

Noon fresh breezes from Westward

[LC. EPP, John Adams, 1804–1805.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Moms, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate President, Flagship of Commodore Samuel Barron, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 2 November 1804

P. M. Light breezes and clear.
1. The Congress & Store Ship sailed
2. Hove short 3. Weighed and sailed Sent the boats to assist in towing the Constitution out of the harbour.
11. Hove to. the Commodore ordered me on board the Store ship to take her in to Siracuse. Cape Passaro, bearing S. W. 6 miles distant.

Surgeons Report, 49 Men Sick —

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

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKraft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Scourge, Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, 2 November 1804

(Syracuse Harbour) Arrived the U. S. F. Essex, Capt. J. Barron from Gibralter, also the Schooner Enterprize

[NDA.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Vixen, Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 2 November 1804

Received 105 lbs. mutton from shore. At 3 o’clock got underway. Spoke the Constitution (Capt. Preble) the President (Commodore Barron) and a store ship — (the Alfred of Newbury port). They all went in and came to anchor. We stood out, and spoke the Congress (Capt. Rodgers) with a prize. We left the Congress to come in next day and went in and came to anchor.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]
To Secretary of State from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

MALTA November 3rd 1804

No 9.

Sir, Since my last, under date of July 16th (Duplicate of which and enclosures are herewith transmitted) I have been honored with your letters of the 6th & 13th of June, which were handed to me at Algiers, by Cap't Chauncy, on the 29th of July.

The letter from the President to the Dey of Algiers appeared to give him much satisfaction, particularly that part which related to the Cannon.— The Danes and Spaniards have not yet made a settlement for the Cannon brought by them; but they expect (at least the former; for the latter will get nothing) to receive half a dollar per pound Algerine musket which is about 25 pence more than our's. —

It affords me the highest degree of satisfaction to find that our Government has taken up our affairs in this sea in the manner it has done. I trust our national character will be now established on a respectable footing, and that we shall be no longer subjected to the caprices of the Barbary Powers.

The several points touched upon in your letter of the 6th of June shall be particularly attended to, and I feel very happy that nothing has been done by way of settlement with Tunis before the arrival of Commodore Barron; as I have no doubt we shall now settle everything with that power in our own way.

I forwarded to Mr Davis an extract from your letter relating to Tunis; in order that he might take no steps which could involve the U. States in an engagement to pay an annuity to that power. — I have not heard from him since; but Commodore Preble has a letter from him late in September, in which he says, the Bey seems perfectly quiet, and has made no demands since he has been assured of our force in this Sea.

On the 13th of September, the U. States Frigate Congress Capt' Rodgers, arrived in Algiers Bay from Gibraltar & the coast of Morocco. — Finding that Commodore Barron has passed up to Tripoli some days since, without being able to touch there (or here), on account of the strong N. E. winds, I determined to take my passage up in the Congress, that I might be upon the spot in case a negotiation should take place on the arrival of our Squadron. — I accordingly made application to the Dey, (to whom I had before given information that I was ordered to be ready to proceed to Tripoli, whenever the Bashaw should be disposed to treat on proper terms) for permission to leave his Regency for a short time for that purpose, which he not only most readily consented to; but added the strongest assurances that every thing should be well on our affairs during my absence, as he sh'd take all on his own head, and expressed the most pointed disapprobation of the conduct of the Bashaw of Tripoli in his war with us; giving me a letter for him in the Turkish language, which he says orders him to make peace on such terms as I may propose. — This letter, however, I do not think I shall deliver; for I am fully of opinion that we should not owe a peace, in any shape, to the interference of another power.—

On the 15th I embarked with Mr Lear, after taking leave of the Dey and principle Officers and making presents which are customary on such occasions.

I left at Algiers Mr' Timothy Mountford, a relation of mine, who went with me to that place, and who will give me due information
of everything which transpires during my absence, and will also attend to the delivery of the Cargo of the Annuity Ship, if one should arrive before I return.

On Sunday the 23rd of September we arrived off Tripoli, where we found the U. S. Frigate President, Commodore Barron, and the Constellation, Capt. Campbell; and there first learnt the several attacks which had been made on that place by Commodore Preble, previous to the arrival of Commodore Barron. — The account of these actions will be so fully detailed by Commodore Preble's dispatches that I shall only say, that altho' they were not successful to the extent we could wish; yet such acts of intrepidity, and heroism were performed by that small force, as must have excited the terror as well as astonishment of the Tripolines, and given them an awful impression of our national character. Much, very much do I regret that we lose the services of that brave and judicious Commander, and I am sure it is no less regretted by Commodore Barron. — As Commodore Barron was about to proceed to Syracuse & Malta, to water his Ship & I embarked on board him, and arrived at the former place on the 26th where I remained till the 6th of October, and then proceeded in the President for this place, where we arrived on the 7th. — We found here the Constitution, and the Brigs Syren & Vixen. The Argus & Enterprise went from Syracuse to Messina with the Neapolitan Gunboats, and the Nautilus went off Tripoli. On the arrival of the Nautilus off Tripoli the Constellation came to Syracuse to water, and from thence to this place, from whence she sailed on the 17th ultimo for Tripoli, to relieve the Congress, which came here to water on the 28th. — On the 29th arrived the Essex from the coast of Morocco, where everything was said to be quiet: As this ship was put in quarantine here, it became necessary for all the Ships to proceed to Syracuse to make the exchange of ships, Capt. Rodgers takes the Constitution, Capt. James Barron [Decatur] the Congress, and Captain Decatur [J. Barron] the Essex. — They left this on the 1st instant. — After the exchange shall be made, Commodore Barron intends going off Tripoli with all his force, and leaving there one or two of the Ships and smaller Vessels; to proceed himself with the rest to Tunis, and along the coast. — As we appear to have every thing quiet at Tunis, I shall, agreeably to your instructions, avoid going to that place at present.

Nothing has been heard directly from Tripoli since the last attack made by Commodore Preble, so that we are ignorant of the impression it made on the mind of the Bashaw with respect to our affairs; but we know that the first and second attacks lessened his pretention very much; and I presume that as our reinforcement did not appear so soon as was expected, the Bashaw did not believe we should receive any; and when they did arrive the season for active operations having passed, he will not be disposed to come forward to treat on proper grounds until next spring, knowing that he will be secure this winter from any formidable attack on his City.

It seems to be the decided opinion of all those who have had experience in these affairs, that our Force will readily bring the Bashaw to terms of peace without any pretensions for payment therefor, or any idea of tribute; but it is also believed that he will suffer every extremity before he will deliver up the Captives without some ransom, as the example would be unprecedented, and even if he should be disposed
to do it himself, he would not be permitted by his people. This, however, must be tried.

As I am now here, in the neighbourhood of Tripoli, Commodore Barron is decidedly of opinion with myself, that I shd remain here until the operations can take effect in the Spring, as it is presumed the business will then be very short; and it is possible also that the Bashaw hearing of the formidable preparations against him may be induced to come forward this winter with admissible offers of negotiation. I feel the less hesitation in remaining, as our affairs with Algiers stand well, and the Dey can have no pretensions for breaking with us on the score of deficiencies. — In the spring I shall accompany Commodore Barron off Tripoli in order to be ready to treat with the Bashaw, if he shd desire it; before we make an attack. —

I presume the co-operation of the Brother of the Bashaw of Tripoli will not be attempted. Our force is thought sufficient to compel him to terms without this aid, and in any event it is very doubtful whether he has it in his power, with any reasonable pecuniary assistance we might give, to render us service. He is now in Egypt, driven by his brother from Darne, where it is presumed he might have made a stand, had he been a man of any force or influence; which, from the best accounts I can collect, he is not. Indeed I shd place much more confidence in the continuance of a peace with the present Bashaw, if he is well beaten into it, then I shd have with the other, if he should be placed on the throne by our means.

I have received from Commodore Barron the Attayan which you mentioned was deposited with him for me; and I have brot with me the Articles I had on hand in Algiers for presents & if they shd be wanting. —

I am very sorry to inform you that Commodore Barron’s health has been very bad for some time past, and I fear that his recovery will be but slow.

The rendezouze of our Ships will be mostly at Syracuse for altho Sir Alexander Ball, the Governor, and all the other Officers are ready to render us any service if it shd be required; yet the quarantine to be performed by Vessels from Barbary is very rigid here, and there being continually some dispute respecting deserters, or men who leave our Ships and go on board the British declaring themselves to be British subjects make it a less eligible place for our Ships than Syracuse, where the Americans are in fact commanders of the Town.

I cannot close this letter without expressing the sensibility I feel for the repeated proofs of confidence which the President has been pleased to shew me, and assurance that nothing in my power shall be left undone to evince my desire to be useful, and worthy of them.


To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate Congress, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

SYRACUSE 3 Novr 1804

Di Sir Those People (Sicilians) have given us Prattique & are now I believe much alarmed at having done so, I have therefore ordered the President to Sea for a few days, to prevent trouble, where you had better remain, until you hear further from me, this can easily be effected by means of the President, who will call every Day off the Harbour, & as she is not in quarantine, may communicate with the
Shore— I am so unwell to Day that I can scarcely write at all & am totally unfit for business—God Knows how it will End —

Yours Sincerely
Sig$^a$  Sam$^1$ Barron

Cap$^1$ Jn$^9$ Rodgers
Congress —

[L.C. JRP, Letters & Orders, 1804–1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 3 November 1804

At 4 [PM] light breezes, ordered the prize To stand in to Syracuse and came To anchor. the town bearing N N W Distance 4 Miles. Made sail and stood off.
Latitude Observed 36° 23' N.

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Saturday, 3 November 1804

Arrived at Syracuse.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm$^1$ E 14.]

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 3 November 1804

Malta, Valette Harbor  We are busily engaged getting our stores on board and settling all Accounts at this place — I this day closed the Ships accounts with M' Higgens the Agent. It is expected we shall sail tomorrow morning if the wind is fair —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate President, Flagship of Commodore Samuel Barron, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 3 November 1804

[Syracuse] 4 [PM] Shortened Sail. 5. came too in 7 fathom with the Starboard bower. found the the U. S. Frigates Constitution, and Essex and Schooner Enterprize in the Bay.
Moored Ship —

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

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Scourge, Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, 3 November 1804

(Syracuse Harbour) Arriv$^4$ from Malta the U. S. F. Constitution, Cap$^1$ S. Decatur & the President Comm$^g$ Sam$^1$ Barron — the Congress off the harbour —

[NDA.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Vixen, Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 3 November 1804

Received 114 lbs. mutton from shore. At 11 o'clock got underway and steered for Messina (gave the men their old clothing) which was
stored in the cabin and sail room) took the slops from the spirit room and put them in cabin.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

[4 November 1804]

To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Officers of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean

To Edward Preble Esquire
late commander in chief of the
American forces in the Mediterranean,

Sir, We the undersigned officers of the Squadron late under your command cannot in justice suffer you to depart without giving you some small testimony of the very high estimation in which we hold you as an officer and commander. It is under these impressions Sir, that we beg leave to assure you, that your supersede in a command in which you have acquired so much honour to yourself and country is, by us, deeply regretted, notwithstanding we feel assured that the measure was dictated by necessity —

As you are about to return to your native Country, we all join most cordially in wishing you a pleasant passage, and sincerely hope that our Countrymen may generously bestow on you that meed which your important services so richly deserve, and believe us sincere in saying that we shall largely participate in any future event that may add to your fame or happiness.

We have the honour to be with the highest respect & Esteem
Your obed’ Serv’t

Syracuse harbour
4th Nov’ 1804

Step: Decatur Junct. Captain U. S. Ship Congress
Chst Stewart Master & Commander—Brig Syren
Isaac Hull Master & Commander—Brig Argus
Jn’ Smith Master & Commander—Brig Vizén
Isaac Chauncey Master & Commander—Frig’t John Adams
Jn’ H. Dent Lieutt Commandant—Schooner Nautilus
Tho’ Robinson Lieutt Commandant—Schooner Enterprise
Ch’ Gordon Lieutt
Joseph Tarbell Lieutt
Saml Eibett Lieutt
Ch’ Morris Lieutt
Nath’ Haradin Master
Hetheote J. Read Lieutt
Dan’ S Dexter Lieutt
Jn’ Hall Capt. of Marines
Robt Greenleaf Lieutt of Marines
Jn Wells Surgeon
N. Morris Pursuer
P. Leonard Chaplain
Jn’ Laurence Lieutt
Joseph Bainbridge Lieutt
J. Thorn Lieutt
Tho’ McDonough Lieutt
Seth Caret Lieutt
Lewis Herman Surgeon
Michael Carrol Lieutt
Joseph J Maxwell Lieutt
Wm Burrows Lieutt
Robt Spence Lieutt
Saml R Marshall Surgeon

Syren Argus
Vken Nautilus
Sieun Enterprise

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August—December 1804.]
To Secretary of the Navy from Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy

U. S. Ship John Adams
New York 26th February 1805

Sir, I had the Honor of writing you from Syracuse on the 16th of September last, since which time I have been immediately under the Orders of Commodore Preble, who I presume has kept you informed of our Movements since that Period.

We left Syracuse on the 9th of October for Malta and arrived the Day following where we discharged the remainder of the Stores: Ballasted the Ship and waited untill the 4th of November for Commodore Preble, on which Day I sailed, with him, and Mr Randolph on board for Syracuse, where I arrived the next Day. — sail’d on the 15th for Messina, arrived on the 18th — sail’d the 21st for Palermo. arrived on the 28th — sailed for Naples the 1st of December — arrived on the 6th in the Evening, it then blowing hard from the Southward anchored with both Bowers in 12 Fathoms Water, and veered 60 Fathoms on the Larboard and 30 on the Starboard and brought up, struck lower Yards and top G^ Mast

At 10 P. M. parted the Starboard Bower, let go the Sheet Anchor, and veered on both Cables untill the Ship’s Stem was in the Breakers and then brought up, struck Top Mast, and got top Gallant Masts on Deck — from this Time untill Daylight we lay with extreme Anxiety, expecting every Moment to part and go onshore — At 6 A. M. sent a Boat on board of H. B. M. Ship Renown which lay near us for Assistance which was handsomely granted, by sending his own Boat with Cables and an Anchor which they dropped three Cables Length to Windward of us and gave the End of the Cable on board. We also very soon got Assistance from the Naval Arsenal, which also sent off a new 19 In. Cable, bent to a heavy Anchor which they let go three Cables’ Lengths to Windward and gave us the End of a 10 Inch Cable which was bent to the large One, the Wind moderating, we before Night hove off into a safe Situation and moored with the Anchors and Cables sent us. On heaving up our two Anchors that we were riding by (the Sheet and Bower) we to our utter Astonishment found them both broke off in the Shank. The Anchors are American Manufactory and the worst I ever saw; what prevented the Ship’s going on shore God only knows. We the Next Morning fished for, and got the Starboard Bower Anchor which we parted from the evening of the 6th.

Commodore Preble tried every Means to purchase an Anchor for the Ship, but could only procure one of about eighteen hundred Weight, and was obliged to take Cable with it as they would not part with one without taking both — the Cable is a New one of 14 Inches but not fit for us. The Commodore procured the Loan of an Anchor from the Neapolitan Government, which is to be returned to Messina or Palermo with those two Anchors and the one we got at Malta we were obliged to sail with; and are all the Anchors that we have got at this Time, we were obliged to take the 19 Inch Cable from the Neapolitan Government after riding by it. We sailed from Naples for Gibralter on the 23rd Dec and arrived on the 5th of January; watered and provisioned the Ship and sailed on the 8th for the United States. On the 9th sent our Boat on shore at Tangier for Mr Simpson’s Dispatches and in the Evening took our Departure from Cape Spartell.
On the 13th Instant discovered that between two and three Thousand Gallons of Water had leaked out, owing to the Badness of the Casks. Put all Hands on a short Allowance of Water.

On the 22d after experiencing very severe Weather and the Wind constantly prevailing from the Westward the Ship very Crank and short of Water, Commodore Preble gave me an Order to proceed to the Nearest Port, and recommended this; bore up for it accordingly and got a pilot on Board on the 24th and arrived here last Night, where I shall wait your Orders. shall water the Ship tomorrow and be ready to proceed for the Eastern Branch in one Hour after I receive your Orders to do so.

If the Ship should be fitted for Service again, she wants to be corked throughout, outside and in, two Bower Anchors of 32 Cwt each, three Boats a Suit of Sails Complete, two Topsail Yards, One Top G't Mast, a Number of Water Casks and about three Tons of Cordage assorted, exclusive of her Stores for the Cruise.

I forward you a Muster Book by which you will perceive the State of our Crew, and the great Number of Changes that have taken Place. The Supernumeraries were sent on Board by Order of Commodores Barron and Preble with the seven Prisoners of War.

The Men whose Time of Service has not expired would be an Acquisition to any Vessell fitting for Service —

I have been obliged to take up from Commodore Preble ten Thousand nine Hundred Dollars for the Purchase of Anchors, Cables, advances to Officers, and other Expenses for the Ship and for which I have receipted to him for — * * *

NDA. MC LB, 1804–5.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 4 November 1804

At 11 P. M. Came too in the harbour of Valetta in 10 fathoms water found here the U. S. frigate John Adams —

At 6 A.M. Fresh Breezes got under way and made all sail out of Valetta at 7 the harbour bore WbS ½ S made Sig. ¹ N° 14 to a Brig to Windward. She did not answer it Ends Pleasant

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, Sunday, 4 November 1804

[At Syracuse] Commodore Barron shifted his flag on board the Essex, went himself on shore in an infirm state of health, and the President Capt. Cox, commander, put to sea on a cruise. Fell in with the Congress about three leagues from port, cruising along the coast.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm¹ E 14.]


Moderate Breezes from S E — We continue in Malta — Ships company stowing the after hold & clearing ship for sea —

A. M. wind S b W — At 9 weighed & warped the ship over the weather side of the harbour Joined the John Adams Commodore Edward Preble — Mr Randolph came on board as passenger — Mr Leonard joined the ship — At 11 A. M. we slipped & came to sea in order to proceed to Saragosa —
 Noon, Winds moderate from S b W. Under all plain sail with starboard steer's sails set —

Our ships company consists of nearly 140, out of which we have about 60 working men — The remainder are principally invalids from the U. S. Squadron —

[LC. EPP, John Adams, 1804–1805.]

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 4 November 1804

Joined the ship as passengers for the U States Commodore Edw3 Preble and Mr. Ryland Randolph of Virginia at 11. A M. we got the Ship under way and stood out of the Harbour and proceeded for Syracuse at half past one P. M the Town of Valette bore W b S.½ S. four leagues from which we took our departure

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate President, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 4 November 1804

[P.M.] Unmoored and hove short upon the starboard cable. 2 Weighed and Sailed out of the harbour. 5 Shortened sail and spoke the Congress Cruising off the harbour of Syracuse in Company with the Congress. [Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Scourge, Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, 4 November 1804

(Syracuse Harbour) Sail'd the President —

[NDA.]


The morning calm and foggy on the mountain. At 10 o'clock A.M., the vapors rising we had a fine prospect of Mount Etna and likewise the uneven coast of Sicily. We got out our sweeps and at 1 o'clock P. M. were nearly in the wave of Messina. At 2 o'clock a signal was made to a schooner standing in, which was answered and found to be the U.S.S. Enterprise. She standing near upon the Eastern shore had the current in her favor which enabled her to get in and come to anchor forty minutes before us. We came to anchor before sunset. One Neapolitan seventy four gun ship and one Frigate (both dressed with colors) were laying in the harbour. We were quarantined. Immediately after coming to, I went into the wardroom (to the only conveyance into the spirit room) in order to get some candles for the captain but by new arrangements the scuttle was altered which forced one half into the Doctor's Lt. P. and M. apartments. I was accosted by Doctor Graham thus: — "What business have you to take that scuttle up?" Ans.: — "I wish to go into the spirit room, sir." Doctor: — "Well, that scuttle is not to come up. I have particular orders against it." Ans.: — "I have orders, sir, to go into the spirit room,
sir." Doctor: — "Very well, take up the other hatch." Ans.: — "It will not come up." Doctor: — "What is the reason, has not the carpenter fitted it?" Ans.: — "I cannot tell, I did not see him do it." Doctor: — "Well, this scuttle is not to come up." At this instant, the purser Mr. Hunt came below, and hearing the debate, asked what was the matter. The venerable Doctor replied he had Capt. Smith's orders not to have his apartment disturbed by the aforesaid scuttles. Mr. Hunt told him that the spirit room was under his charge, and that a passage to it was not to be stopped by his orders, and then having done my errand I went on deck leaving the Doctor like a m——ky handling that which was his not business.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]


Moderate breezes from the Southward with hazy weather. We are running athwart the channel of Malta — At ½ past 1 P. M. the Town of Valette bore W b S ½ S. 4 leagues from which we take our depature for Saragosa.

We continued under all plain sail till 7 in the Evening when we stowed all the light sails except the flying Jib & main top gallant. By 12 Midnight we supposed the ship abreast of Cape Passary when we sounded 100 fath* no bottom, & steered more in for the land. Middle part, Variable winds & light; Weather hazy — We continued the lead every half hour from 4 A. M. till day light; some time sounding 70, & other times 80 fath*, no bottom Morning hazy, with light airs & overcast weather —

At 9 A. M. punished Duncan Mansfied Marine with 24 lashes for Drunkeness and Mutinous language, Noble James, Marine with 18 lashes for Drunkeness, John Robertson quarter gunner with 12 lashes, & Thomas James with 6 lashes for Drunkenness — The Weather continued hazy till 10 A. M. when it cleared away — Saw two strange Sail in shore, & Cape Morro de Porchi bearing N W % N, nearly 15 miles —

Towards Noon a light breeze sprang up from E b S — We filled in for Saragosa under all plain sail, fore topmast & starboard top gall† studding sails —

Ships company triming sails & cleaning ship between decks —

Noon light breezes from E S E. The Town of Saragosa bearing by compass N N W 4 leagues

Latitude observed 36° 49' North

[LC. EPP, John Adams, 1804-1805.]


At 10. A M. saw two Strange Sail in shore — Cape Moore De Porche bearing N W. % N. about 5 [or 15] miles at half past. 11. stood in for the harbour of Syracuse. at Meridian Wind E. S E. the town of Syracuse bearing by compass N N W. four Leagues distant. Latitude obs† 36. 49. N

At half past. 5 P M came to in the harbour of Syracuse — found here the U States Frigate Essex the Congress. Constitution Brig Vixon
scourge we obtained Prattique here immediately on our arrival —
Arrived here & Anchored, from a cruize off Tripoli the Brig Argus. —
went on shore with several of our Officers & went in the evening to the Opora.

[extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Vixen.]


(A. M.) At 11 o'clock got underway but the wind blowing fresh we could not beat out of the straits, put back and came to anchor at 2 o'clock P.M. No objections this day to my admittance into the spirit room.


To the Officers of U. S. Squadron in the Mediterranean from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

To Captains Decatur, Stewart, Hull, Chauncey & Smith Lieut. Comm’t & Dent & Robinson, & other Officers late under my command

GENTLEMEN, I have this day been honoured with your esteemed favour of the 4th Inst & as I have been in the highest degree gratified by the support I have received from you in a difficult & dangerous service, so am I equally flattered by your approbation of my conduct as an Officer and Commander of the Squadron: and be assured that I should always consider my reputation as an officer secure while my views were seconded by that talent & intrepidity for which you stand so eminently distinguished — .

As it respects my supercedure, I can only say, that, I could not have been more gratified than by being allowed to command you till the present war was brought to a conclusion: but rank must be attended to — and where a measure is impelled by necessity, it becomes the duty of an Officer to submit with cheerfulness; this I do, convinced as I am that you will serve your country under my successor with the same ardor as heretofore —

There can be no question but your country will be gratefully impressed by your exertions: and be assured that I reciprocate with sincerity your kind wishes for my future fame & Happiness —

I have the honour to be Gentlemen,
With the highest respect Yr most ob’t Serv’t
(Signed) EDWARD PREBLE

Syracuse 6th Nov’ 1804

[LC. EPP, Vol. 13, August–December 1804.]

Receipt for One Negro Slave

SYRACUSE Nov. 6. 1804

Received of Commodore Preble one negro slave, prize to the United States ship Constitution, captured off Tripoli on the 23rd December 1803, in the ketch Mastico, since called the Intripid —
Which Slave I hold subject to the orders of the Government of the United States —

WILLIAM EATON

To Secretary of the Navy from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. Frigate Constitution
SYRACUSE Novemr 6th 1804

DEAR SIR I am sensible of the pleasure you have Experienced in having had it in your power to communicate to Congress, this session, the reduction of Tripoli, to Terms honorable & advantageous to our Country; and I greatly regret that circumstances have so conduced as to render such an Event impracticable this Season the squadron not having arrived so soon as you perhaps contemplated: However I think I can almost with certainty say to you that next Summer will complete the Business in a manner highly honorable to the American Arms; as a General Enthusiam appears to pervade among all ranks, and nothing that the Bashaw can do, will, I conceive, prevent his destruction in the most complete manner, without he offers Terms the most humiliating to himself. — If the opposition we meet with should be Formidable, so much the better, for I feel such confidence in the Exertions that will be made, as to induce me to believe, that if we are Formidably opposed, our little Navy will Establish a name deserving of a place among'st the most Magnanimous; and such as no Trifle can again ever injure — I have this day, by order of Commodore Barron, changed my pendant into the Constitution, which altho a larger ship I do not think so fine a one (for her rate) as the Congress, which has every good quality to recom- mend her, and her crew far (now) from being ordinary — The Constitution is upwards of 70 men short of her Compliment, which I will make up in the best manner I can before her services are seriously wanted — I have but a few days since return'd from the Coast of Tripoli, but have no news worth communicating, farther than that the Bashaw is building Battery's, which I conceive can only serve to make his ruin more Complete & add to the Laurels we shall achieve, provided we do our duty; the lesson he will get, will I think ever prevent him or his successor's from again making War upon the U8tates & compleatly put a Stop to the Bey of Tunis's Demands — Commodore Barron has been in bad health for some time; his complaint — an affection of the Liver. —

I feel much concern'd for the loss of poor young Israel; whose intrepidity and other amiable qualifications, had he lived, would have made him an honor to his friends & an Ornament to the Service. — The package you sent out by me for him I have sent back by Capt3 Chancey. —

[LC. JRP, Vol 1, Series Two, Feb. 1775—May 1805.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Midshipman James Renshaw, U. S. Navy

CASTLE OF THE BASHAW IN PRISON
TRIPOLI November 6* 1804

Dr Sir, No doubt you must be confident we where much elated when we received the pleasing intelligence of Commodore Barron's
arrival in the Mediterranean with so formidable a force which I trust will My Dn Sir, tend in some measures to restore us to the arms of liberty, during the ensuing Summer; in a letter I received from a friend in the Squadron he mentions the arrival of Mr Eton at Malta, also his destination to Egypt to cooperate with [space] if this be the case, I hope his good intentions will meet with that Success which generally attends, where the restoration of prisoners from a Barbary Prince are at stake.

Our Situation at present My Dn Sir is beyond conception, nearly Six Months Solitary imprisonment have elapsed since the doors of our prison have been opened for any other purpose than supplying us with our daily sustenance, it's true have been treated with more lenity than we had reason to expect from a Barbary Prince but how much better would it have been for us to have been put to hard labour, as our crew then we could feel the fresh air, which is so essential to human nature —

I am sorry to find in the establishment of our little Navy our loss has been so great, in the death of so many brave young Officers, it's now I hope firm, if we may Judge from the manner it has been augmented by promotions and appointments. the Emulation amongst the Officers must have been very great during last Summer, but I have no doubt Comdr Barron, will shortly give them all an opportunity of distinguishing themselves.

I fear My Dn Sir, by my communications not being reciprocal on your part, they do not meet your approbation, you must be confident from your unremitted attention to me, and all Officers under your Command, or deem me an ungrateful being, was not my attachment to your private and public character ever permanent within my bosom.

My Anxsiety to hear from my friends in the U.S. is very great, as I have never received a line from them Since my captivity, and remain at a loss in what manner to attribute the neglect to, should you My Dn Sir, find any letters for me, I shall deem it as a particular favour of you in having them forwarded on. remember me to Mr Coxe — Adieu

Yours Respectfully

JAMES RENSHAW.

CAPT JOHN RODGER'S
U. S. Frigate Constitution
Mediterranean.

[LC. JRP, Ac. 3647.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 6 November 1804

At 5 came too with the Larboard bower in 6 fathoms Water in the harbour of Syracuse found the frigates Constitution, Congress, Essex and John Adams and the Scourge Brig Ends Mod* Breezes & Pleasant

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 6 November 1804

[PM] Standing In for the town of Syracuse.

At 1 hoisted the boats out to tow The ship

At 2 Shortened sail and came too in the harbour with larb* bower
Veered & Moord Ship Mount Etna bearing North the light house S S E

[USNA.]

Extract from log book of U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 6 November 1804

Light breezes from E S E. We are 5 leagues S S E from Saragosa running in for it —

At 1 P. M. the wind shifted from E S E to S W.
At ½ past 3 P. M. we passed the U. S. Ship President —
At ½ past 4 P. M. we came to in Saragosa in 5 fath. soft bottom, one & a half Cables length from the town Side — We found here the U. S. Ship Essex, which had then Commodore Barron's pendant flying, the Congress, Constitution & Scourge The Quarantine boat came alongside and gave us pratique — Comm'q Preb and Captain Chauncey went on shore Towards Evening anchored here from a cruize off Tripoly, the Argus —
At Sun set hove up & down in order to keep a clear anchor —
Night Moderate & pleasant —
The water we filled at Malta is impregnated with a Limey substance & is reported by the surgeon to be very injurious to health — We started it in readiness to fill with sweet water —

[LC. EPP, John Adams, 1801-1805.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate President, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 6 November 1804

[Off Syracuse] [AM] 10½ Saw a Sail to the south & East Set Studding sails and Staysails fired several shots at the chace — Noon Mount Aetna bore N. N. E.

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

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig Scourge, Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, 6 November 1804

(Syracuse Harbour) Arriv'd the U. S. F. Congress, Cap'l Ro[d]gers, & the J. Adams Cap'l Chansey with Comm'q Preble. —

[NDA.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Vixen, Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 6 November 1804

At 12 O'clock at noon we weighed anchor and got under way. U. S. S. Enterprise sailed four hours before us. At 7 o'clock we saw a sail (all hands were called to quarters). We found her to be a Neapolitan Brig which we spoke and passed.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

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

U. S. Ship John Adams
SYRACUSE HARBOUR Nov 7th 1804

Sir, This will be handed you by Mr Izard who has for six months past been acting as Lieu in the Squadron and has conducted like
a good Officer. I have placed him in charge of the Brig Scourge of 16 Guns to Navigate her to the Eastern Branch, and receive your orders respecting her. The history of this Vessel I have long since made known to you, and shall be able to produce such proofs against her as will insure her condemnation, if it has not already taken place. If it is agreeable to you, I wish she may remain in Statu-quo until I arrive

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

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

U S: Ship John Adams

SYRACUSE Nov: 7th 1804.

Exchange for $2404 —

At Sixty days sight of this my first of Exchange (second and third of same tenor and date not paid) pay the sum of Two thousand four hundred and four dollars to the order of Gurney & Smith of Philadelphia, Agents for the captors of Gun Boat N° 7 — captured from the Tripolitans in battle the 3rd of August last, and taken into the service of the United States by my direction: being the Amount of the Valuation of said Boat, with her Guns and Appurtenances —

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

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

U S. S. John Adams

SYRACUSE H’ 7th Nov: 1804

Exchange for $2327 —

At Sixty days sight of this my first of Exchange (second and third of same tenor and date not paid) pay the sum of Two thousand three hundred and twenty seven Dollars to the order of Col: John Stricker of Baltimore Agent for the captors of Gun Boat N° 8 captured from the Tripolitans in battle the 3rd of August last, and taken into the service of the United States by my direction: being the Amount of the Valuation of said Boat, with her Guns and Appurtenances —

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

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

U: S: S: John Adams

SYRACUSE H’ 7th Nov: 1804

Exchange for $2327 —

At Sixty days sight of this my first of Exchange (second and third of same tenor & date not paid) pay the sum of Two thousand three hundred and twenty seven dollars to the order of Gurney & Smith of Philadelphia, Agents for the captors of Gun Boat N° 9 captured from the Tripolitans in battle the 3rd of August last, and taken into the service of the United States by my direction — being the Valuation of said Boat, with her Guns & Appurtenances —

[LC. EPP, Order Book, May 1803–June 1805.]
May it Please Your Excellency

by Command of Your Excellency I informed the Consul of Sidi Hamet Carmonili late Bashaw of Tripoli, that Your Excellency will this month send a Vessel with some Money and Powder and Cooperate with him in taking Derna Bengaze and Tripoli. he has wrote to the Bashaw and will be ready when ever the Vessel arrive

I have brought over a Maltese as an Interpreter who speaks Arab well he is well Accquainted with the News of Tripoli he says the People in Tripoli is displeased with the Bashaw for not making Peace they blame the French Consul for advising the Bashaw to make such demands their is an English Transport going to Tripoli also a Maltsie Vessel who goes first to Jerba.

[Mrs. James S. Barron Col. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 7 November 1804

[Syracuse Harbor] at ½ past 2 P. M. Departed this life Lev White Marine of the Small Pox at 6 Carried the body without the harbour and Committed it to the deep with the Usual Ceremony Arrived the Schooner Vixen from a Cruise —

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 7 November 1804

Syracuse At 9 [PM] arrived the U. S. Brig Vixen

[USNA.]


Moderate breezes from W N W — We are in Saragosa with the Essex which has Commr Barrons broad pendant, Congress, Constitution & Argus, in company.

[LC. EPP, John Adams, 1804–1805.]

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 7 November 1804

[Syracuse] At 2. P M. the U States Ship President arrivd from a cruize off Tripoli — at. midnight we had very heavy rain with sevare thunder & Lightning —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate President, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 7 November 1804

[P M] 2. Brought to the chase shortened sail and sent a boat along side of her she proved to be a Tunisian cruiser. 2½ filled away

[A M] 6 made sail for harbour of Siracuse

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]
Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Vixen, Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 7 November 1804

At 4 o'clock A. M. we came to anchor in Syracuse. At 8 o'clock shifted anchoring ground. The Frigate President had gone out and the Congress, John Adams and Argus had arrived. At 2 o'clock the John Adams saluted the town with 22 guns.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 8 November 1804

[Syracuse Harbor] at 1 PM arrived the U.S frigate Presidt from a Cruise sent 6 Seamen & 10 marines on board the Hospital Ketch with the Small pox

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 8 November 1804

Syracuise At 1 P. M. the President Frigate arrived

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies Thursday, 8 November 1804

Returned into port. Found the Argus at anchor; having returned from the coast on account of the small pox breaking out in her crew. She had been two days in port.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm1 E 14.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate President, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 8 November 1804

[Syracuse] [P M] 1. Came to with the Starboard Anchor in 7 fathoms water. 2. hoisted out the boats moored ship with a Cable each way — from 7. to midnight. Rainy.

Ships Company employed getting water on board — 36 Men unfit for duty

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

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Scourge, Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, 8 November 1804

(Syracuse Harbour) Arriv'd the President. —

[NDA.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Nicholas C. Nissen, Danish Consul, Tripoli

TRIPOLI IN BARBARY November 9th 1804

Sir However i have not the honor of being particularly acquainted to You Sir, i have made no difficulty at the request of Captain Bainbridge to adress You this letter, as soon as i conceived that the information he desires me to give to You and which his unfortunate situation prevents him from conveying to You himself, could be of service to
him. The motive of rendering a service to Captain Bainbridge is besides too favorable an opportunity of making Your acquaintance Sir, that i should let it pass unused. —

M' Higgins will deliver to You Sir a Packet of letters from Captain Bainbridge written in Ink; inclosed i have the pleasure to forward three sheets of Paper likewise from Captain Bainbridge, but with invisible writing, which only by being held over the fire, can be made visible.

The confinement makes it impossible for Captin Bainbridge to send away or to receive any letter, that is not previously read by persons appointed by the Bashaw for that purpose, he has therefore found himself in the necessity to write with Lime Juice or with a weak solution in water of Soda, Cilcali Mineralis, the writing of which only appears when heated over the fire.

It is not necessary to request of You Sir, to keep this a profound secret, as the consequences of its coming to the Bashaw's knowledge would be very disagreeable for poor Captain Bainbridge and his fellow Prisonners. My confidence in M' Robertson, by whom i have the honor to send You this, and the repeated requests of Captain Bainbridge could alone induce me to risk the secret by sending a letter on the subject; I shall therefore look upon it as a particular favor to be informed as soon as possible of the receipt of this, and in preference by way of Tunis through M' Davis as the most surest conveyance.

Give me leave Sir to avail meself of this occasion to assure You of the Respect with which i have

[Mrs. James S. Barron Col.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from George Davis, U. S. Chargé d'Affaires Tunis

N° 1. Tunis Nov. 9th 1804 —

Sr, I have the honor to enclose You a blank letter, marked Vol. 1, received a few days since from Tripoli: the manner of reading it, You will learn from Col. Lear — Vol. 2 is for Commodore Preble; but presuming that he has left the station, I transmit it to You — this is the only mode in which Capt. Bainbridge can receive or send any intelligence: as all letters are detained by the Minister to avoid suspicion; perhaps, it would be well that Your communications should go through no other channel than that of Tunis.

Every thing is quiet with us here; and perhaps may continue so during the winter; as the Bey expects an answer from the President, relative to his late demands, It would, however, be well (should not the disposition of Your Squadron forbid it) to let a Vessel make occasional visits to this port — and, as our Tunisien friends give credence to the sense of sight alone, it is perhaps of some consequence to support the opinion, that we keep a watchful eye on their movements —

[Mrs. James S. Barron Col. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Congress, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 9 November 1804

Syracuse [AM] Capt. Rodgers took command of The Constitution [USNA.]
Extract from journal of Surgeon Jonathan Cowdery, U. S. Navy, 9 November 1804

The Bashaw had an epileptic fit, and his people thought he was possessed with the devil. They performed many ceremonies to cast him out, which they said succeeded. The Turks said they saw many ghosts the night before; and that a Marabeut drove the devil out of the Bashaw.

[L.C. Rare Books, American Captives in Tripoli or Dr. Cowdery's Journal, Boston, 1806.]

Extract from log book of U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Savy, commanding, Friday, 9 November 1804

Light airs from Eastward — continue in Saragosa in company with the Essex, Congress, Constitution, Argus, Vixen, President & Scourge — Ships company watering ship. At 2 P. M. furled sails p’r Signal. We completed our water this afternoon — The following quantity is now on board: Total 9,913 Gall. At 7 A. M. discharged the three watering boats: they received certificates for two days each — Lieut Charles Gordon & Sam Elbert joined the John Adams with sick tickets from the Constitution. A. M. Moderate breezes from W S W — Scrubbed hammocks Employed clearing ship for Sea. Noon wind S W b W —

[L.C. EPP, John Adams, 1804-1805.]

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 9 November 1804

[Syracuse] This day Capt Rodgers left the Congress and took charge of the Constitution and Capt. Decature was appointed to the Command of the Congress. Commodore Preble having given up the command of the Constitution and taken his passage with us at Malta.—

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To John Armstrong, U. S. Minister to Paris, France, from Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
November 10th 1804

SIR,

It appears by communications from Commodore Preble, that the Government of Naples, has in the most friendly manner, lent him a number of Gun and bomb boats, with the proper apparatus, for assisting his operations at Tripoli. As a common enemy to Tripoli, his Sicilian Majesty may be considered as having an interest in the measures projected against the Bashaw; and so far the facilities yielded by him may be the less meritorious. But they have notwithstanding a fair title to the acknowledgements of this Government and the title is the stronger as being himself in a state of perpetual war with the Barbary powers he may be considered as having an interest in prolonging that of the United States rather than in hastening its termination. In making these acknowledgements the Presi-
dent has chosen as the most convenient channel, the American and Neapolitan Legations at Paris. You will therefore take an early occasion of communicating to the Ambassador from Naples, the sensibility of the President to the kind and valuable aid which has been supplied, and the satisfaction with which opportunities will be seized for demonstrating it by correspondent returns of civility and friendship.

It has at different times and from different quarters been suggested that the regulations of Commerce and Quarantine at Naples were very unequal and unfavorable to Nations not in Treaty with that power, and not less so to the United States than any of them. The papers inclosed which are copied from those received from Commodore Preble on this subject will explain the several cases in which the inconveniences are felt. There are two modes by which provision may be made for them; one by Treaty; against this there is the general objection of multiplying connections in that form with foreign powers, where the object is otherwise attainable. The other, by a reciprocity of voluntary regulations, founded in a friendly understanding which has the same effect, without the embarrassments incident to positive Stipulations. The President wishes, and authorizes you to enter into this subject with the Neapolitan Minister at Paris, and to propose thro' him such a tacit arrangement between the two Countries, as will place their citizens and subjects respectively on the footing of the most favored nations. With us the subjects of Naples are placed on this footing. The arrangement will have its reciprocal effect therefore, as soon as the Neapolitan Government shall put the Citizens of the United States on the like footing on the most favored Nations. From the dispositions which have been expressed on several occasions on the part of that Government, there is ground to expect that this will be done, and that the liberal example set by the United States will be rather a motive to it, than to a continuance of an inequality of privileges, in the calculation that it will not be countervailed by the United States.

The passage in the President's Message of which a copy is inclosed relating to the private armaments from our ports, will enable you to confirm to the French Government, the explanations heretofore given of the sentiments of the Executive on that subject; and will probably favor the object of obtaining an arrangement sanctioning an innocent commerce with St Domingo. This object continues to be of great importance both as it respects the harmony of the two nations and the interests and wishes of the American Merchants, and consequently claims a continuance of the efforts for accomplishing it. The argument with France for concurring in our views, drawn from the tendency of prohibitions against us, to throw the negroes into the arms of her enemy, derives force from recent information from a respectable source, that British overtures have been actually made with a view to monopolize the trade of the Island. An extract of the letter containing the information is inclosed.

Inclosed also is an extract of a letter lately written to Mr Monroe, and copies of the correspondence annexed thereto, which has lately passed between this Department and the Marquis Yrujo. It is thought proper that you should be acquainted with the whole, the better to cultivate in the French Government the impressions and
dispositions so important to the negotiations with Spain committed to Mr. Monroe.

The interest which France has in removing all dangers of a rupture between the United States and Spain, is too obvious not to be felt by her; and deserves the most skillful vigilance and management in turning it to the advantage of the United States.

November 27. The Ambassador of the Emperor of Germany at Paris having written to Mr. Livingston respecting the capture of the Imperial Polacre Paulina by one of the vessels of our Mediterranean Squadron, and as the subject may be revived notwithstanding the satisfactory answer the latter gentleman gave it, I have thought it might be useful to furnish you with the inclosed copy of my letter to Mr Pinckney, written in consequence of the complaint having been before presented at Madrid.

General Turreau arrived here on Monday last and immediately announced himself, postponing however, his Official visit until the arrival of Mr. Pichon, who was then at Philad. and until his baggage would be received. It is probable these causes of delay will be removed in a day or two.

The inclosed copy of my answer to Mr. Pichons letter by which he communicated the Senatus Consultum ordaining the new form of the French Government is a necessary appendage to the instructions respecting the address of your letters of credence.

[NA. SDA. Dip. Cor., Inst. to Min., Vol. 6, Oct. 1801-May 1808.]

To Surgeon Edward Cutbush, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate President, from Captains Samuel Barron and John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

Syracuse November 10th 1804

Sir, I conceive it necessary & convenient, to establish an Hospital at this place for the reception of the Sick and wounded of the Squadron under my command— I have through Mr. Dyson our Agent, contracted with the Chevalier Landolina, for a House, which I presume will be sufficiently large for the purpose & which, he will Keep in good order. The Secretary of the Navy has directed you should have charge of this establishment; you will therefore repair on Shore to act as Hospital Surgeon. It is supposed the House will contain 100 Men, you will however, make the necessary arrangements for the accommodation of 75, for the present, on as economical a plan, as their comfort and convenience will permit. Mr. Dyson will on your requisition, purchase all articles, you may think necessary for the Hospital. You will exercise your discretion in the appointment of Nurses & other persons, necessary for this establishment; the internal regulations of which I also leave entirely to yourself. Any Persons, who may be guilty of breaking any of the established rules of the House or shall behave in a disorderly, riotous manner, you will immediately confine & report them to me, or in my absence, to the Senior Officer in Port, who will take measures to have them removed to their respective Ships, if, in your opinion, their situation will permit; Officer guilty of similar conduct, to be reported as above ordered. No Officer belonging to the Squadron, who is not on the Hospital Books, shall be permitted to lodge at the Hospital.
Mr Dyson will furnish you, as occasion may require, with Money on account of pay &c—

Approved

Sig² SAM¹ BARRON

Jn⁹ RODGERS

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, Book A, 1804–1805.]

To Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Brig Argus, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

Syracuse 10th Nov 1804

Sir, If on your Arrival in Egypt it should be found necessary, to furnish any Stores, Ammunition, Money &c for the Service of the United States, in aid of the intended Co-operation with Hamet Bashaw, you are hereby Authorized to supply Mr Eaton with such as may be wanted for that purpose, and can be spared from the Argus Brig under your Command — taking his receipts & Vouchers for the Same

[NDA. Captain's LB, Vol. 3, 1805.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Constitution, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 10 November 1804

Syracuse At 3, P, M, left the Congress & Joined the Constitution the Lieutenants surgeon purser Sailing Master to act as 5th Lieutenant Surgeons Mate & Midshipmen; and the Officers of the Constitution Joined the Congress.

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Saturday, 10 November 1804

Removed with baggage on board the Argus to prosecute the expedition to Egypt. About this time Capt. Rodgers took command in the Constitution. Capt. Decatur in the Congress.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm¹ E 14.]

Extract from log book of U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 10 November 1804

Moderate breezes from E N E — We continue at Saragosa in company with the Essex, Congress, Constitution Argus, Vixen, President & Scourge —

This afternoon Captain Ro[dgers] was shifted from the Congress to the command of the Constitution Cap. Decatur of the Constitution was appointed to the command of the Congress.

Night, Moderate — From day light to noon fresh breezes from W N W.

Ships company scraping between decks.

Discharged from the John Adams to the Congress James Wilson, Dan¹ Frazer & W² Duckitt Seaman. Joined the John Adams with a sick ticket M² Rich⁴ Butler, Sailing Master of the Vixen —

[LC. EPP, John Adams, 1804–1805.]
Syracuse Harbour  Sailed for a Cruize off Tripoli the U States  
Brig Vixon. fresh breezes and pleasant weather — &C &C —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

To Secretary of State from John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar

GIBRALTER 11th November 1804

N° 7

Sir

On the 8th Inst arrived the U. S- Brig Syren Cap3 Stuart from 
Malta in 28 days to relive the Essex who is to join the Squadron as 
Comodor Barron tells me, but gives no news, nor does Coll1 Lear who 
writes me from Syracuse referring to Cap3 Stuart, but as he did not 
anchor in our Port, could not see him, as such you will have the 
occurrences from the Hon1 Secretary of the Navy Dep3 to whom 
I forward the Dispatches for him p1 this Conveyance. Consul 
Simpson wrote me to prevent the state ships from anchoring here, 
as if did, would not be admitted to come too in the Ports of Barbary 
account the Epidemical disorder which we Experience, (the same is 
the case in Spain & Portugal)

I had lodged a Letter for the Commanders at Algeceseras. Cap3 
Ja3 Barron of the Essex having wrote me to direct such state Vessels 
as came on this station to proceed to Tanger & Consult Consul 
Simpson for their future proceedings for the good of the Service. 
wherefore I requested of our Prattick Master to endeavour to get 
a long side said Vessels before they anchord, giving him at same time 
abstract of Consul Simpson & Cap3 Barrons Paragraphs to peruse 
to the Cap3 so that Captain Stuart delivered him the Despatches 
for the Navy Dep3 with other Letters and bore away for Algecesiras, 
& will first Easterly wind proceed for Tanger

The Average of Deaths now among the Troops by the Fever I am 
told was last week reduced to 10 p1 day of the Inh3 3 to 2 and there 
was one day of none.—

My Phisicians having recomend4 a Change of Air late in the 
spring I have to request the favour of leave of absence for five 
Months (leaving my Vice Consul to Act for me should the service 
admit of it) which hope will be able to obtain, when will go for 
Barbary, Portugal or Spain

In expectation of your Answer I have the honor to be with respect —


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

(Copy)
conducting the affair with dignity to our Country, and just interest to our situation in the proper channel of this Government. I sincerely hope, that the instructions from our Government gives sufficient latitude to effect a peace on the best terms that can be got. By the American papers, sent to us by Com. Barron, I was very much astonished to find in them a letter from Com. Preble dated 7th Jan? last informing our Gov† that he had had indirect communication from the Bashaw of Tripoli offering to ransom the American Citizens prisoners to him for 500 dollars each & a second letter of the 20th of same month mentions that he had rec'd further proposals from the Bashaw offering to exchange Americans for Tripolitan prisoners to the Commodore, and the Com⁶ in said letter supposes that for the remainder American Citizens the Bashaw will take 400 dollars each and make peace without an Anual Stipend. Believe me D: Sir, that the Bashaw never authorized any such offers to be made & I think the Commodore was premature in communicating it to our Gov† as indirect information from the Bashaw for I cannot believe his authority was sufficiently respectable to have sanctioned a belief that such terms were officially authorised to be made, and I wish that Com. P. had not been so much in haste in making his communication to Gov† especially as he had wrote on the 4th of the same month to the Minister of for⁶ affairs on the subject of exchange and ransom and the Vessel which Convey'd his letter to Tripoli had not returned when he wrote the foregoing letters to our Gov†

The Bashaw's demand I verily believe at that time would have been more than 4 times the sum mentioned by the Commodore; and as for an Exchange, I am Certain, that he never had the most distant Idea of of making any, I have heard that he declared he wld not give an orange a Piece for his Subjects, prisoners to the Americans. The Minister, of Foreign affairs, has told me several times, that the Bashaw would not give, one of the American Sailors, for all the prisoners the Com. has. I respect Com. P. much, and believe he has done, what was possible to effect with his force, but can't help regretting the Communications he made to Gov† as it will no doubt, cause them to expect peace, on lower terms than I believe it possible, to obtain, and may have induced them to restrict the powers invested in a Negotiation within too narrow limits.

Whenever a Negotiation is attempted, I hope it will be by a person, coming on Shore to negotiate who will be able to have communication with Sidi Mahumed Dghies, Minister of Foreign Affairs and before the person who comes to attempt to land; he Should obtain permission from this Regency, I believe he might come with safety if he obtained it.

The Bashaw and his Public Officers, like some Ceremony & were not pleased with the manner that M't O'Brien landed. I learn by letters which some of the officers have received that it is the intention of the Presid⁷ of the U. S. to put the Bashaw of Tripoli's eldest brother in chief command of this Regency; should this be the case, which I cannot believe, and sincerely hope that such an Impolic & extraordinary measure has not intruded itself on the wisdom, of our Gov† and if our liberation is to depend on the success of that measure, I am decidedly of an opinion that our Country had better abandon us to our unfortunate fate & save treasures which will uselessly [be] spent. The thing is impracticable except an Army was sent from the U. S. to take the Town, then they might place any person they pleased it
Command of the Town; and in that event I should suppose a Christian would be preferred to a Mahometan. Whoever has advised such a measure must be entirely ignorant of the power of the present ruler and of the disposition of his Subjects who always detest the miserable exile and is it not a natural supposition that should he have any friends in this Regency that they will abandon the moment that they find he is joined with Christians against Mussulmen. No people on Earth I believe are more bigoted in their religion than Mahometans. — History shews us a most unparallel’d enthusiasm among them I can’t conceive the most distant hope of any utility to be derived to the U S from pecuniary or other aid given the poor effeminate fugitive Brother of the Bashaw of Tripoli, who had not spirit enough to retain his situation when placed in it, or has had interest sufficient among his own religious sect. (Mussulmen) to re-establish himself in what he conceives his right but has wandered an Exile far from Country, Wife & Children for more than 8 years without distur[b]ing the Regency of Tripoli. He was placed by his Brother in Command at Derne the most favorable province for his Attempting a Counter Revolution. The present Bashaw suspecting that he was not conducting himself properly, drove him from that situation, Only by an Order without sending troops against him. What can be expected from such a pusillanimous being. — If peace can’t be effected this winter I am of an opinion that after our Squadron makes their exertions next spring & summer it will be to the honor & interest of the U. S. to make peace on the best terms attainable; for a continuation of the War. would be attended with considerable Expence without reducing much the demand. —

I beg, My dear Col that you will excuse my being so lengthy in this letter and I trust that you will do me the Justice to believe that the observations I have made are not in the least influenced by my Unfortunate situation however desirable liberty may be. My representations will be actuated by my Love of Country. —


Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Constitution, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 11 November 1804

Syracuse [AM] Musterd the ships company —

[USNA.]


[Syracuse] at. 2. P. M sailed for a cruise off Tripoli U States Ship President. under command of Capt. Cox Commodore Barron being so ill as not to be able to go in her, but has taken his lodgings on shore for the benefitt of his health. —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate President, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 11 November 1804

People employed getting ready for sea. Doct Cutbush left the Ship and took charge of the hospital on shore —

[Mrs. C. E. Fox, original. NDA photostat.]
Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig Scourge, Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy commanding, 11 November 1804

(Syracuse Harbour) hove up & stood out of the harbour, the Brig Vixen. —

[NDA.]


At 11 o'clock A. M. got underway, and stood for the old castle on Point Pusina. It blowing a stiff breeze we stood off and on all night.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Captain Stephen Decatur, Jr., U. S. Navy, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

SYRACUSE November 12th 1804

Sir The Returns respecting the Marines have been made by Capt Hall to the United States, supposing there had been no change in the detachment (except the Officers) since that they have been shifted between the Constitution and Congress, — It of course becomes necessary that they be again changed so as to give credit to Capt Halls Return, —

You will therefore be pleased to direct that the detachment be placed as they were before this last removal —

(Signed) SAMUEL BARRON

Captain Stephen Decatur
U. S. Ship Constitution

[HS of PA. NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Constitution, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 12 November 1804

Syracuse At 3 [PM] the US Frigate President Sailed On a cruise

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate President. Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 12 November 1804

P. M. Moderate breezes and clear
1½ made the signal for all officers and boats
2½ Unmoored and hove short —
3 Weigh'd and sailed.
5 Cape Porche or Porcase bore N W. 3 leagues distant.
10 furled the fore topsail. Saw the Isle of Malta N W B N. 6 Leagues.

14 Men Sick —

[From Syracuse to Tripoli.]

[Mrs. C. E. Fox original. NDA photostat.]
Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig Scourge, Midshipman Ralph Isard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, 12 November 1804

(Syracuse Harbour) the President hove up & stood put of the harbour —

[NDA.]


Fresh breeze. We kept close under the land until 1 o'clock P. M. when we saw 2 sail, one standing for us, the other quartering, the former in speaking her, she ran athwart our bows and carried away our flying jibb boom, fore top-gallant mast, sprit-sail, braces and lifts, flying jibb stay, halyard and down hauls, top-gallant lift and braces and other damage. At 6 o'clock, put away for Malta.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

SYRACUSE 13 Novr 1804

SIR As I shall not be able to attend to the business afloat for some time, I request you will hoist the Broad pendant on board the Constitution, & give such orders for the safety of the squadron, from time to time, as may be most proper.—

It appears that Cap't Hull & Chauncey, are much engaged, in preparing for Sea; I would therefore recommend, that the Examination of the Officers be suspended, until some other time, when the commanders are more at Leisure.—

Sig'd S. Barron

Cap't John Rodgers

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders 1804-1805.]

To Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

(copv)

NEAR SYRACUS 15th Novr 1804

rect'd 15th

DEAR SIR. — This being a time, when a Vessel can be as well spared as at any other, I have sent the Argus to Alexandria for the purpose of making enquiry relative to the Ex Bashaw & if he is found & willing to come to this place — Captain Hull is instructed to bring him down, I conceive that if no other use can be made of him there will be no difficulty in placing him in possession of Derne & Bengaze. It may have a good effect, On his Brother it cannot I think, have an ill one.

Should we succeed in getting him here, I shall take no ultimate measures, without informing you of them. I wish for this purpose & others that your residence was here. The difficulties which continually seemed to Multiply at Malta, with regard to our Men & the English, will prevent any further Communication with that place during the Winter, their is unavoidable another reason; here is plenty of Provision & as the Gov't says — We are M—rs. Since I left you I have been sometimes better, sometimes worse, but have still continued to grow weaker, I am now in the Country at a beautiful Seat,
where the pure Air will I hope recover me. The House is taken for a year by Mr Dyson, is large and commodious, I am sure Mr Lear would like it & I should be much pleased, (as would all the officers who prefer generally this Harbour to Malta) if you inhabited a part of it, it is quite another thing to Syracuse, if you say you will come over we will accommodate you with a Ship & Endeavour to evade the Quarantine which is now Rigorous. —


To Sir Alexander John Ball, Governor and British Civil Commissioner, Malta and Gozo, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

SYRACUSE 13th Novt 1804

DEAR SIR, Commodore Barron being at present sick in the Country for the recovery of his Health, I take the liberty of introducing to your Excellency William Eaton Esquire U. S Naval Agent for the Barbary States. — Mr Eaton is going to Egypt, and wishes to obtain a letter of introduction from your Excellency to some Character of your acquaintance. —

Any attentions you may please to shew Mr Eaton will be considered as an additional obligation to the many which your Excellency has already conferred on

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803–1806.]

To Secretary of the Navy from William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies

SYRACUSE 13. Novt. 1804

SIR, The Argus sails for Egypt tomorrow, with no alteration in her orders except date, and none in arrangement except that the expedition against Bengazi is to start from this rendezvous, after the resources of Hamet Bashaw are better known —

It is understood between Commodore Barron and myself that I am to accompany the Bashaw by land in the expedition against Tripoli next summer. This I shall cheerfully do on condition that he will give the inspection, field discipline, and disposition of attack and defense of his army to me —

On further consideration I am of opinion that the supplies of arms and ammunition to be loaned him should come out from America, that we may not be subject to the caprice of a foreigner who may influence the king of the two Sicilies to withhold them. Brass field pieces, well mounted, and excellent French arms are ready at Springfield; and as this place is in the vicinity of Hartford, the best port in the United States, perhaps, for shipping salt beef, 14 brass 4 pdr and 500 or a thousand stands of arms may be sent out from thence. Good musket powder, flints and balls; and suitable ammunition for the Artillery will be necessary —

Presuming on the perseverance of Government in the resolution, you expressed to me last spring of furnishing those supplies I shall assure the Bashaw accordingly. If cash be loaned him, of which he will stand in need, I desire it may be under regulations which will impose no responsibility on me —

WILLIAM EATON

*P. S. Nov. 14. There is no alteration, neither of date nor arrangement— We proceed under the orders of 13. September —
copies herewith inclosed— Commodore Barron last evening was of opinion the alterations should be made as stated in the first article of the foregoing letter; and gave directions to Captain Hull to wait on him accordingly. He did so — But is ordered to proceed as here stated — The brig is under way — 6 o clock. a. m. —

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

To General William Allen from Midshipman William Henry Allen, U. S. Navy

Constitution Syracuse Novr 14th. 1804

Dear Sir, With pleasure I seize this opportunity to assure you of my remembrance and what pleasure it would give me to hear from you, not having recd. a line since I left the U. S. as you see I now date my letters on board the Constitution. — Captn Rodgers having taken command of her in consequence of the return of Commodore Preble, & Captn Decatur of the Congress; since my letter from Gibraltar nothing of consequence has occured here, we have been at Algiers, 6 weeks off Tripoli at Malta, and am now here in company with the Essex & Congress, John Adams, who sails tomorrow for home, the Constellation — President, Vixen & Nautilus are off Tripoli, the Enterprize has gone to Trieste to repair, the Syren is on the Gibraltar station & the Argus left here this morning for Alexandria it is supposed to bring down the Beys Brother; Mr. Eaton went in her — the Commodore is too unwell to attend to the duty or Business of the squadron & we have the Broad Pendant on board this Ship his complaint is that of the liver, and it will soon be determined whether he lives or not. I expect we shall sail from here in a week or so, to procure men in the different ports on the North side, the Ship being 60 or 80 short of her complement, we mount 30-24 pounders on the Gun Deck 14-12 pounders on the Quarter Deck & Forecastle & 8-32 pound Carronades on the Gunwales in all 52 you have ere this heard of the different actions off Tripoli and can judge of them. the blowing up of the ketch was an unfortunate affair*; you can form an Idea what effect it must have had in the harbour — I will as near as possible describe her to you I beleive she was a vessel of about 40 Tons the same that Decatur boarded the Philadelphia in — rigged in this Manner† . . . the Magazine for the Powder was built forward of the foremast & contained 80 BBls of Gun Powder & 150 loaded Shells placed in a position on the supposition of going in before the wind, to be thrown in to the town; through each Bulk head there was a hole made large enough to receive a Gun Barrel loaded with composition, calculated and found to burn 11 minutes, from these Gun Barrels to the scuttle forward & companion way aft there was a trough containing a train of Powder; so a Person had only to put his match down in either place touch the train and jump into his boat, and 11 minutes would certainly give him sufficient time to get off far enough from her, but it is the general beleif that poor Sommer blew himself & Officers up as he told as his intention before he left the Commodore, in case he was boarded — but I sincerely hope we shall pay them next Summer — we have now on board [this] ship the rascal that pulled the Ep-aulets from Captn. Bainbridges shod'rs. he even had the Impudence to wear on board when he was taken the sword of the Philadelphias 1st. Leut. Porter; — not a word has been heard from Tripoli since the ketch Blew up and no one knows the situation of our prisoners
I must now bid you adeiu begging you will give my sincere love to Mamma: tell her how happy I should be to hear from her and how much more so to See her, give My best love to Master Thomas, and all our Friends; and believe me to be your Affectionate Son

* A captured Tripolitan ketch. Renamed the Intrepid and manned by a volunteer crew under Captain Somers, the ketch was sent into the harbor of Tripoli on the night of September 4, 1804.

Here Allen drew a sketch of the bomb vessel, which was rigged with three square sails on the foresmast and a single fore-and-aft sail on the mainmast. [See Naval Documents, Barbary Wars, Vol. IV, p. 499.]

[Huntington Library Quarterly.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 14 November 1804

Mr. Timothy Winn Purser Joined the Congress and Mr. Goldsborough took his place in the Argus at 6 PM light winds got under way and stood out of the harbour [of Syracuse] Mr. Eaton Mr. Farquhar and another Gentleman a passenger Came on board

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Constitution, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 14 November 1804

[Syracuse] A. M Commences with light breezes and Pleasant weather At 8 sent up top gallant yards P M. At 1 hoisted the broad pendant

[Note. All former entries of Captain Rodgers' journal (on board the Congress to 9 November) indicated the day starting at noon. This is the first entry showing the day starting at Midnight. He resumed his former use of the nautical day on 29 November 1804.]

[USNA.]


Moderate breezes from the Westward — We continued at Saragosa in company with the Essex, Comm'r Barron, Constitution, Congress, Argus & Scourge — Ships company Employed clearing ship for sea & stowing the after hold — At 4 P. M. Comm'r Barron shifted his pendant from the Essex to the Constitution — At 5, answered the Signal for all masters — A. M. Moderate — discharged from the John Adams to the Congress Mr. Edward Bennet, acting Lieut. — Joined the John Adams, Mr. N. Morris late purser of the Constitution — At 9 A. M. sailed for Malta, the Argus. Two shore boats came alongside, and took away empty casks for watering the John Adams — Noon, light breezes from N B E — We rec'd 10 casks water

[LC. EPP, John Adams, 1804-1805.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig Scourge, Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, 14 November 1804

(Syracuse Harbour) the Argus hove up & stood out —

[NDA.]
To Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

SYRACUSE 15th Nov 1804

SIR, As you will be shortly at Naples, & my indisposition prevents my personal application, I have to request of you to ask the loan of fifteen Gun & Six Mortar vessels from the Gov't of Naples in behalf of the United States, to be delivered to me or my order; these vessels being intended to act offensively before Tripoli in the ensuing Spring,

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

To Captain Stephen Decatur Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate Congress, from Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy

U. S. SHIP Constitution

Nov 15, 1804

SIR The services of a Surgeons Mate, being required on board the Hospital Ship, you will be pleased to order Mr Beall, (Surgeons Mate) to Join her; & report to me, the state of the Sick under his care, every Morning.

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, Book A, 1804–1805.]

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 16 November 1804

[Syracuse] this day closed all accts with our agent. Mr Dyson. At sunset weighed anchor and hung by the Essex till the close of the Evening when we cast off and proceeded to sea, in company with the Brig Scourge, Lieut. Izard. just before we sailed, came on board from the Castle Seven Tripolitan prisoners. they are part of those taken in the Ketch Intrepid amongst them are four captains said to have commanded in the Bashaws Service

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Vixen, Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 16 November 1804

At half past 8 o’clock got underway with a pleasant breeze on a cruise off Tripoly.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Sir Alexander John Ball, British Civil Commissioner and Governor of Malta, from William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies

U S BRIG Argus

MALTA 16 Nov. 1804

SIR, Quarantain bars the honor I anticipated of delivering in person the letter addressed your Excellency by Commodore Preble —

The Government of the United States having no representative at Alexandria and Grand Cairo, and being bound thither on affairs of a temporary nature only, it would be received as a mark of special favor to obtain letters to His Britannic Majesty’s Consuls resident there —

As the brig returns immediately to this port, I shall execute with peculiar pleasure, and with all possible exactness, any commission
with which your Excellency may think proper to honor me at either of those places

William Eaton

His Excellency

Sir Alexander J. Ball, Bart. &c &c &c

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

To William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, from Sir Alexander John Ball, British Civil Commissioner and Governor of Malta

Copy.

PALACE LA VALETTE
16 Nov. 1804

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this day's date, acquainting me with your intention of going to Alexandria, and offering to execute any commands which I may have in that quarter —

I have to regret that your being in quarantine will deprive me of the honor of seeing you at the palace and thanking you personally for your obliging offer —

I inclose herewith letters of introduction for you to Mr Briggs the British Pro Consul at Alexandria, and to Major Misset the British Resident at Cairo, who will have great satisfaction in any occasion of being useful to you and in rendering you any service —

I take the liberty of sending a small parcel for Mr Briggs —

I have the honor to be with perfect consideration Sir,

your most obedient & very humble servant

(signed) ALEX. Jnº BALL.

William Eaton Esq.

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

To Samuel Briggs, British Pro Consul at Alexandria, Egypt, from Sir Alexander John Ball, British Civil Commissioner and Governor of Malta


Dear Sir, This will be presented you by Mr Eaton, an American Gentleman who is going to Alexandria and Cairo, to transact some affairs of a temporary nature for his government — I am to request that you will assist him and do every thing in your power to accelerate his business

Every attention paid him will be considered an obligation conferred on

Dear Sir,

your very faithful and obedient servant

(signed) ALEX. Jnº BALL

S. Briggs Esq.

British Pro Consul Alexandria —

I send some letters from England for you. A. J. B.

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

To Major E. Misset, British Minister Resident at Cairo, Egypt, from Sir Alexander John Ball, British Civil Commissioner and Governor of Malta

Copy.

MALTA 16th Nov. 1804

Dear Sir, This will be presented you by Mr Eaton an American Gentleman who is going to Alexandria & Grand Cairo, to transact
affairs of a temporary nature for his Government, I am to request that you will give him every assistance to accelerate his business

Every attention paid him will be considered an obligation conferred on

Dear Sir,
your faithful & obedient servant

(signed) ALEX. Jnº BALL.

MAJOR MISSET
British Resident Grand Cairo—
I send some letters by M't Eaton for you from England— A. J. B.

[H. E. Huntington L&AG, EA 206.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 16 November 1804

At midnight light winds directly out of the harbour [of Valetta] called all hands and worked up at ¾ past 12 came to in 10 fms Water
At 7 AM the health officer came off and informed us that we could not obtain Pratique at ¾ past 7 Weighed the Anchor at 8 let it go and moored ship in the Quarantine Ground Ends fine Weather

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Constitution, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 16 November 1804

Syracuse At 5 [AM] the U, S, Frigate John Adams and Brig Sc[o]urge left the harbour bound to America

[USNA.]

Extract from log book of U. S. S. John Adams, kept by Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 16 November 1804

Moderate breezes from S S W. We continue at Saragosa in company with the Constitution Congress Essex and Scourge; Employed clearing ship for sea — At Sun set we weighed & hung by the Essex till the close of the evening, when we came to sea in order to proceed to Messina — The Brig Scourge, Lieut' Izard came to sea with us — Commodore Preble continues on board the John Adams —

The night was pleasant, with a leading breeze from the S W, till 4 A. M. when we were abreast Mount Etna — After this till 10 A. M. either Calms or light airs Ships company employed clearing between decks and working up Junk — Two hours before we sailed, we received from the Castle at Syracuse, 7 Tripolitan prisoners — They are part of those taken in the Intrepid Among them are 4 captains, said to have commanded in the Bashaw’s service —

Noon light airs from N b E. We are 5 or 6 miles from the land, Mount Etna bearing N W b W — The mouth of the straits of Messina N E. 5 leagues —

Lat: obsº 37º 32’ N.

[L.C. EPP, John Adams, 1804-1805.]

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 16 November 1804

At Maridian. Mount Etna. bearing N. W. b W. distant about. 2 Leagues. and the mouth of the Streights of Messinia N. E. distant.
5. Leagues. Latitude Ob° 37° 32 N. light breezes — *Brig Scourge* in Sight. Stood over for Cape De Larme. At sunset we tacked ship and stood towards the coast of Sicily —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

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Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, U. S. *Brig Scourge*, Midshipman Ralph Isard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday 16 November 1804

Fresh breezes & pleasť— bound for Messina ¾ past 4 the *J. Adams* made signal for us to get under way, hove up in company with the *J. Adams*. beat to the mouth of the harbour & hove too ¾ past 6 fill'd away. 7 the *J. Adams* spoke us, the light house of Syracuse bore W by S 5 miles dist{;} set T. G & Top mast steering sails —

Meridian light airs inclining to calm Mount Etna bore W N W # W came on board M' E Blane Midsa suspend{;} Latt: Obs: 37° 52' N.

[NDA.]

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**Receipt for one Negro Slave**

**SYRACUSE November 17th 1804**

Rec{;} of Commodore Edward Preble one negro slave prize to the United States Ship *Constitution* captured off Tripoli on the 23rd December 1803 in the Ketch *Mastico* since called the *Intrepid* — which slave I hold subject to the orders of the Government of the United States.

ISAAC CHAUNCEY

[Maine HS. NDA photostat.]

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To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies

**MALTA 17. Nov. 1804**

Sir, The *Argus* arrived here yesterday — and will go to sea this evening — We are in quarantine six days; as are all vessels from Sicily — I have obtained letters of recommendation from His Excellency, Sir, Alexander Ball to His B. M. agents at Alexandria and Grand Cairo, which will be undoubtedly serviceable — It was my intention to have taken along with us Hamet Bashaw’s Consul; but, on a close inspection, I don’t like him: there is too much wood about his head and beef about his ancles either to advance or retreat handsomely — Mr. Farquhar goes forward with us —

If, on falling in with the friendly Bashaw, it is found that he can raise a sufficient force, where he is, to march to the rear of Bengazi, I shall accompany him: provided there should appear a rational possibility of cutting off the retreat of the Bey of that province which he would be apt to secure by our attacking him in front by regular advances — He would be an acquisition to us, because one of his wives is sister — and, it is said a favorite sister, of the ruling Bashaw of Tripoli — Should we succeed in this expedition, or by *a coup de main*, to get possession of that post, it is hoped succour will be sent forward seasonably to secure its advantages —

Be assured, Sir, it was not owing to want of consideration nor attention that I did not visit you at your country situation and take
WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS

leave — I essayed on the evening of two successive days to find your house; but in one instance fell on your right, the other on your left — Should have been out the morning following with a guide; but the brig was under way so early that my wishes were baffled —

So often as any thing occurs, which may appear interesting to your plan of operations, or amusing to your leisure moments, I shall be careful to communicate it —

With sincere wishes for the speedy re-establishment of your health; with a cordial solicitude for the honor which must crown the success of your ensuing enterprises; and with the assurance of my utmost exertions to facilitate objects in which the interest of our country is so deeply concerned.

Copied from originals, and entered— At sea, in a continued gale, off Candia. Nov. 22nd 1804

[H. E. Huntington L&AG. EA 206.]


Light breezes from S S E — We are 7 or 8 miles from the land Mount Aetna bearing N W — Scourge in company — By 2 P. M. the wind had shifted by degrees to N N E, which continued light all the afternoon — We stood over for Cape de Larme, which is situated on the Calabria shore, till sunset, when we tacked towards Sicily — From sunset till 11 P. M. we had moderate breezes from the N E, after this till 3 A. M. Light airs or calms — At 3 ½ A. M. a breeze sprang up from N N W — We made all plain sail for the straights of Messina, which then bore N E, 4 leagues.

At 6 A. M. fresh breezes from the N E — Stowed all the light sails — At 9 A. M. we tacked to the North 5 Miles from the Calabria shore. — From ½ past 9 till 11 A. M. we lay becalmed under Cape de larme — At ½ past 11 a fresh breeze sprang up from the N E.

Stowed the light sails & double reefed the Topsails — We are situated between the Calabria & Sicily shore —

Latitude observed 37° 40' N.

[LC. EPP. John Adams, 1804-1805.]

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 17 November 1804

At half past 11. becalmed close under Cape De Larme. We here had a full view of Mount. Etna. it. was smoking and covered with Snow to the very mouth of the crater in this passage we had a view of Catanea. and the mouth of the River Simetus and a number of beautiful little towns & Villages all along the cost. From this to the mouth of the Straits —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Journal of the U. S. Frigate President

[5 July to 17 November 1804]

[Note: There is in the Manuscripts Division of the Library of Congress one piece of bound manuscript entitled "Journal of a Cruize on board the United States Ship President of 44 guns etc." Unlike the usual journal, this contains
only a record of the course, distance run, Latitude, Longitude and similar navigational details. It does not contain remarks or record of historical occurrences. The dates covered are as follows:
6 July 1804 to 10 December 1804;
23 February 1805 to 15 September 1805;
15, 16, 18 May, 2 April, and 6 August 1810
24 February to 3 March, 12, 16 to 23 March 1811
There is also contained in this book a list of the dimensions of the Masts and Spars of the United States Frigate Macedonian, 20 December, 1812.

Extract from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate President, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 17 November 1804

[PM] 3. Saw a Sail to the Westward, Tacked Ship
11% Spoke the U. S. Frigate Constellation and Schooner Nautilus.
1 A. M. Capt. Cox went on board.
2. Capt Cox returned.
11% the Town of Tripoli bore S B E. 7 Leagues.
Seven Men unfit for duty —

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

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Vixen, Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 17 November 1804

This morning commences with pleasant weather, the wind fair. At 3 o'clock saw a sail, which by her signals we found to be the Nautilus commanded by Captain Dent. She immediately put about after seeing our signals and stood off for port. We stood on to the southward until 5 o'clock, then took in sail and stood off shore all night.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

Statement of John Broadbent, U. S. Navy Agent, Messina, regarding Gunboats

I certify that Com° Ed: Preble has delivered into my charge for acct of the United States two Gun Boats N° 7, and Number 9 [8?]. each mounting a copper cannon carrying a twenty seven pound ball; and two Brass Howitzers & & as p^ Inventory taken at the Naval Arsenal at this place by order of General Espluger at the request of said Preble, which Boats, Guns, and Appurtenances I am to deliver to the order of the Commanding Officer of the U. S. Squadron in these Seas

MESSINA 18th Nov° 1804
N. B. Two of the Brass Howitzers are on board the Vixen

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

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate John Adams, 18 November 1804

Arrived at Messina.

[LC original.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 18 November 1804

[Quarantine Ground, Malta] at 1/4 past 5 PM weighed and made sail out of the harbour at 1/2 past the East end of Malta bore SbW
1/2 W distant 5 miles

[NDA photostat.]
Syracuse At 1/2 past Miredian the guard Boat reported that a turkish cruiser was off the harbour and had taken Two fishing boats

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Fresh breezes from N N E. We are under double reefed topsails and Top Gallt sails working into the straits of Messina between Cape de Larme & the Sicilian shore — This part of the straights is 7 or 8 Miles broad; Bold on each side — By 3, we had strong breezes when we handed the Top gallant sails & in third reef in the Topsails — At 4 P. M. we split the Jib — Unbent it and bent another — Close reefed the Topsails — We stood from shore to shore from noon to 12 Mid-night, by which time we had not gained more than 5 Miles to windward— After this till day light, we continued under easy sail & made short boards under the Calabria shore — in this situation we found a counter current going to Windward — At 6 in the Morning we made all plain sail & continued working along the Calabria shore till 11 A. M. when we stood athwart the straits in order to gain anchorage in Messina — The part of the straits abreast Messina is between 3 & 4 miles wide — In passing fort Salvadore which forms the East side of the Harbour of Messina, baffling winds, & a lee current brought us very near the shore — At 3/4 past 11 we came to in Messina with the best bower in 32 fath, soft bottom — between fort Salvador & the Quay. Veered to 70 fath & ran the stream cable to the Quay — Furled sails & got pratique — Commr Preble & Cap Chauncey went on shore — We parted company with the Scourge at 2 A. M. Noon moderate breezes from N E.

[LC. EPP, John Adams, 1804-1805.]
Extracts from journal of Midshipman Charles Morris, Jr., U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate President, Master Commandant George Cox, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 18 November 1804

P. M. Fresh breezes and Squally. 1½ the Constellation made signal No. 995. Capt Cox went on board.

5½ Capt Cox Returned. Made and Shortened sail. Sail occasionally to keep company with the Constellation during the night.

8 A M. the Town of Tripoli bore S. W. B S. 5 Leagues discovered a Sail to the N. E. made sail in chase

10 Spoke the U. S. Brig Vixen 103: the Constellation made signal for all captains. 7 Men unfit for duty.

Tripoli S. W B W. 7 Leagues.

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

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Vixen, Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding, Sunday, 18 November 1804

At half past 5 A. M. we made sail and stood in shore. At 8 o'clock saw 2 large sail standing for us and at half past 9 o'clock spoke them. They were the Constellation, Captain Camel, and President Captain J. Barron. (Commodore Barron's ill health obliged him to remain in Syracuse) the land in sight within 20 miles of the town to the high mountain eastward. At 2 o'clock P. M. all hands were called to muster their clothing. I served the remaining part of the sugar that we took in at Malta, to the cabin, ward room, and ships company, after which I requested the boatswains mate to get a tackle up. I then called upon the cooper to go into the fore hold and strike it out, he being captain of the mast he immediately went and struck out 2 bbls. flour, 1 bbl. beef, and one that was marked and branded pork. As it was pork that I wanted I opened it and found it was beef (branded in America). I told the cooper that he must get up a bbl. of pork. He said he could not get at any and that it was my d——d carelessness not marking them right. I told him that I must have the business done at once as it was late. He complied after great disputing

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

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

TUNIS Nov 19th 1804.

rec'D Dec 6th 1804

No 16.

Sir. I am without your favours, since the 22nd August; altho various direct occasions from Malta, and Sicily have occurred since your arrival in a Christian Land. — I attribute it to more important occupations and have only to regret that I remain in perfect ignorance; of the probable result of your visit — the proposed manner of prosecuting the war; or of concluding the peace in a word all that relates to the Negociation with Tripoli is unknown to me.

You will learn from the Commodore that the Algerine Squadron is at this place; and the reason we have for supposing their visit a forced one. — All is quiet with me. — The Clamours, of the people keep pace with the price of grain which daily increases — If I only con-
sulted my feelings, a Prison at Malta would be more agreeable than full liberty here, \( ne \) parlons pas de cas c'est \( tirs \) pour \( moirs \). —

Be pleased to inform me when I may expect the pleasure of seeing you; send or bring me money. —

(Copy)

The Honorable Tobias Lear Esq
At Malta. —


To Captain James Barron, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. S. Essex, from John Gavino, U. S. Consul, Gibraltar

Gibraltar 19th Novem: 1804

Dear Sir I have to inform you that the Ship William & Mary from Norfolk arrived two Days ago with Stipulations for Algiers, and has brought the articles at foot for the use of the Squadron, which I would Ship for Malta but no opportunity, and all communication between the Town & the Port being cut off has harassed me much, besides we have no place to lodge Powder & Sparrs on shore, or can any one go afloat, so that with difficulty I have hired part of a ship in the Bay to deposit said stores, until can ship them which is attended with expences but no remedy; all which let serve for your Govermt

The Syren still at Algaziras, has been under Quarantine, but believe is now admitted to Prattick —

P. S. — I think you had best call here for the Stores — I have got the Topsail which is partly sowed together.

Note of Stores p: William & Mary for the Squadron. — 100 Bbls. Powder, 600 Shot 32 P", 1 Bowsprit & Cap, 1 Topmast 2 Ton gallant Masts & 2 Topsail yards. —

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, Book A, 1804–1805.]

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding,

Monday, 19 November 1804

[Messina] I omitted mentioning yesterday the arrival of the Brig Scourge and a Neapolitan Ship of of the line and three Frigates the marine houses of the town here were shaken down about 20 years ago and still remain in this ruinous state. it certainly was once the most beautifull marine in the World the walk and carriage way is still beautiful. being nearly 3. miles in length. the fine fountain of White marble which Brydon mentions is still preserved it is on the key representing Neptune Holding Scylla and Charybdis c[h]ained under the emblematical figures of two sea monsters as represented by the poets, on this neck of land which forms the harbour & bason is the Lazaret and a light. house to warn ships of their approach to Charybdis — the country about Messina is beautifull and picturesques indeed. and the ancients have given it a very applicable name for the Whole country has the appearance of a Harvest the Hills and sides of the mountains are covered with white clover and various shrubs and flowers. the Vallies are full of Vinyards orchards. orange groves &C &C.

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]
NAVAL OPERATIONS FROM 1804 TO 1805

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Scourge, Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 19 November 1804

Commences fresh breezes & cloudy 4 inclining to calm. At 6 a boat came along side with a Pilot. 8 came too in the Harbour of Messina in 30 fathoms, astern of the Jn? Adams. Midnight light airs & cloudy, day light rainy weather a large fleet of Merchantmen off the harbour — Meridian light airs & cloudy, anchor'd — 4 Frigates & 1 seventy four, Neapolitan, also a large fleet of Merchantmen

[NDA.]


Off Tripoli. The morning calm and pleasant, the land in sight and one frigate (the President). The Constellation stood for Malta all night and was out of sight this morning. Standing along shore to the westward, wind off the land. At 5 o'clock P. M. the wind began to freshen and at 9 o'clock reefed topsails and lay under easy sail all night.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy

MESSINA Nov? 20th 1804

DEAR SIR, We had a tedious passage to this place, I enclose you M'Broadbent's receipt [18 November 1804] for the two Gun Boats &c and have left a case of Madeira Wine with him for you, which I beg you to accept of — We sail for Palermo this moment—Should any letters arrive for me, you will oblige me by forwarding them to Naples under cover to Frederick Degen & C? to be sent to the United States if I should be gone — The Neapolitan 74 — three Frigates and a Corvette arrived yesterday with a Large convoy The 74 has had a brush with the Algerine Squadron some damage on both sides — I shall write you from Palermo — I hope you will send the Nautilus round here, to settle the accounts of that Vessel as soon as convenient —

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

To Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

MALTA November 20th 1805 [1804]

DEAR SIR I had the honor of receiving your acceptable favor of the 13th Ins? by Capt? Hull, and am exceedingly sorry to find that your health is still so bad. — I have been waiting some days for an Opportunity of writing to you; but find? none I have determined to send a Sparonara over for the purpose of carring this letter, to say that I will join you at any moment you may find it convenient to send a Ship here. The place of my residence, as it relates to myself, is no object; and I shall feel myself very happy in being where I can be most useful, and shall feel peculiarly gratitified if the company of M? Lear & myself can tend to enliven your situation. A Quarantine of seven days on all Vessels coming from Sicily is unavoidable; but that will be no objection to our going on board, and departing at any time. I hope the mission of the Argus will be attended with good effects.
It cannot, I think, be productive of any inconvenience; but I am not at all sanguine in the expectation of ultimate good from that object. I last evening received a letter from Tunis of the 9th instant. Mr. Davis informs me that all is well in that quarter. At the same time I received letters of the 24th ultimo from Algiers, where every thing remains quiet with respect to us. On the 1st of October the Dey sent out 3 frigates, a brig & 6 xebecs to cruise for the Neapolitans who had been on the coast of Tunis, and with orders to send in all vessels loaded with grain, as they were in great want of that article, and would pay a good price for it.— On the 20th of October he received accoutrements from Constantine that the Marabout, or Holy Man, who has lately made an insurrection in that quarter, had assembled his forces to the amount of nearly 100,000 men, well furnished with everything; and that the city would fall into his hands, unless immediate succour was sent. He dispatched the only vessels (4) left in his port, with what troops they could carry, and a new bey for Constantine as he suspected the old one of being in concert with the Marabout. Shôt this accoutrements be true, the district of Constantine will before this, be lopped off from Algiers, and I have no doubt become another nest of Pyrates.

Mr. Eaton informed me, on Saturday evening, about half an hour before the Argus sailed, when I was alongside of her, that he had discovered a barque, loaded with ammunition, bound to Tripoli, but declared for Jerba; I have made enquiries respecting her, and it appears she is bound to Tunis, with a cargo of grain. She is about 80 tons, deeply laden, & her gunwale painted yellow. As she is bound for Tunis we can have no right to question her here; but I presume Mr. E. has written to you on the subject, as he was very sanguine.

We have heard nothing from the U. States since you left us. The account of the sickness at Gibraltar are more favorable than heretofore. It is reported, with confidence, that the Governor, Sir Thomas Trigge, is dead. — This day the report of a war between G. B. and Spain is more strong than ever; a circumstantial detail of an engagement between 4 English frigates & 2 Spanish galeons, and the capture of the latter, has been received.

The patron of the Sparanara who carries this is directed to wait 24 hours, if you should have any commands for this place; or longer, if you so direct. — Mr. Lear unites with me in respects & best wishes for the restoration of your health which she hopes to have a hand in promoting. — Our compliments to the officers of the squadron, to Mr. & Mrs. Dyson & all our acquaintances at Syracuse — Hoping to have the pleasure of seeing you soon.

P. S. I take the liberty to enclose a letter from Sir Alex Ball of Health in Syracuse, also one from Genl Ramsay to Mr. Leckie. Sir Alex Ball sends his best wishes & respects to you.

[Stephen Decatur Col. NDA Photostat, Book A, copy also in Mrs. James S. Barron Col.]

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

(Copy) Malta November 20th 1804 —

Dear Sir A vessel now on the point of sailing for Tunis affords me an opportunity of little more than merely acknowledging the
receipt of your acceptable favor of the 9th inst with its enclosures which came to my hands last Evening, for which I beg you to accept my best thanks.

I have requested William Higgins Esq. the U. S. Navy Agent at this place to remit you Two thousand Spanish dollars, in any way in which he can do it with the greatest security & expedition. This he has promised to do & writes to you by this Opportunity.

I left Algiers on the 18th of Sept in the U.S Frigate Congress to join Commodore Barron off Tripoli, to be ready to enter into a Negotiation with the Bashaw if he should desire it on proper terms. We had then heard nothing of Commodore Prebles brave attacks, and expected to have our whole force off that place, and make a formidable impression; but on our Arrival off there the 23rd of Sept we found only the President & Constellation. The other vessels having gone to Malta & Syracuse; and the Season being so far advanced as to make it unsafe to have Gun boats on the Coast, the idea of a further immediate attack was given up, and I came to this place with Commodore Barron where I shall remain (or at Syracuse) until the season for active Operation may commence, or the Bashaw comes forward with admissible terms. He will have no more advances under the sanction of a Flag of Truce. I am sorry to inform you that Commodore Barrons health is such as I fear must deprive the U. S of his Active & Valuable services for some time to come, even if he should ever recover. His Complaint is an Affection of the Liver. He is now at Syracuse where he requests me to join him which I shall do in a few days.

One or more of our Ships will be sent shortly to pay a Visit to Tunis; when I shall write to you fully. In the meantime I can only say that we feel very easy as to the Bey of Tunis' threats or Conduct towards us if it should be unfriendly. As the offer of a biennial payment in Cash was not accepted by him & finished, I do not conceive that we are bound now to go even to that point.

The Language to him will be decisive and a termination of our affairs with Tripoli, will determine the Conduct to be pursued towards Tunis. But while we take our own ground we shall do nothing to provoke a War; a Peace upon proper & permanent grounds is our object, every thing to promote that, consistently must be done. It is not probable that I shall have the satisfaction of seeing you until our affairs with Tripoli are settled as our settlement with that power may be made a ground of Arrangement with Tunis. As I have not time to write to Algiers by this Opportunity; I will thank you, if an Opportunity should offer from Tunis, to inform M't Timothy Mountford whom I left at that place that I have rec'd his Letter of the 24th of Oct which you was so good as to forward to me; and also that I may be detained here all winter; for I cannot leave now this part of the Mediterranean until the Tripoli business is Over. As it is Probable there will be considerable intercourse between this place & Tunis, for a Supply of Bullocks which cannot now be brought from Sicily on account of the long Quarantine to be performed, I hope to have the pleasure of hearing often from you this Winter Sh'd I be at Syracuse. M't Higgins will forward Letters to me. M't Lear is with me & desires her Compliments to you. With very great respect & regard.

Syracuse [AM] Hawled the prize a longside and put Our powder on board of hir, to make some Alterations in the Magazine.

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding. Tuesday, 20 November 1804

[Messina] Here is a very large Opera house and the Actors perform Very well the musick is excellent as is the case in all this country — Mr Broadbent an English man is our Agent here. I had very little business with him as we got nothing for the ship except Sixty Boxes of Oranges & Lemons. at Meridian fired a gun for a Pilot and weighed our best bower. at half past Meridian fired a gun for all Officers and men to repair on board. this sudden departure from Messina prevented my getting a number of small articles of curiosities for myself and friends which I had intended getting this day and we were all obliged to hurry on board and left several articles which we had bespoke — at 2 P. M. Two Pilots came on board. at 3/4 past 2 got under way and stood through the Streights. at half past 5 we cleared the mouth of the Faro.

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig Scourge Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 21 November 1804

Rainy disagreeable weather — Midnight light airs & cloudy. At 10 unmoor'd, rec'd on board a large anchor
Meridian light winds & hazy, hove up made sail & stood out of the harbour [of Messina] Pt order of Commr Preble.

To George Davis, U. S. Chargé d’Affaires, Tunis, from Captain William Bainbridge, U. S. Navy

Sympathetic ink [Written in lime juice.] TRIPOLI 22d Nov 1804.

Dr Sir, I have not heard from you since the 10th Sept. I hope nothing but the want of opportunity has occasioned my not having that pleasure.

On the 30th a Vessel arrived here from Malta, and brought me a letter from Com. Barron, and a few others for the Officers from their friends in America — Some of their letters mention, that it is the intention of the President of the U. S. to reinstate the Bashaw's elder brother in chief command of this Regency — I hope sincerely that such an impolitic & extraordinary measure has not intruded itself on our Govr — The right of the present Bashaw is acknowledged by the Grand Signior, and all the Governments of Europe, and I can't conceive that the least benefit could derive to the U. S. from pecuniary or any other aid given to the poor effeminate fugitive brother of the Bashaw of Tripoli, who has wandered an exile from Country, wife & children, I believe near ten years without giving
the present ruler of Tripoli the least inquietude, and who had not
courage enough to maintain his command when placed in it, and
who has not had influence enough among his own religious sect to
reinstate him. He was placed in command of the Province of Derne
by the present Bashaw, who suspected him of some intrigue & ordered
him to quit that Province, which order he obeyed, altho' situated in
that part of the Regency most favorable to a Counter revolution
without a Soldier being sent against him. What can be expected
from such a pusillanimous being & He never was popular in this
Regency — If he should have any friends is it not natural to pre-
sume that they would immediately turn against him on seeing him
leagued in with Christians, in a war against Mussulmen. To you
who are acquainted with the Mahometan character it is unnecessary
for me to say that no people on earth are greater enthusiasts in their
Religion, and would regard a Coalition as a religious war. —
Where is he to be found in Egypt, Mecca, Medini, Ispahan, Con-
stantinople, may he not have by this time paid a visit to the great
Prophet Mahomet.

By the Am³ papers sent to us by Com. Barron, I was sorry to see
Commodore Preble's communication to Gov³ in Jan³ last: in two
letters mentioned he had had indirect overtures from the Bashaw
of Tripoli to give up the Amer² Citizens prisoners to him for 500,
dollars, each in one letter — in the other for 400, dollars: I am
certain that the Bashaw of Tripoli never authorized such communica-
tion to be made to him, for at that time I verely believe his demand
would have been five or Six times that Sum. I regret much that
Com. Preble, was so premature in communicating to our Gov³
terms not coming [direct from the Bashaw?] — the low Sum I
should have supposed would have induced him to have suspected
the autenticity of his authority, and as he had written a few days
previously to this Government putting the question of ransom and
the Vessel had not returned to Malta which conveyed his letter
to Tripoli, I wish that he had postponed giving such informations
as I'm afraid it has induced our Gov³ to expect peace, or our liber-
ation for a much less [sum] than I believe it will be possible for them
to obtain and may have [space] in the powers given the present Com.
to the protraction of the war I do not know his power, altho' I respect
Com. Preble much, I can't help regreting his communication to our
Gov³ respecting an exchange of prisoners & ransom, for the remainder
I do not know the measures our Gov³ means to pursue to liberate
their unfortunate Citizens from bondage, but am of an opinion that
after their efforts next Summer it will be to its honor & interest to
conclude a peace on the best terms then attainable, for I believe
that it will not be in their power after that to reduce much, except
by sending an Army, but not Mussulmen.

Let me hear from you as soon as possible — I have not heard
from Commodore Barron — in the invisible please to communicate
the secret to him —

Yours Sincerely

(Signed) W. B.

P. S. Mr Biddle has wrote you in answer to your letter to him

[NYHS. Geo. Davis LB, Vol. 1.]
To His Excellency Sir Alexander John Ball, Governor of Malta, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul General, Algiers

VALETTA Nov. 22d 1804

Sir, In compliance with your request I have the honor to enclose you with such extracts from my letters from Algiers, under date of the 24th of October. — As relates to the insurrection in Constantine; and of adding thereto some reports on the same subject, which were circulated in Algiers, on the first information of the Insurrection above alluded to

Extracts from Letters

October the 17th A Courier arrived this day from Constantine bringing accounts that the Marabout had mustered his forces before that place, in three divisions of 30,000 men each and had cannon in abundance. — The Bey demands troops from the Dey for its defence. — It is also said that the Bey of Constantine is taken by, or is in favor, indirectly of the Marabout.

OCT. 18th The Dey has this day appointed a new Bey for Constantine — A Turk of this City (Algiers). —

OCT. 20th This morning the Aga went out with the new Bey for Constantine, accompanied with 4 or 500 Soldiers. —

OCT. 23d Couriers arrived from Constantine saying the place w’d be lost forever to Algiers, if a strong force was not sent for its protection. — The Dey has Ordered the Only three Polacres (or Sea Vessels) he has now in Port to be got ready to take troops to that place (all his other Cruizers having sailed on the 1st of October). —

On the 21st of May the Bey of Constantine arrived at Algiers to pay his Customary Tribute to the Dey. He remained here till the 29th of May. The Tribute estimable at 600,000 Dolls. —

In the latter part of June the first accounts we rec’d at Algiers of an Insurrection in the district of Constantine, said to be conducted by a Moor, who stiles himself a Marabout or holy Man; and that he had collected upwards of 30,000 Arabs and made an Attack on Constantine but had been repulsed; and at the same time it was reported that he had taken some French boats fishing for Coral on the Coast, and carried 54 Frenchmen into Captivity. — This caused a strong remonstrance from the French Consul in Algiers to the Dey, who sent immediately some armed Vessels to guard the Coast, and a considerable sum of money to the Bey of Constantine to provide for the defence of the place.

About the middle of July reports from Constantine say that the Marabout had compelled the French men whom he had taken to become Mahometans. Other Reports, that the persons said to be taken were French Officers & Engineers sent to assist the Marabout, who, is in the Interest of France. But so various & Contradictory are the accounts in Algiers respecting this business, that very little reliance can be placed upon them. All regular Communication is cut off, and tho the business appears formidable and threatening, no measures seem to be taking to repel its effect.

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

Moderate breezes from S W. — Overcast weather. At 2 P. M. three Pilots came on board — At 2½ we slipped & made sail through the straits — We had a strong current against us till towards Evening when it changed favourably — By ½ past 5 P. M. we were clear of the Faro — At ¾ before 6 we brought to & discharged two of the Pilots — One remains on board as coasting pilot to Palermo — A little before 6 we filled & made all plain sail N W b W, in order to pass between the Islands of Strombolo & Panaric — The former bears from here N N W by compass 46 mites. Overcast Weather all the first & middle watches winds veering between West & N W. At 11¼ Tacked to the S S W —

Noon, we are situated 7 or 8 Miles S S E from Strombolo — Standing to W b S, under the courses & close reefed for & main topsails Wind N W b N.

Note — Yesterday Morning Ships draft

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[LC. EPP, John Adams, 1804–1805.]

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 23 November 1804

this morning we had a light Breeze from the N. b W. working to windward between the Island of Pamarie and Lepari at half 7. P M two or three cables length from the N E point of Lepari at noon becalmed close under Strombolo having changed our position. we now hav[e] a full view of the mouth of the crater of Strombolo. and can see the. Lava streaming; out of the very mouth of it and the red hot stones flying up in the air. the crater of this mountain is on one side and said not [to] be within 200 yards of the summit from the crater to the sea.. the Island is entirely composed of ashes and burnt matter and the quantity of this matter is continually increasing from the uninterrup[t]ed discharge from the mountain for of all the Volcanos we read of Strombolo seems to bee the only one that burns without ceasing — Etna and Vesuvius often lie quiet for many months even years without the least appearance of fire. but Strombolo is ever at Work and for ages past has been looked upon as the great light house of these Seas.

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

[24 November 1804]

Court Martial of William Johnson, U. S. Marine

Proceedings of a Court Martial, held by order of Commodore Samuel Barron, on board of the United States Frigate Constitution, in Syracuse harbour, Novr 24th 1804, for the trial of Wm Johnson, (a private Marine in the service of the United States), "charged with sleeping on post, on board a Vessell in this harbour, which contained
the powder of the Frigate Constitution, on the night of the 22nd of this month"

Captain John Rodgers  President
Capt James Barron  Members.
Capt Stephen Decatur Junior
Lieut. Wm Amory
Lieut John Johnson
Thomas W. Hooper, Judge Advocate

The Prisoner being brought into Court, the President, Members, and Judge Advocate, were duty sworn, the President then read the charges to the Prisoner, William Johnson to which he pleads Guilty, and says in his defence that his duty was uncommonly hard, being two hours on & two off post during the twenty four hours.

The Court being cleared, proceeded to consider the case of the Prisoner, are of opinion that he is guilty, having committed a breach of the 19th Article of the first section of an Act for the better Government of the Navy of the United States, and do sentence him to receive Fifty Lashes on board his own Ship, having considered his Youth, former good character, and apparent penitence, —

Approved

Sign'd  Jno Rodgers

SAM. BARRON
JAMES BARRON
STEPHEN DECATUR JUNI
Wm AMORY
J. JOHNSON L'T M

[LC. JRP, Vol. 1, Series Two, Feb. 1775–May 1805.]

To Dr. Mitchell from Surgeon Jonathan Cowdery, U. S. Navy, while prisoner in Tripoli

_Dated 24 November, 1804._

"DEAR SIR, "I hope you will excuse me for the liberty I take in suggesting to you a few remarks which have occurred since my captivity. The Bashaw has taken me from the prison where my fellow officers are confined and ordered me to attend his sick slaves who are principally Neapolitans, negroes, and our unfortunate crew. Some of the latter I this morning saw chained to a cart loaded with stones which they were dragging through the town to repair the fortifications. They complain much of hunger, cold, hard labor, and the lash of the whip. I confess I never saw any thing that wounded my feelings equal to the sight of those poor fellows. I have liberty to walk in the town, but am attended by a Turk who is loaded with weapons of war. I am not allowed to visit any of the fortifications nor any of the foreign consuls. Capt. Bainbridge's endeavors to relieve the wants of his crew are often countermanded by our new masters. Five of our countrymen have turned Turks, and five have paid their last debt to nature. Diarrhoea and Dysentery have often appeared among our crew, but on a free use of Carbonate of Soda (Natron,) which is found in abundance in this country, and often whitewashing the walls of the prison with lime where they sleep, it soon disappears. Our crew are now very healthy.

During the several attacks upon this town by our squadron under the command of commodore Preble, many Turks were killed and wounded, and several men much burnt by the explosion of their own
powder. I had an opportunity of seeing their method of curing burns in particular, many of which extended over the whole body. The Bashaw has all of his wounded brought to an apartment in the Castle where he visits them and makes them a present of ten dollars each. He then orders his surgeons and Mamelukes to dress their wounds; he often assists with his own hands. The Mamelukes are his body guards; the Marabouts are employed to expel evil spirits, and make intercession with Mahomet their prophet, for their recovery. Those that were burnt, were first anointed with honey, carefully preserving the skin as much as possible and keeping the parts exposed to the air. They then sprinkled the ulcerated parts, if any, with a fine powder of white lead, (Ceruse;) this is repeated at short intervals until a scab is formed, that is carefully preserved until a cure is accomplished, which is remarkably soon.

"I hope and expect that in due time my country will honorably and to the astonishment of Barbarians and Tyrants liberate us from the chains of slavery, and restore us to our native land, that happy land the thoughts of which is a healing balm to our souls in their miserable bondage.

[L.C. National Intelligencer, 5 August 1805.]


Strombolo burnt this Evening more than usual — Rivulets of Lava were seen running down during the night — In the morning we were becalmed 5 or 6 miles from it — The fall of the lava into the sea hove up a spray similar to the fall of a water spout — Ships company employed cleansing ship, & working up Junk — Noon, becalmed 9 miles N N W from Strombolo, with the Island of Alicuna in sight bearing W N W —

Latitude Observed 38° 54' N.

[LC. EPP, John Adams, 1804–1805.]

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig Vixen, Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding, Saturday, 24 November 1804

This morning clear and pleasant, light wind from the N. W. Sent up our top gallant masts, set our fore sail and main stay sail and stood in shore. Saw a sail to the southward and eastward — made sail and stood for her. At 4 o'clock P. M. it being calm nearly, we found the sail to be the U. S. Frigate President. Captain Coxe [of the President] came on board at half past 4 o'clock. I then had liberty to give the men their grog. Fine weather at bed time.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

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

No 17. TUNIS November 25th 1804

rec'd Dec 6th 1804

Sir. — The Spanish Vessel by which my dispatches for Malta was to have been forwarded, had orders to sail on the 20th. She was freighted by the Commercial Agent Hodge Unis Ben Unis; who goes to Malta for the purpose of purchasing Wheat, and reclaiming Tunisien prop-
erty, captured by the English. — an arrival from Marseilles, brings the intelligence of Spain being on the brink of a War; and that hostilities had actually commenced. — an engagement has taken place; in which three Spanish Frigates were captured, and one blown up; they were from South America with Specie &c &c. Paris papers up to the 6th inst. inform us, that the English Vessels in the different ports of Spain are arrested and that the British have issued orders to Capture all Spanish Vessels. —

On the 20th I was at Bardo, relative to a Tunisian Prize, said to have been Captured by an American Frigate; the circumstance is stated fully to the Commodore. — On the 21st I received letters from Leghorn, of which I have the honor to enclose you Copies. — I have only to remark, that if Capt. Egery, had have sought immediate redress at Tunis, and not at Leghorn, it is more than probable that complete satisfaction would have been rendered before this period. It is the first complaint, that has ever been made to me of a similar nature; and I shall urge the point in such a way as I trust will not only Insure satisfaction to the party injured; but will prevent a repitition of piracy. I have been three days at Bardo, on this affair.

On the 26th the Rais is at Sphax. — The Bey has sent an Amba to bring him to Tunis when the affair will be finally settled, of which you shall be apprized by the First Conveyance. —

(Copy)


Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Sunday, 25 November 1804

Arrived at Alexandria: lay off for a pilot.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm t E 14.]


At 7 o'clock stood in shore with the President. Pleasant weather, wind to the northward and west. Mustered and marked the mens clothes. At 6 o'clock stood off shore. Nothing new. Two turkish prisoners went on board the President.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]


ALEXANDRIA 26th Nov t 1804

Sir, The Turkish Admiral and the Governor will be at home to receive your Visits between 9 & 10 O'clock in the Morn. the Governor will return your salute Gun for Gun whatever number you may give him — My interpreter will have the honour to deliver you the present, and will if you please attend you to the Admirals Wharf, where I shall be in readiness to accompany you at about ½ past 9 which hour I hope will be convenient. — I beg my compliments to Mr Eaton, and renew my assurances to both, that it will give me much pleasure in my public, as well as private capacity to render you any service in my power. —

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803–1806.]
Extract from journal of U. S. Brig *Argus*, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 26 November 1804

[En route from Malta since 18 November.] at ¼ past 1 PM saw the land bearing from SE to SSE ¼ E at 4 the City of Alexandria [Egypt] in sight fired a Gun and made the Signal for a pilot he did not come off at 5 the Entrance of the Port of Alexandria bore SbE distant 3 or 4 miles at ¼ past 5 took a reef in the topsails and at 7 Tk² Ship to the Westward At 8 taked to the S⁹ & E⁹. At midnight moderate and pleasant Tk² occasionally hauled the mainsail up sound⁹ with 90 fathoms no bottom at 6 bore away for the City at 9 fired a Gun and hoisted the Sig¹ for a pilot a Cap³ of an English ship came off at the request of the Consul he did not know the western port continued off and on At meridian fine Weather

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Monday, 26 November 1804

[Alexandria, Egypt] Entered the old port. In port a Turkish Admiral with one ship of the line and six frigates. The *Argus* saluted the Admiral's flag with 17 guns; salute returned with 13. Samuel Briggs, Esq. his Britannic Majesty's Consul on board.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm¹ E 14.]

Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. John Adams, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 26 November 1804

Fresh breezes from the southwest. at 5 A M Strong breezes & rough sea. caried away the main topsail sheets — at Meridian Palermo bore S b W ½ S. distance 9 Leagues. Lat ob⁹ 38° 14’ N.

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig *Scourge*, Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Monday, 26 November 1804

Light breezes & pleasant sunset Palermo W by S 9 miles Cape Mogerbino S by E 5 miles. 4 set steering sails. 5 a boat came along side from shore, the wind shifted to the W⁹ took in steering sails, tack'd several times in the harbour ½ past 11 found it impossible to make the town, came too with the larboard anchor — Midnight clear & pleas⁹ at 7 hove up, made sail & stood in for the Town of Palermo 8. calm. 9 a light breeze. 10 strong breezes & pleas⁹ —

Meridian light gales came too in the Harbour of Palermo in 7 fathoms with the starboard anchor, found she was driving leeward the larboard anchor, furl'd all sail. —

[NDA.]


The morning commences with a fresh breeze and pleasant weather. We made sail and stood in for the land. At 3 o'clock P. M. discovered the land. The President stood in and found that we were to the west-
PORT OF ALEXANDRIA.
ward of New Tripoli, and Old Tripoli in sight, bearing about S. W. Captain Coxe informed Captain Smith of his discovery, they then concluded that it was advisable to heave-to and head to northward and eastward which was agreed upon and put in execution.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

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

UNITED STATES SHIP John Adams.

PALERMO 27th Nov: 1804

Sir, From various causes the John Adams has been detained in these seas much longer than was expected when I last wrote you. She arrived here this day from Syracuse & Messina whither I have been settling the acct of the Squadron. I came here to arrange with General Acton for the ammunition &c expended in the Bombs & Gun Boats at the seige of Tripoli, and shall go from this to Naples the day after tomorrow, to make arrangements with the Neapolitan Government for Bomb Vessels & Mortars, Gun-Boats, Cannon, shot shells &c for the next season; this I do by request of Commodore Barron, I shall delay no more time than I can possibly help at Naples, and shall proceed with Captain Chauncey to the United States touching at Leghorn and Marseilles 24 hours at each place for convoy if the wind will allow us to do it, without the loss of much time —

I have only one plan of the Harbour of Tripoli, and disposition of the Squadron at the time of the several attacks left, which I shall bring with me.

I have sent M' Haswell and M' Marcellin home in the Scourge as acting Lieutenants — If that Brig is fitted out on service, I beg leave to recommend them to be continued as such

P. S. I have dispatches on board from Commodore Barron which I shall keep with me until I arrive, which I hope will be nearly as soon as the Scourge — I however refer you to Lieu Izard for information of the Squadron —

[LC. EPP, LB, April–Nov. 1804.]

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

U S. SHIP John Adams

PALERMO H: 27th Nov: 1804

Sir, On your arrival within the Capes of Virginia, you are to proceed to Norfolk, and from thence go yourself to Washington by land with the dispatches, and receive orders from the Navy Department relative to the Scourge — I think it probable the Secretary will order her coppered and equipped from thence —

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

To Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding U. S. Frigate Constitution, from Captain Samuel Barron, U. S. Navy

SYRACUSE 27th November 1804

Sir, The circumstance of the Constitution, under your command being short of Men, as well as several other Vessels in the Squadron, and this being the Season of the Year when your services can be most
easily dispensed with, I have to request that you will proceed to Lisbon and there Ship as many good Men as you can procure, on the same terms that the rest of your Crew, are enlisted, but if you find the Period of two Years is Objectionable to them, you are at Liberty to Limit that Period, as you may think most proper Keeping in mind that their Services will not be indispensably necessary, longer than the next Fall, after having effected as far as in your Power this object at Lisbon; you will return to this Station, calling in your way at such ports as you may suppose, most proper to procure Men: and in your Passage both up & down the Strieghts, you will endeavour to have an interview with M't Simpson, American Consul at Tangier— If in the Opinion of M't Simpson, you should Coincide, that it is no longer necessary for the Syren to remain there, you will be pleased to direct Cap't Stewart to repair to this place, with all practicable Dispatch.—

I enclose you a requisition, from Doct't Cutbush (for Surgical Instruments) for the use of the Hospital at this Place, if to be had in Lisbon I wish you to procure them there & if not, request our Consul at Lisbon to write to London for them, to be forwarded as soon as possible to M't Higgins our agent at Malta.—

You will Draw on Mess'rs Glenie & M'Kenzie of London for what Money you will want for making advances to Seamen or other purposes.— taking care to express in the Bill the Purposes for which they are drawn. —

Wishing you a pleasant Cruize, I am

P. S. The two enclosures to the Secretary of the Navy, you will be pleased to send by two different Conveyances. S. B.

[LC. JRP, Letters & Orders, 1804–1805.]

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**Extract from journal of U. S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 27 November 1804**

[Alexandria, Egypt] at ½ past 1 took a pilot and stood into the old harbour fired a Salute of 17 Guns which was returned by the turkish admiral with an equal number of Guns at 3 PM, came to with the best bower in 6½ fathom water the English Consul and a number of Turks came on board and returned at 5 light airs through the night at 7 Weighed at 7 Weighed and hauled nearer the town fired a Salute of 15 Guns which was returned by the Castle Gun for Gun moored Ship with the best bower to the NNE small bower SSW Pompeys Pillar bearing SEbS the Southermost fort bore East — At Meridian Pleasant Weather Emp'd Occas

[NDA photostat.]

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**Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Constitution, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 27 November 1804**

[Syracuse] A. M. clear and pleasant weather At ½ past 1 struck the cannonades from The spar deck into the hold Hawled the prize alongside and took Our powder on board — P. M. D° weather,

People employd getting the ship Ready for Sea —

[USNA.]

Waited on the Admiral, Governor, and supervisor of the revenue. Most hospitably entertained.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm 1 E 14.]

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Extract from journal kept by Purser John Darby, U. S. Navy, on board *U. S. John Adams*, Master Commandant Isaac Chauncey, U. S. Navy, commanding, Tuesday, 27 November 1804

This morning about sun rise we entered the Harbour of Palermo. the prospect in entering is beautiful & Picturesque indeed, about 10 O'clock we came to anchor about 2 cables length from the light house the Prattique master came off and we obtained Prattige immediately —

[NDA original. Miss Camilla S. McConnell.]

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Stood in for the land all sail set. At 10 o'clock made New Tripoli. We stood to the westward of the westward of the town and fired one of our bow guns which sent a shot on shore, but they did [not] think proper to return the compliment. We then wore and stood off land the remaining part of the day.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

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To John Beekman, Navy Agent and Superintendent of Navy Yard, New York, N. Y., from Secretary of the Navy

Nav. Dep.

28th Nov: 1804

The interior of one of the Gun-boats may be finished agreeably to M't Leonards plan, only with different arrangements as to the occupation of the rooms. Let N° 1, 2 & 3 with the whole of the midship be for stowage of water and heavy provisions — N° 4 & 6 for store-rooms for light materials.— the commander and officers to have a sufficient space (in N° 11) in one room adjoining either end of 1.2. & 3— the rooms 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10 to be births for the people — and all the residue of N° 11 to be occupied for the cables and other heavy stores and provisions. The Magazine may be fixed amidships adjoining and opening by double doors into the officers apartment.

The other Gun-boat to be finished in the interior agreeably to the plan transmitted from this Department. The Guns of both of the boats to be 32 pounders, the carriages to slide in the bed agreeably to the deck plan furnished you. The circular sweeps (for allowing different directions of the Guns pointing in action) should be as near the midships as the other regulations will admit.

The carriages to have 3 friction rollers under each side — the forward rollers to be fitted with Iron catch-pawls, to prevent their turning on the recoil of the piece. The Guns are not intended to be housed or lowered into the hold.

It is not necessary to have filling rooms, as the vessels will carry in
their Magazines a sufficient quantity of Cartridges — But the magazines should be of sufficient size to hold 100 cartridges packed in pouch-barrels.


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

NAVY DEp; 28 Nov 1804

Commodore Ed $ Preble.—
of the U. S. Squadron Off Tripoli.

I enclose the President’s Message relative to the destruction of the Frigate Philadelphia. Congress have passed a resolution directing that a Sword be presented in their name to Captain Decatur, and they have provided a pecuniary compensation for each of the other Officers and for each of the Men engaged in the destruction of that Frigate. —

I am happy to announce to you that the Senate have unanimously confirmed the appointment of Captain Decatur.

Information has reached me through a channel which induces me to give it full faith, that you have made two Attacks upon Tripoli and that you were preparing for a third Attack — that the two first Attacks eventuated in the destruction of 3 Gun Boats and 1 Polacre, and in the capture of 3 other Gun Boats, and considerable Injury to the Fortifications of the Enemy. This information furnishes additional testimony of your energy and judgment — we sensibly feel the value of your Services, and take pleasure in acknowledging them. Be assured that your Country will never prove ungrateful. —

I most ardently hope that you will have accomplished the reduction of Tripoli before the arrival of Commodore Barron’s Squadron, so that the whole Glory of it’s Reduction may be attributed to you. Nothing however can deprive you of the reputation which You have justly acquired by the preparatory arrangements made by You for this object, and by your Conduct in carrying those arrangements into effect — and although your Successor may give the final Blow to the Enemy, the Credit will I trust justly attach to You. —

[NDa. LB, 1799–1807.]

To Secretary of the Navy from William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies

ALEXANDRIA 23th Nov 1804

Sir, The Argus came to an Anchor in this place, the day before yesterday — I proceed this Evening with Lieutenant O. Bannon, Midshipman Danielson, Richard Farquhar Esq$ four Servants and a Turkish guide, all in a good state of defence, to Grand Cairo in prosecution of the object of our Voyage hither. — The interior of this Country being in a state of general revolt, renders travelling somewhat dangerous. If no accident Occur to prevent, I shall in due season report in detail, otherwise I beg leave to refer you to Capt$ Hull

I beg you will confirm Mess$ Briggs Brothers, one of whom is British Consul here, in the appointment of Navy Agents of the United States, which Capt$ Hull and myself have requested them to accept, and to which they have consented — Circumstances may render
this Agency important to us, the attention the American flag has received here from this firm merits the distinction. —

[NDA. Isaac Hull LB, 1803–1806.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Constitution, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 28 November 1804

[Syracuse] A, M, Light airs and pleasant weather
At 8 unmoord ship and hove short
At ½ past 8 weighed and made Sail the boats of the Squadron ahead towing the ship out of the Harbour
At Meridian pleasant weather

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Wednesday, 28 November 1804

Embarked for Grand Cairo by Rosetta. Lieut. Blake of the navy; Lieut. O'Bannon of the Marines, Midshipmen Mann and Danielson, Mr. Farquhar and Seid Selim, Alli, a drogoman, and six servants

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm' E 14.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate John Adams, 28 November 1804

Arrived at Palermo found the Scourge arrived.

[LC original.]


Moderate breezes from S S W, We are under all plain Sail, Working up for Palermo which bears W S W, 9 or 10 leagues. We Tacked as the wind favored us. At 4 P. M. dead calm. At 5 a breeze from E S E — Made all sail in for the Port. By 9 P. M. we entered the Bay — After this till light Variable winds out of the Bay. At 3 A. M. a light breeze sprang up from N N W We ran within 2 Miles of the light house when it fell calm — A little after day light a breeze sprang up from the S W which blows out of the Bay — After this till 10 A. M. light breeses — At ½ past 10 came to, with the best bower in Palermo, 2 cables length within the light house —

We anchored in 4 fath*, ran out a warp & hove within 60 fath* of the Mole — At ½ past 8 A. M. before anchoring the pratique boat came along side & gave us pratique —

Palermo is situated between two mountains at the bottom of a Circular bay — The Town extends between 4 & 5 Miles nearly North & South; well fortified along the shore — The Water within the mole is shallow — The general soundings are between 3 & 4 fath* The outer anchorage near the light house is between 20 & 35 fath* muddy bottom. The two extremes which form the Bay of Palermo are situated 5 Miles apart — You are secure in the outer roads from the winds, excepting the eight points between the N b E & S E b E — In running into this bay you may steer for the light house — The Anchorage is good all without it — Noon — The Pilot was discharged

[LC. EPP, John Adams. 1804–1805.]
Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U.S. Navy, U.S. Brig Scourge, Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Wednesday, 28 November 1804

[Palermo] Midnight an English sloop of War anchor'd in the Harbour, the J. Adams off the Harbour. 8 the J. Adams Anchor'd in the harbour —

[NDA.]

Extract from journal of U.S. Brig Argus, Master Commandant Isaac Hull, U.S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 29 November 1804

[Alexandria, Egypt] at 5 P.M, Consul Eaton went on shore with M't Farquhar L't Blake Lieut OBannon of Marines Mess'M' Mann and Danielson Mids'E Emanuel Zeid Seaman Philip Bricou Ordinary Seam' and David Thomas Marine on United States Duty

[NDA photostat.]

Extract from journal of U.S. Frigate Constitution, Captain John Rodgers, U.S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 29 November 1804

P M commences with light airs And pleasant weather, At ½ past meridian cast off the boats And they[ ] returned to thire respective Ships At 2 finding the ship drifted In shore made the signal for the boats Of the squadron, at ½ past 2 the Boats came to our assistance. at 3 a Light breeze from the North' and Eastw' The boats returned to thire respective ships — At midnight light airs and pleasant weather, made and took In sail as occasion required — At Meridian cape passero bore N N E ½ E Distance 5 leagues

[USNA.]


Moderate breezes from E N E — We are laying within the Mole at Palermo — Scourge in company — Ships company employed as necessary At 1 P. M. Comm'E Preble & Capt Chauncey went on shore A. M. Light breezes from N N E — Supplied the Scourge with 18 fath' of 5 inch new rope — Discharged from the John Adams to the Scourge M't Patrick Simms Surgeons Mate & M't George Hackley Midshipman Noon — Winds light from N b E

[LC. EPP, John Adams, 1804–1805.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U.S. Navy, U.S. Brig Scourge, Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Thursday, 29 November 1804

[Palermo] Light winds & pleasant sent up T. G. Yards p't order of Comm'E Preble. 7 hove short & hoisted in boats — Midnight calm & pleasant daylight hoisted out boats, Geo. Hackley Mids' join'd us — Meridian calm & pleas' shipp'd 2 men from shore

[NDA.]
WARS WITH BARBARY POWERS

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Constitution, Captain John Rodgers, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 30 November 1804

[Syracuse] P. M. commences with light breezes And pleasant weather. At 4 saw the Island of Malta, Bearing S W ½ W — Made and Took in sail as occasion required

At Midnight D° weather

At daylight the town of Malta Bore S S W, distance 5 leagues — Made and took in sail as occasion Required — At Meridian fresh breezes and clear the town of Malta bearing S W B S distance 6 miles —

[USNA.]

Extract from journal of William Eaton, U. S. Navy Agent for the Barbary Regencies, Friday, 30 November 1804

Sailed for Rosetta. At 4, P. M. anchored in Abukir Bay, by reason of the day being far spent and the danger of passing the Boghase by night. Took the occasion of visiting the battle grounds of 8th and 21st of March 1801, yet covered with human skeletons.

[NR&L. No. 9217, Bm° E 14.]


Moderate breezes from E N E — We continue at Palermo — At 4 P. M. sailed for America — the Scourge — Employed fitting new slings & slinging the Main yard —

This afternoon some smooth faced villain from a bum boat gave our sheep a quantity of Poison — four of them immediately died — The Villain had done this in expectation that the sheep would be thrown overboard when they would take it up & dress it for Market — Towards evening it fell calm — The Scourge anchored some distance outside of the Mole till the land breeze sprang up when she proceeded on her way for America — The Morning was pleasant — Scrubbed hammocks & cloathes Noon—light breezes from S E.

[LC. EPP, John Adams, 1804–1805.]

Extract from Memorandum Book of Captain Edward Preble, U. S. Navy, on board U. S. Frigate John Adams, 30 November 1804

Scourge sailed for the U. S. with dispatches.

[LC original.]

Extract from journal of Midshipman F. Cornelius deKrafft, U. S. Navy, U. S. Brig Scourge, Midshipman Ralph Izard, Jr., U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 30 November 1804

Light winds & pleas° 1 hove up made sail & stood out of the harbour. At 6 calm came too with the stream at the Mouth of the harbour. 8 a light breeze from the S° hove up & made sail ¾. 8 set T. G. steering sails. At 9 Palermo light house bore S W by S 5 miles. 10 rounded in the Weather braces. 11 the Wind shifted to the W° in steering sails & brac’d up the yards —

Midnight light airs & clear haul’d up square M° sail wind shifted
NAVAL OPERATIONS FROM 1804 TO 1805

rounded in the Weather braces & set steering sails fore & aft. at 8
wind shifted to the W^th brac^th up the yards —
Meridian cape S^1 Victo bore W by S 6 leagues —
Latt: Obs: 38° 23' N.

Extract from journal of Hezekiah Loomis, Steward, U. S. Navy, in U. S. Brig
Vixen. Master Commandant John Smith, U. S. Navy, commanding, Friday, 30
November 1804

At 6 o'clock sent up our main sliding gunter Royal mast. At 11
o'clock we were alarmed by the upsetting of a kettle of tar in the
galley but by spirited exertions with wet swabs it was extinguished
without damage. All hands employed as follows — Coating the
anchors, worming the cables, overhauling old rigging etc. until sunset
at which time I saw the grog served.

[L. F. Middlebrook. NDA copy.]

To William Jarvis, U. S. Consul, Lisbon, Portugal, from Tobias Lear, U. S. Consul
General, Algiers

MALTA, December 1st 1804 —

DEAR SIR, I embrace the opportunity offered by my friend Capt. Rodgers, Commander of the U. S. Frigate Constitution, bound to your Port, to inform you that I left Algiers on the 16 of Sept", in compliance with the Orders of my Government, to negotiate a peace with Tripoli; if the Bashaw should be disposed to do it on proper terms. At that time we had not heard of the Attacks which had been made on that place by Commodore Preble, and expected to have had our whole force ready to operate against it; but the season having arrived when the Gun boats could not remain with safety on the coast, we found there only two of our Ships, and I came to this place, where I shall remain 'till the season for active operations commences, when I think we shall have such a formidable force, as will bring the Bashaw to reason.

My letter[s] from Tunis, & from Algiers, since I left that place, report everything quiet with respect to the United States. —

We have nothing new in this quarter excepting the War between G. B. & Spain, and a number of Spanish Prizes sent in here daily. Cap't Rodgers will give you full details of our affairs in this quarter.

[Mass. HS. Jarvis Cor. NDA, photostat.]

Extract from journal of U. S. Frigate Constitution, Captain John Rodgers, U. S.
Navy, commanding, Saturday, 1 December 1804

At 3 [P. M.] sent the boat into Malta. At 4 the town of Malta
bore W. B. S. distance 5 miles at sunset the town of Malta bore
W 4 N distance 3 miles. At 9 the Jolly boat returned from Malta.
At midnight fresh breezes and clear weather. Made and took in
sail as occasion Required — at 8 Colonel Lear came along. Lowered
down the Jolly boat. Malta Bearing S W B S distance 1 mile. At
9 the Jolly boat left the ship for Malta.

[USNA.]